

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

Forty-sixth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 12-15 March 2002

Reports

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANTS COMMITTEE

1. This report covers the period between April and December 2001.
2. Over this period, the Plants Committee met on one occasion, in Langkawi, Malaysia, 3-7 September 2001.
3. The Plants Committee wishes to express its deep gratitude to the Authorities of Malaysia for their generous invitation and for the magnificent organization of the XI meeting.
4. The following Representatives of the six regions participated in the XI meeting: Mr. Q. Luke (Africa), Mr. Z. Shaari (Asia), Mr. N. P. Singh (Asia), Mr. E. Forero (South and Central America and the Caribbean), Mrs. M. Clemente (Europe), Mr. J. de Koning (Europe), Mr. B. von Arx (North America), and Mr. G. Leach (Oceania).

Principal Topics Discussed and Results of the XI Plants Committee Meeting:

5. The regional directories for North America, Asia, Europe and Oceania, in as complete a form as possible, will be sent for the Secretariat to prepare their edition and place them on the CITES website. In order to complete all the regional directories, it was agreed (after consultation with the United States of America) to assign USD 5,000 to the Regional Representatives of Africa (Luke) and Central and South America and the Caribbean (Forero).

The Secretariat will provide a standardized format for the aforementioned Regional Representatives to use these funds. The Regional Representatives of Africa and Central and South America and the Caribbean will submit written proposals to the Secretariat in order to obtain funding. The Regional Representatives of Africa (Luke) and Central and South America and the Caribbean (Forero) will present their regional directories to PC12. The Secretariat will ask Management Authorities to deliver the missing information to the Regional Representatives.

6. Following revision by a working group, the Plants Committee adopted the Rules of Procedure as presented in document PC11 Doc. 2 Annex (Rev.). The most outstanding points of these Rules are:
 - the minutes will be submitted in the same format as for previous Committee meetings;
 - documents will be submitted to the Secretariat 75 days prior to each Committee meeting;
 - documents will be distributed to members 40 days prior to each Committee meeting;

– the role of Alternate Representatives.

7. The Plants Committee reviewed its functions as defined in Decision 11.110. The less realistic functions were eliminated. The need to contact non-party Countries to CITES was reiterated. These revised functions will be included in the Chairwoman's report to the CoP, proposing amendments to Decision 11.110.
8. Follow-up on Decisions from CoP11.

Guaiacum sanctum

The project should continue with a survey of the Mexican population. Mexico will present a budget estimate to TRAFFIC and to the Secretariat before the end of the meeting, as well as an official proposal to the Secretariat at the end of the month of September. TRAFFIC will attempt to obtain funds to totally or partially support a population survey.

Aquilaria spp.

The document by the working group on this subject was approved and adopted.

9. Technical Proposals for the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

9.1 Harvesting Techniques of *Galanthus* in Georgia

The Regional Representatives will act as co-ordinators to collect information on various plant production processes.

The Vice-Chairman of the Plants Committee will contact the Secretariat to establish a means of exchanging information and co-operating with the Animals Committee.

The authorities of Georgia and the Secretariat will attempt to reach a solution on the source code to be used on export permits for *Galanthus woronowii*.

It was agreed that bulbs presently harvested from agricultural fields should be considered as being of wild origin.

The Plants Committee encouraged continued co-operation between Germany and Georgia, as well as any assistance from other countries regarding sustainable management and harvest of *Galanthus woronowii*.

The text prepared by the Regional Representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Forero) and Oceania (Leach) was approved to be included in the summarized report.

9.2 Decision 11.155

Compile information on the various production systems, source codes for forestry techniques and certification of sustainably managed forests, so as to be compatible with a scientific approach to making non-detriment findings.

Prepare a document to be submitted for consideration at the next Plants Committee meeting.

9.3 Standard Exemptions for Appendix-II Plant Species

The Committee approved the text proposed on standard exemptions for plant species. The United States of America and the Secretariat will bilaterally study the concerns expressed about the revised text on flaked seedlings.

9.4 Definitions of the Technical Terms Used in the Annotations

Germany, Colombia, Spain, the United States of America and France will jointly prepare a document that will be presented at the next Plants Committee meeting.

France will be in charge of co-ordinating this task.

9.5 Exemptions for Flaked Seedlings

No urgent need was found to change the text of the exemptions in force.

9.6 Exchange of Scientific Herbarium Specimens of Certain Plant Taxa Listed in Appendix II

The Committee did not support the proposal to establish an additional mechanism for exchanging herbarium material and encouraged the use of the system currently in force for registering scientific institutions.

10. Species Proposals for the 12th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

10.1 De-Listing of Leaf-Bearing Cacti (Pereskioideae and Opuntioideae)

Draft Proposal Presented by Switzerland and Comments by Mexico

The Plants Committee recommended postponing the proposal until co-operation between the Range States and Switzerland could be renewed.

11. Significant Trade in Plants

11.1 Problems and Inconsistencies in Resolution Conf. 8.9 (Rev.) and Decision 11.117

Consolidation of related resolutions and decisions on the significant trade review process.

Establishment of a working group to perform in conjunction with the working group created by the Animals Committee.

11.2 Implementation of Resolution Conf. 8.9 (Rev.) (cf. Decision 11.117)

11.2.1 Trade in Plants from Madagascar

The Plants Committee supported the draft proposal.

The Plants Committee recommended that – if possible, depending on the availability of funds – *Prunus africana* and medicinal plants should be studied when the project begins.

11.2.2 Cycads

The Plants Committee supported the concept outlined in PC11 Doc. 11.2.2. However, it recognized that the process should be divided into phases to facilitate implementation.

11.2.3 Selection of Taxa for Review

A working group was set up to offer guidance on possible taxa to be selected for review. The working group presented a list of taxa. The Secretariat will examine this list, in consultation with the UNEP-WCMC and pertinent experts. Having done this, the Secretariat will consult with Committee members to establish priorities for taxa that should come under review. The Secretariat will then begin the Significant Trade Review Process for the selected taxa.

12. Medicinal Plants

12.1 Trade in *Prunus africana*

The Regional Representative of Africa (Akpagana) supported the concept outlined in Doc. PC11 Inf. 9, but he said further information was necessary to offer an overall view of the situation.

12.2 Possible Future Activities

The Plants Committee supported Doc. PC11 Inf. 10, presented solely for information. The Secretariat will attempt to obtain external funding for the proposal briefly described therein.

13. Review of the Appendices

13.1 Review of Orchidaceae spp.

Consensus was expressed on the difficulty of approaching the long list of orchid genera presented in Doc. PC11 13.1, and it was decided to maintain the entire family in the Appendices.

A working group will carry out a similar process to that which led to the preparation of the list of Cactaceae commonly known as "supermarket plants," which are presently exempt from the provisions of the Convention

The United States of America and the representative of the *American Orchid Society* (AOS) will prepare a proposal for the next Plants Committee meeting.

13.2 Appendix-I Cactaceae

Switzerland and Mexico will jointly prepare a new document.

The Regional Representative of South and Central America and the Caribbean, (Forero) will contact Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay to ask their opinions.

13.3 Tree Species (Decision 11.116)

All Parties and observers will give updated data to the Regional Representative of Europe (de Koning). *Gonostylis* spp. and *Cedrela odorata* will not be included in the report to be presented at CoP12.

14. Checklist and Nomenclature

14.1 *Bulbophyllum*

Austria will prepare a detailed proposal on the second phase of the project for presentation to PC12, with an attempt to obtain funding.

14.2 Nomenclature of *Cedrela odorata*

The Chairwoman will send the conclusions shown in paragraph 8 of Doc. PC11 14.5 to the Management Authority of Argentina.

14.3 PC11 Inf. 18: A Preliminary Review of the Application of the Convention to Fungi

The Vice-Chairman of the Nomenclature Committee and the Secretariat will prepare a document asking the CoP to adopt a decision on whether the word "flora" covers Fungi and Plantae.

15. Strategic Planning

The Chairwoman and the Vice-Chairman will take note of the ideas expressed by all participants and prepare a new document for presentation to PC12.

16. Guidelines for Transport of Live Plants

The Vice-Chairman, probably in collaboration with the Secretariat and Dr. Irina Sprotte, will contact the IATA regarding guidelines for air transport of live plants.

The Vice-Chairman will study the guidelines presented in the light of comments formulated during the meeting.

It was agreed that the guidelines would not constitute regulations; in other words, they would not be considered obligatory.

17. Tree Species Evaluation: Progress Report by the Netherlands

All Parties and observers will give updated information to Harriet Gillet of the UNEP-WCMC (including data on *Gonostylus* spp. and *Cedrela odorata*).

18. Training Initiatives

18.1 Standard Slide Package: Progress Report

The updated slide package will be published immediately following CoP12.

The updated slide package will be placed on the website of the Scientific Authority of the United Kingdom, with a link to the Secretariat's website.

New slide packages will be prepared as printed copies and CD-ROMs, the numbers of which are yet to be determined.

Examples of training exercises will be sent to the Scientific Authority of the United Kingdom.

19. Trade in Mexican Cacti

19.1 Trade in Seeds of Cactaceae Included in Appendix II

Mexico, along with Austria and the United States of America, will prepare a proposal for sustainable harvest and artificial propagation of seeds. In this proposal, the necessary funds and the source of funding will be indicated.

The Czech Republic will send Mexico information on the cactus species grown there, and on the origin of these plants.

19.2 Cactus Sales through the Internet

Mexico will continue with their study and give updated information to the pertinent Parties.

20. Review of the Genus *Taxus*

China, the United States of America and India, in collaboration with France, will prepare a document covering the recommendations formulated in paragraphs 20 – 22 of Doc. PC11 Doc. 22.

The Plants Committee recognized that the subject of *Taxus* and trade in its finished products is a matter which gives cause for great concern.

21. Time and Venue of the 12th Plants Committee Meeting

The Plants Committee accepted the Netherlands' Management Authority's kind invitation to hold the next Plants Committee meeting in Leiden, the Netherlands, from May 13 to 17, 2002. The Plants Committee is deeply grateful for this invitation.

22. Any Other Business

22.1 Relationship between *ex-situ* Breeding Establishments and *in-situ* Conservation Programmes (Decision 11.102)

The Plants Committee agreed to support the process established by the Secretariat.

A representative of each region will collaborate in this process and collect information on a regional scale, particularly from Management Authorities.

22.2 Report on the Global Strategy for Plants (CBD)

The Plants Committee members, Parties and other observers will send comments about the document on the CBD to the Chairwoman by early October, at the latest.

22.3 Annotation to *Cistanche deserticola*

No measures were adopted.

22.4 Illegal Trade in *Paphiopedilum* spp.

The United States of America, the United Kingdom and the Secretariat will jointly prepare a document for the next Plants Committee meeting.

22.5 Implementation Issues Related to Appendix-III Timber Species

The Plants Committee recommended that Parties bring this topic to the attention of the Standing Committee.

Other Meetings and Tasks Performed:

23. The Chairwoman participated in a Chairmen's Meeting held in Geneva in April 2001, with the intention of preparing Notification 2001/037. At this meeting, Annex 5 was excluded, as it would be discussed at the second Criteria Working Group (CWG) meeting to be held afterwards, in May.

24. Messrs. von Arx, Luke, Leach, Singh, de Koning and Forero acted as experts at the second CWG meeting held in May, in Siguenza, Spain.

25. The Chairwoman prepared a final report, presented in a separate document for the 46th SC meeting, in compliance with Decision 11.2 on the review of criteria to amend Appendices I and II.

26. The Chairwoman participated in the ad hoc Working Group meetings prepared by the World Plant Conservation Strategy, which will be presented at the next CBD CoP meeting.

Plants Committee Budget

27. The CITES Secretariat has provided data on the expenditures necessary for holding the XI Plants Committee Meeting. These were as follows:

	CHF
Logistics costs for the meeting inclusive of interpretation	48,142
Rapporteur for the meeting	8,592
External translation of documents	20,174
Travel expenses and per diems for PC representatives	20,584 (*)
Staff travel	15,886
TOTAL	113,378
<small>(*) Travel Expenses for the Representatives of Europe and North America were funded by the contributions from Spain, the Netherlands and Canada, respectively.</small>	

Regional Representation

28. Africa

Directory for CITES authorities: Since the last PC meeting, the African Representatives (Mr. Luke and Mr. Donaldson) have been compiling a list of CITES authorities and plant specialists for CITES-listed taxa for the African region.

Currently there are 144 entries in the CITES plants' experts database. The task is to update and acquire new contacts; i.e., names and contacts of new plant experts. To achieve this we have started by confirming and updating the existing contacts that are already in the database by:

- Contacting those experts who are on email and requesting them to update their existing information, i.e. Addresses, Area of Expertise and so on.
- Contacting those experts who do not have email access, by either fax or regular mail and asking them to do the same as above.
- In case all the above are non-existent or non-functional for an expert we will resort to the last method which will be by the use of telephone.

To include or to find new contacts who are not in the database we have currently been;

- Obtaining contacts from the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) Africa Database and obtained a list of Focal Points from whom we have sent emails and will send letters by regular post where email is not available requesting them to forward any names and contacts of people whom they think we can contact and who may be able to be included in the database. (So far we have sent out 73 emails and we are awaiting their responses).
- We are also looking for contacts from other databases for example the IFAD and ECOSA databases and which we shall embark on in the coming year.

The response has not been very positive so far, as of now we have only received two confirmations from the emails we have sent so far, this we view could be due to the Festive season that we are in and thus most people are either out on vacation from their places of work or have just decided to take a break. We therefore have to wait until 2002 to be able to get a better response when people are back at work.

The Representatives thanks deeply the support of the UNEP HQ, in Nairobi, in allowing the e-mail use free of charge and pointed out the long delay in arranging the contract with the Scientific Authority (National Museums of Kenya) and, by the beginning of the Christmas holiday, no money had yet been received in spite of the work is going ahead.

Mr Luke has pursued to activate the Article VII (6) exemption for scientific material containing Cites II species being exchanged by NMK with other scientific institutions. The labels have designed in July, and approved by the MA of Kenya.

Mr. Donaldson has co-ordinated a programme to review the status of several CITES-listed species in southern Africa. Funding was obtained from the British Cactus and Succulent Society to review the status of five Appendix 1 Aloe species from Namibia, South Africa and Lesotho (*A. albida*, *A. pillansii*, *A. polypylla*, *A. thorncroftii*, *A. vossii*). The revised data show that all five species are more abundant than was previously thought, but they are all still classified as threatened under the IUCN classification. A report on succulent trade by TRAFFIC-South Africa indicated that there was still trade in wild-collected plants for all the species except *A. thorncroftii*. Based on these assessments, there appears to be general consensus that *A. thorncroftii* should be downlisted to Appendix 2 but the other four species should remain in Appendix 1.

Other issues in the southern African region that are being investigated are the status of various cycad species (Especially *Stangeria eriopus*).

Report on Harpagophytum: Decision 11.11 of the last Conference of the Parties required range states and importing countries to supply information on status and trade in Harpagophytum. The last PC meeting decided that the African representative should compile a report for the next CoP based on the available data. With funding from the CITES Secretariat and the National Botanical Institute in South Africa, a consultant has been appointed to source and synthesise all the existing information. Letters have been sent to the range states of *H. procumbens* (Botswana, Namibia, South Africa) and importers (Germany) requesting information. Additional information on wild populations and trade has been obtained from CRIAA (Namibia), German researchers, and various NGOs. CRIAA is organising a workshop with all stakeholders in late February 2002 and the outcomes of this workshop will be included in the report.

29. Central and South America and the Caribbean

As decided at the Plants Committee meeting in Malaysia, one of the Representatives of the region – Enrique Forero – submitted an application to the CITES Secretariat for USD 5,000. These funds were required to prepare the Directory of CITES Management Authorities and Scientific Authorities for Plants, as well as of plant specialists that could be of interest for CITES in the region.

The project began on October 15, 2001, and it is expected to last six months, until April 15, 2002. The objective is to ensure presentation of the Directory at the Plants Committee meeting in Leiden, in May 2002. An assistant, the biologist Tania Tibaduiza, was hired in October, and she started working immediately.

The first part of the funding (USD 4,000) was received in the month of November. The second part will be received upon delivery of the final report. A partial report must be submitted on January 15.

A provisional directory was prepared based on information from various sources. This included data available in the office of the Regional Representative, with valuable aid from the Colombian Management Authority (Ministry of the Environment) and the National University of Colombia Institute of Natural Sciences (a member of the Scientific Authority). The CITES directory on the Internet was consulted, and the official directory, on paper, was received from the CITES Secretariat. The Directory prepared by the Representative of Europe (Mrs. Clemente) was also available, as were suggestions from the Representative of North America (Mr. von Arx). After collecting this data, e-mail and fax messages were sent to all the addresses in our possession at the time, requesting corrections and updates of this initial information. A very simple, two-page questionnaire was also attached, for the purpose of not only confirming information, but of obtaining new data, particularly regarding specialists on groups of plants of interest for CITES in each country of the region.

The response has been very positive. Only seven countries in the region have yet to answer, but efforts are being made to reach their CITES authorities in different ways. We have just recently established contact with Paraguay and Brazil, two of the countries that had not answered. Belize, Guyana and several Caribbean islands have still not answered. The alternate representative, Dora Ingrid Rivera, was asked the favour of verifying information on Costa Rica. We are awaiting her answer.

We now have up-to-date, reliable information on the management authorities of most countries. In many cases, we have also obtained information on the scientific authorities. In some cases, we have names of specialists as well. The difficulty here is to obtain e-mail addresses for these specialists and this task is our top priority.

We consider that by April 15, we shall have verified a large amount of information – nearly 90% – on management and scientific authorities. The percentage will be a bit lower for information on specialists.

The work is being done at the National University of Colombia Institute of Natural Sciences. We received support from the Colombian Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences for agile management of the funds granted by CITES. In this sense, the situation has been excellent.

30. North America

The Regional Directory has been updated.

- CITES Carnivorous Plant Checklist The final draft was circulated at Kew for another final round for comments.
- *Guaiacum sanctum* project – PC10 determined that the study presented by the students of the University of Maryland should be continued. At the request of Mexico the students were asked to continue their work. The Secretariat provided funds donated by the Netherlands and the United States of America. The students worked closely with Mexico to carry out their study. Results will be available for discussion at PC11.
- Timber identification manual – The U.S. Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the U.S. Forest Service have provided funding to an effort led by Environment Canada to develop identification materials for tropical woods to be used by enforcement officers. The final document will be available soon. An interactive version on the Web should also be ready soon.
- One regional meeting was held in April 2001 as part of the North American *Trilateral Committee for Wildlife & Ecosystem Conservation and Management* (aka Trilateral Meeting) in which a “CITES Table” plays the role of a regional meeting. The presence of other “tables” such as migratory birds and Wetlands, Shared species, Biodiversity Information inter alia allow efficient interaction with other scientist when needed. All three Scientific Authorities as well as Management Authorities attended this meeting.
- Cactus delisting proposal – The U.S. Scientific Authority analysed the potential implications of a proposal drafted by Switzerland to delist several morphologically distinct species of cacti. The results were shared within the region and with Switzerland.
- Orchidaceae Review – PC10 established a Working Group to determine how to proceed with the review of the Orchidaceae. The U.S. Scientific Authority (Mr. Roddy Gabel) is conducting this project for the North American Region in collaboration with the American Orchid Society. Results will be discussed at PC11.
- Medicinal Plant Annotations Working Group – PC10 established this Working Group to address specific recommendations identified in document PC10.8.4. The U.S. Scientific Authority coordinated input from Working Group members and will present a document on this subject for discussion at PC11.
- *Taxus wallichiana* review – PC10 requested the United States and China to conduct a review of the conservation status of this species. The United States has focused on this and related Asian species in the genus due to taxonomic uncertainties yet to be

resolved by the Nomenclature Committee. The results will be presented for discussion at PC11.

- Request for information – On June 12, 2001, the U.S. Scientific Authority officially requested information and recommendations from the public on species to consider for changes to the CITES Appendices at the next COP. Comments must be received before August 13, 2001. A summary of the plant species specifically identified in this notice will be presented at PC11. Many species that range into Canada and/or Mexico are included.
- European Regional Meeting - At the invitation of the European Regional Representative, the United States (Ms. Lyke) attended the IV European Regional Meeting on CITES Plant Issues held in Turkey in April 2001. This occasion offered an opportunity to share information with European Parties and the Secretariat and enhanced our understanding of the bulb trade from Turkey.

Among many other projects, in-depth work on the status of Mexican cacti – especially with extensive field trips - has been conducted during this term and will continue in the future. The projects are in many cases aimed at issues directly related to the work of the Plants Committee (delisting of Opuntoids; Review of App. I Cacti). In other cases, financial constraints dictate the scope of a research as it is the case with the review of some native populations of cacti where the first group of taxa chosen are located at a reasonable distance from Mexico City. Further investigations will cover more distant regions.

Also the project on *Guaiacum* conducted field work in Mexico and the results will be presented during the meeting.

A great deal of efforts were put into taking over the new Scientific Authority Office of Canada. A great attention has been given to the Network of other Scientific Authorities in Canada such as the Provinces and Territories, the Department of Fisheries and Ocean; the Canadian Forest Service, as well as Enforcement agencies. Education and training was provided through a PowerPoint presentation – based on the one available on the CITES website. It features a core of general information on CITES and more specifically on the implementation in Canada and a special section was added to show specific issues or requirements depending on the interlocutors.

A working group was also created to update the information available on the Internet about CITES in Canada. A new Website will be designed during the summer and should be available for this fall at www.cites.ec.gc.ca. One of the major features will be the consultation process for the next CoP and the availability for permit applications online (later all the permitting process shall be online).

Work is also ongoing on the checklist of the Canadian native species listed in CITES. This list does include both plants and animals. On the plant side only 4 families are represented with 100+ taxa. However, two families Ranunculaceae (*Hydrastis canadensis*) and Araliaceae (*Panax quinquefolius*) – both medicinal plants - have only one representative each. Cactaceae (approx. 5 sp. All App. II) and even more so Orchidaceae (78-100+ sp. depending on taxonomy; all App. II) share the bigger amount of taxa. Assessment of the threat level is available, but data on trade of most of those is still missing.

31. Asia

Malaysia did a splendid job of organizing the XI Plants Committee meeting. This allowed for participation by a good number of observers from Parties in the region.

The regional directory for Asia is finished. It was presented and distributed at the XI Plants Committee meeting.

Mr. Shaari has worked very actively on the problems that have arisen out of listing ramin in Appendix III. He had consultations with Singapore, Indonesia and TRAFFIC on this matter. Mr. Shaari also brought up CITES Plants issues at various meetings of a regional nature, such as: 4th ASEAN (Medicinal Plants Group); 3rd meeting on Research and Development of Forestry Products, and the 4th Meeting of Forestry Officers.

Mr. Sing has been in contact with 14 of the 21 countries for which he is responsible within the Asian region. He reported, at the X Plants Committee meeting, on the completion of the Indian Plants Identification Handbook.

32. Europe

The European Parties work actively regarding CITES Plants issues. The following activities may be mentioned:

- Revision of the Appendices
- The Significant Trade Process
- Issues Dealing with Medicinal Plants
- Evaluation of Tree Species
- Courses in Several Countries Addressed to Enforcement Bodies
- Participation in the Criteria Working Group
- Checklists

The Regional Directory has been continuously updated, and has been included in the WebPages of the University of Cordoba:

<http://www.uco.es/organiza/servicios/jardin/ingles/address/marcdirec.htm>

The European Representatives will send the information contained in the Directory to the Secretariat in order to be included on the Secretariat Web site

Fourth European Regional CITES meeting of Management, Scientific and other authorities involved in CITES plants issues (Menemen, Izmir, Turkey, 24 – 27 April, 2001). Participants: European Representatives (M. Clemente, J. De Koning); Alternate Representatives (H. Werblan-Jakubiec, D. Supthut) and 44 Participants -SAs or MAs- from 14 countries (Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Turkey, United Kingdom); European Union-Commission; United States of America (invited as observer); CITES Secretariat.

The Representatives deeply thank Turkey for the excellent organization of this meeting.

Recommendations from the Fourth regional meeting:

- that the CITES Authorities in the Region provide the European Representatives with any relevant information for the update of the Directory of Management and Scientific Authorities in the European Region.
- that the European Representatives send the information contained in the Directory to the Secretariat in order to be included on the Secretariat Web site.

- that the European Commission make information available on prices of permits in the various Member States of the European Union and information regarding general stricter measures in the European Union to all non-European Union countries within the Region.
- that Parties in the Region provide information and training to registered scientific institutions on how to use the labelling system.
- at the next European Regional meeting one of the agenda items will be a discussion on confiscations in the various European countries through written presentations by each country.
- that national Management and/or Scientific Authorities in the Region prepare a written report on the rescue centres in their country to be presented at the next European Regional meeting. The report should include details on:
 - The mechanisms for compensation of costs (material, space, maintenance of staff) for rescue centres.
 - Ownership of the confiscated plants.
 - Ownership of the artificially propagated offspring of confiscated material.
 - Ownership of the right to commercialise confiscated plants and their artificially propagated offspring (e.g. by using them in exhibitions or selling the offspring).
 - The regulations which allow the transfer of confiscated plants and/or their offspring to other rescue centres in other countries with better facilities for artificial propagation of the corresponding taxon.
 - The solutions for CITES-CBD problems occurring for gardens keeping confiscated post-CBD plants (e.g. regarding property rights and benefit sharing).
- that the CITES Authorities in the Region inform their amateur societies about CITES related provisions included in their national legislation and/or the EU CITES Regulation.
- that Parties in the Region formulate proposals on capacity building to the Secretariat after needs assessments.
- that Parties in the Region are encouraged to seek funding to support these proposals.
- that the Management and Scientific Authorities in the European Region send the UK Scientific Authority information, articles and suggestions for the CITES News - Plants.
- that the Management and Scientific Authorities in the European Region send CITES Secretariat information, articles and suggestions for CITES World.
- that the UK Scientific Authority and Irish Scientific Authority proceed with the proposal for the preparation of a European Orchid Checklist, to the European Commission and other appropriate institutions in order to obtain funding.
- that all Parties in the Region continue to provide the DE Scientific Authority with information on, and samples of, parts and derivatives of CITES medicinal plants that have been detected in trade.

- that the Parties of the Region consider Notification to the Parties number 1999/26 on ‘Trade in plants for medicinal purposes’ and provide additions and corrections to the checklist to the Secretariat. An updated Notification that will then be transmitted by the CITES Secretariat to the Parties early next year.
- that Parties in the Region take note, whenever relevant to their country, the recommendations of the TRAFFIC report on the Conservation, Use and Trade in Europe’s Medicinal and Aromatic plants.
- that Parties to the best extent possible, provide a written report on trade in medicinal plants in their country at the next European Regional meeting.
- that Parties in the region inform the European Commission if they have any ideas on Non-CITES species that could require an Annex D listing (Monitoring on entry into the European Union by means of an import declaration).
- that the Austrian Scientific Authority continues with the preparation of the *Bulbophyllum* checklist and seeks additional funding from appropriate organisations.
- that the Management and Scientific Authorities in the European Region send the UK Scientific Authority any suggestions or images that will assist with the development of the slide pack project.

Following discussion of the CITES Strategic Plan it was decided that for:

- that Scientific Authorities of Eastern European countries send contact information regarding botanical experts within the country to Ms Hanna Werblan-Jakubiec (PO-SA) and that the Scientific Authorities of Western European countries send contact information regarding botanical experts within the country to Mr Jan de Koning (E. Rep).
- that the two European Representatives will produce a list of botanical experts for distribution within the Region, subject to the approval of the Parties.
- to facilitate the review process, countries preparing proposals are invited to enter into contact with the European Representative. The European Representative will contact the Regional Representative of the Range State concerned if necessary.
- Parties should communicate information on any relevant innovative technologies to the Secretariat to assist with better implementation of the Convention.
- all Scientific Authorities in the Region should participate actively at scientific meetings and conferences, and encourage participation in CITES issues by the scientific community and report on these activities at the next European Regional meeting.

33. Oceania

The Representative prepared a regional report and an updated version of the Oceania Directory prior to the 11th Plants Committee meeting.

A report from the 11th PC meeting was prepared and distributed to all regional parties and plant experts in the region. The report highlighted:

- progress with *Aquilaria* and Agarwood trade

- the request for examples on different plant production systems
- the Swiss proposal for Appendix II herbarium specimens
- the Swiss proposals on cacti
- significant trade – Madagascar, Cycads, selection of taxa
- review of Appendices – Orchids, Cactaceae
- *ex situ* breeding and *in situ* conservation
- illegal trade in *Paphiopedilum*
- Appendix III timber – listing of Ramin

In addition to the report, copies of the *Aquilaria* working group report and a further updated copy of the Oceania Directory were distributed.

Information has been sought from Parties on the issues of different plant production systems, *ex situ* breeding versus *in situ* conservation and possible impacts of the Ramin listing both on range states and importers.

The Representative presented a paper on CITES at the opening session of the Flora Malesiana Symposium. The session was on stakeholder needs for taxonomic information. CITES needs for taxonomic information was highlighted through:

- Clear nomenclature which avoids loop holes e.g. *Aquilaria*
- Identification aids usable by customs/quarantine e.g. Tree ferns
- Checklists of names including synonymy and trade names e.g. orchids, cacti
- Value adding to taxonomic work e.g. Chinese orchid trade
- Directories of specialists

Communication has been maintained with the Secretariat and TRAFFIC Oceania over data gathering for Agarwood in order to respond to the priorities identified in the Agarwood working group report.

Involvement in discussions with the Australian Management Authority and TRAFFIC Oceania over the scope and organisation of an Oceania SIDS capacity building workshop to be held in 2002.

Discussion with the Australian Management Authority to further develop the Oceania CITES Plants directory into a complete regional directory for all CITES issues.