

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



Fifty-seventh meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 14-18 July 2008

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Amendment of the Appendices

PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE APPENDICES

1. This document has been prepared by the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees.
2. Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP14), on Establishment of Committees, mandates the Animals and Plants Committees to undertake a periodic review of animal or plant species included in the CITES Appendices by *inter alia* establishing a schedule for reviewing the biological and trade status of these species.
3. In Resolution Conf. 14.8, on Periodic Review of the Appendices, the Conference of the Parties agrees that:

the Animals and Plants Committees shall establish a schedule for the Periodic Review of the Appendices and identify a list of taxa they propose to review during the next two intersessional periods between meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP). The list should be established at their first meeting after the meeting of the CoP that initiates the review period.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ANIMALS COMMITTEE

4. At AC23 the Secretariat informed the Animals Committee about the status of the reviews of the taxa selected prior to CoP13 [AC23 Doc. 11.3 (Rev. 1)] and between CoP13 and CoP15 (AC23 Doc. 11.1). Furthermore the Committee was informed about the progress of the periodic review of felidae (AC23 Doc. 11.2.1 and AC23 Doc. 11.2.2).
5. The Animals Committee was to consider reviews that had been submitted since AC22 and decide on how to treat outstanding reviews of taxa that were selected before CoP13 as well as on a schedule for the review of taxa that were selected after CoP13.
6. The following recommendations were adopted by the Animals Committee at its 23rd meeting (see AC AC23 WG3 Doc. 1 and AC23 Sum. 3 (Rev. 1) (22/04/2008):

Species selected before CoP13 and not yet reviewed

The Secretariat should write to the range States concerned and ask for their opinion as to whether these reviews were still required. If a range State replied positively, it would be expected to conduct the review. If the answer was negative, or no reply was received, then the species should be deleted from the list and no review would be conducted.

Species selected for periodic review between CoP13 and CoP15 and for which no Party had volunteered to lead a review

- a) The Secretariat should publish a Notification to Parties as soon as possible and raise awareness of taxa that were still not under review. The Notification should contain a list of these taxa and a schedule. Furthermore, it should contain a call for voluntary financial contributions for contracting experts for the review of taxa for which no voluntary experts could be identified by the AC. Parties should inform the Secretariat if they identified or contracted experts for the review of species.
- b) If funds became available, the Secretariat should consult with the chairmen of the AC and the intersessional WG, and select taxa for review and experts to be contracted, and make according contracts.
- c) The intersessional WG should coordinate and monitor the periodic review and submit a report at AC24.
- d) The AC should request the allocation of funds to the periodic review of animal taxa at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP15). The AC should draft guidelines in time for CoP15, indicating under which circumstances experts may be contracted for reviews of animal taxa.

Crossoptilon crossoptilon harmani

This taxon should be retained in the list for the periodic review.

Rhea americana and *Tupinambis merianae*

These two species were to be retained in Appendix II according to the proposals made by Spain in its reviews.

Periodic review of Felidae

Species to be eliminated from the periodic review

Acinonyx jubatus
Caracal caracal
Catopuma temminckii
Leptailurus serval
Neofelis nebulosa
Pardofelis marmorata
Uncia uncia

Other taxa

The Secretariat should issue a Notification inviting Parties to conduct reviews on the other taxa, however the following taxa have a lower priority:

Catopuma badia
Felis bieti
Felis chaus
Felis manul
Felis margarita
Felis nigripes
Felis silvestris
Leopardus spp. (*L. braccatus*, *L. colocolo*, *L. geoffroyi*, *L. guigna*, *L. jacobitus*, *L. pajeros*, *L. pardalis*, *L. tigrinus* and *L. wiedii*)
Profelis aurata
Puma concolor
Puma yagouaroundi

Prionailurus spp.

A review of this genus, which includes *Prionailurus bengalensis*, *P. iriomotensis*, *P. planiceps*, *P. rubiginosus* and *P. viverrinus*, should be conducted.

Present structure and purpose of Resolution Conf. 14.8

As the periodic review of Amphibians and Galliformes species had not yet been completed, it was too early to make comments on the structure and purpose of Resolution Conf. 14.8.

Effectiveness of the periodic review

Given that the current periodic review had been adopted at CoP14 (The Hague, 2007) with Resolution Conf. 14.8, it was felt to be too early to evaluate its effectiveness. Suggestions on how this could be evaluated should however be sent directly to Japan.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PLANTS COMMITTEE

7. At its 15th meeting (Geneva, May 2005), the Plants Committee agreed on a list of taxa to be reviewed during the two intersessional periods between the 13th and 15th meetings of the Conference of the Parties (CoP13 and CoP15) and established an intersessional working group. The list was modified after the meeting, at the request of the Chairman of the Working Group, and agreed via correspondence.
8. The Secretariat, through Notification No. 2005/037 of 19 July 2005, communicated to the Parties the list of candidate taxa for review agreed by the Plants Committee. Range States of these species were requested to send their comments on the need to review these species by 18 September 2005. Only Mexico replied.
9. Following the issuance of Notification to the Parties No. 2005/037, the Chairman of the Working Group contacted a number of range States: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, India, Madagascar and Peru. Argentina, Brazil and Madagascar responded and submitted contributions, established contacts with national experts or requested further information.
10. At its 16th meeting (Lima, July 2006), the Plants Committee finalized the selection of taxa to be reviewed by CoP15.
11. The Chairman of the Working Group asked for reports on the state of the review, via email of 14 March 2007, in order to prepare a progress report for the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (The Hague, 2007). This progress report is contained in document CoP14 Inf. 11.
12. A number of proposals for consideration of CoP14, prepared by range States/reviewers, resulted from the Periodic Review of the Appendices. Range States in these cases prefer to submit proposals directly to the Conference of the Parties rather than submitting reports to the Plants Committee for assessment and preparation of proposals by the PC. This proceeding highlights the potential role of range States and strongly helps the process of reviewing the Appendices.

Completed reviews

- *Agave arizonica*: CoP14 Prop. 22: Deletion from Appendix I (United States of America).
- *Nolina interrata*: CoP14 Prop. 23: Transfer from Appendix I to Appendix II, including all parts and derivatives (United States of America).
- *Pereskia* spp. (16 spp.): CoP14 Prop. 24: Deletion from Appendix II (Argentina).
- *Pereskiopsis* spp. (6 spp.): CoP14 Prop. 25: Deletion from Appendix II (Mexico).
- *Quiaibentia* spp. (2 spp.): CoP14 Prop. 24: Deletion from Appendix II (Argentina).
- *Shortia galacifolia*: CoP14 Prop. 28: Deletion from Appendix II (United States of America).

13. At its 55th meeting (The Hague, 2 June 2007), the Standing Committee endorsed the Plants Committee's list of plant taxa to be reviewed before the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Doha, 2010), with the exception of the species deleted from the Appendices or transferred

from one Appendix to another at CoP14, and this decision was notified by the Secretariat through Notification No. 2008/004 of 28 January 2008.

14. The Chairman of the Working Group presented a progress report on the status of the review at the 17th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC17 Doc 11 Annex 1) as follows:

- a) At PC16 the list of taxa for review was reduced from 36 taxa / 114 spp. to 28 taxa / 101 spp. By aborting a number of reviews. Of these, 8 taxa / 29 spp. are reviewed (paragraphs A and Bb below); 6 taxa / 27 spp. need no further action (paragraph A). This means that the review, as decided at PC16, is completed now for 22 % of the taxa / 29 % of the species and still needs to be completed for 78 % of the taxa / 71 % of the species up to CoP15.
- b) For 10 taxa / 27 spp., responsibilities are assigned. Reports on the state of the review are lacking for 6 taxa / 6 spp. of these. For 2 taxa / 2 spp., difficulties in obtaining data were reported, and for 1 taxon / 18 spp., the review was postponed by the reviewer due to taxonomical problems.
- c) For 10 taxa / 45 spp., i.e. 36 % of taxa / 45 % of spp., it was not possible to identify voluntary reviewers and no range State or Party took responsibility, even though Parties and regional representatives of the PC were made aware of the issue and various Parties were specifically contacted by the Chairman of the Working Group.
- d) Completed reviews, action of PC required (assessment, preparation of proposals if required):
 - *Podocarpus parlatorei*: Argentina
 - *Agave parviflora*: United States of America.
- e) Aborted reviews: Excluded from the list (PC16 WG2 Doc. 1)
 - *Aloe arborescens*
 - *Discocactus* spp. (6 spp.)
 - *Euphorbia ingens*
 - *Euphorbia tirucallii*
 - *Melocactus conoideus*
 - *Melocactus deinacanthus*
 - *Melocactus glaucescens*
 - *Melocactus paucispinus*.
- f) Incomplete reviews
 - *Euphorbia antisyphilitica*: Mexico (looking for experts).
 - *Balmea stormae*: Costa Rica, Guatemala (reported difficulties in obtaining data).
 - *Platymiscium pleiostachyum*: Costa Rica (reported difficulties in obtaining data).
 - *Tillandsia harrisii*: Guatemala (state of the review not reported).
 - *Tillandsia kautskyi*: Brazil (state not reported).
 - *Tillandsia sprengeliana*: Brazil (state not reported).
 - *Orothamnus zeyheri*: South Africa (state not reported).
 - *Protea odorata*: South Africa (state not reported).
 - *Welwitschia mirabilis*: Namibia (state not reported).
 - *Sclerocactus* spp. (s. str.; 18 spp.): United States of America (postponed due to unresolved taxonomy issue).
- g) Not yet under review: No responsibilities and experts assigned
 - *Saussurea costus*
 - *Dioscorea deltoidea*
 - *Agave victoriae-reginae*
 - *Tillandsia kammii*
 - *Tillandsia mauryana*
 - *Hedychium philippinense*

- *Cycas beddomei*
 - Didieraceae spp. (11 spp.)
 - *Euphorbia* spp. in Appendix I (10 spp.)
 - *Aloe*, the Malagasy spp. in Appendix I (17 spp.).
15. The Plants Committee was to consider reviews that had been submitted since PC16 and decide on how to treat outstanding reviews of taxa that were selected before CoP13 as well as on a schedule for the review of taxa that were selected after CoP13.
16. A Working Group was established chaired by Jonas Lüthy (Switzerland). The following conclusions (see PC17 WG 5 and PC17 Sum 4) were agreed by the Plants Committee at its 17th meeting:
- Regarding results and progress
- a) to retain *Agave parviflora* in Appendix I.
 - b) Argentina is considering submitting a proposal to CoP15 to downlist *Podocarpus parlatorei* from Appendix I to Appendix II with an appropriate annotation for parts and derivatives.
 - c) South Africa is preparing proposals for delisting *Orothamnus zeyheri* and *Protea odorata* from Appendix II for consideration of CoP15.
 - d) Namibia is preparing a report on the review of *We/witschia mirabilis* for consideration of PC18.
 - e) The review of *Euphorbia antisyphilitica* by Mexico is under way and the review of *Agave victoriae-reginae* will probably be initiated in the near future.
 - f) The Netherlands are offering to review *Cycas beddomei*.
 - g) A possible voluntary expert for the review of the 10 Madagascan *Euphorbia* spp. in Appendix I was identified and France will ask for his cooperation.
- Regarding to achieve more progress up to PC18
- The PC recommends that
- a) The Secretariat shall publish a Notification to Parties as soon as possible and raise awareness of taxa that are still not under review. The Notification should contain a list of these taxa and a schedule. The Notification should call upon Parties to undertake to find the resources to carry out the reviews on behalf of the Plants Committee. Parties should inform the Secretariat, if they identify or contract experts for the review of species.
 - b) If funds should become available, the Secretariat shall consult with the chairs of the PC and the intercessional WG and select taxa for review and experts to be contracted, and make according contracts.
- The WG will coordinate and monitor the Periodic Review and submit a report to PC18.
- Regarding future reviews
- a) The PC should apply for the allocation of funds to the Periodic Review of plant taxa at CoP15 through the report of the Chairman.
 - b) The WG should draft guidelines up to PC18, indicating under which circumstances experts may be contracted for reviews of plant taxa.
17. The CoP14 had directed Decision 14.131 to the Plants Committee to review the listing of succulent *Euphorbia* spp. in Appendix II. The Committee agreed that WG5 should be mandated with carrying out the work set out in Decision 14.131. The same Working Group dealt with the document PC17 Doc. 6.

18. The following conclusions (see PC17 WG 5 and PC17 Sum 4) were agreed by the Plants Committee at its 17th meeting:

- a) The genus *Euphorbia* was substantially amplified: According to recent studies of DNA sequence data, most of the smaller "satellite genera" around the huge genus *Euphorbia* nest deep within the latter. Consequently these taxa, namely the never generally accepted genus *Chamaesyce* as well as the smaller genera *Cubanthus*, *Elaeophorbia*, *Endadenium*, *Monadenium*, *Synadenium* and *Pedilanthus* were transferred to *Euphorbia*. The genus *Euphorbia* in this new, amplified sense is equal to the entire subtribe Euphorbiinae of the family Euphorbiaceae. A considerable number of additional succulent species may thus fall unintentionally under CITES regulations. The WG therefore recommends to investigate, whether one or several subgeneric units of the genus *Euphorbia* in the new, amplified sense correspond to the former listing and, if possible, narrow the listing of succulent *Euphorbia* spp. in Appendix II down to this subgeneric taxon or those subgeneric taxa.
- b) The WG will undertake some work intersessionally:
 - i) Analyze the trade data provided in PC17 Doc. 14 (Annex).
 - ii) Identify species for possible exclusion from Appendix II, based on this and all other available, relevant information.
 - iii) Prepare a list of candidate species for possible delisting for consideration of PC18 and submit a report containing this list and all other available, relevant information.
- c) The Secretariat shall publish a Notification to Parties as soon as possible, asking Range States of succulent *Euphorbia* spp. to indicate, as far as possible, species that are actually or potentially negatively impacted through harvest from the wild for international trade. Parties should report their findings to the Secretariat until 6 months before PC18 and the Secretariat shall gather this information and forward it to the chair of the WG.
- d) The WG will prepare a proposal for submission to CoP15 to annotate the current listing of the genus *Euphorbia* in the Appendices to the effect that these genera were excluded from the listing and present this for discussion at PC18.