

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



Seventieth meeting of the Standing Committee  
Rosa Khutor, Sochi (Russian Federation), 1-5 October 2018

Strategic matters

COOPERATION WITH THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION OF  
THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

1. This document has been prepared by the Chair of the Plants Committee in consultation with the Secretariat.\*

Background

2. At its 17th meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 17.53 and 17.54 on *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)*, as follows:

***Directed to the Secretariat***

17.53 *The Secretariat shall send the updated version of the report on CITES contribution to the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) 2011-2020 to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in order for it to be considered at CBD's 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP13-CBD, Cancun, México; December 2016) as CITES contribution to the implementation of GSPC 2011-2020.*

17.54 *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *publish and maintain updated on its website the summary of the Periodic Review proposals submitted to Conference of the Parties for amendments to Appendices I and II, taxa selected for Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II, and Review of Significant Trade in specimens of App. II species, including relevant updates derived from PC22 and CoP17;*
- b) *request the United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) to include in its website an interactive version of the online flora, currently available at <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/com/pc/22/E-PC22-07-02-Annex5-Rev2.xlsx>, in such a way that CITES Parties can maintain it up to date, and thus have a clear idea on CITES contribution to the implementation of Target 1 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC).*

Progress in the implementation of Decisions 17.53 and 17.54

3. The Plants Committee discussed the implementation of the GSPC Decisions at its 23rd and 24th meetings through documents [PC23 Doc. 14](#) and [PC24 Doc. 12](#). The latter provides a summary of progress achieved in the implementation of Decisions 17.53 and 17.54 up to May 2018, highlighting the following:

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\* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

- a) Based on the progress described, Decision 17.53 can be considered as fully implemented.
  - b) Though there is recognition of the contributions of CITES to the GSPC, there is a need to better map and understand how CBD programmes and crosscutting issues can be of assistance to CITES in the implementation of its flora-related activities. As a first approach to address this, the Secretariat developed an information document ([PC24 Inf. 6](#)) that could represent a basis for further steps to ensure balanced collaboration between CITES and CBD with regard to GSPC relevant targets.
  - c) In the same way as CITES, CBD is in the process of updating its Strategic Vision for the period 2020-2030. This will likely result in a reformulation as to how GSPC will be reflected in CBD's new Strategic Plan. Therefore, it is likely that Resolution 16.5 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity* will need to be revised at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
4. At PC24, the Plants Committee noted the progress achieved in the implementation of Decision 17.53 and 17.54 and the analysis on the potential contribution of the CBD to CITES-flora activities included in information document PC24 Inf. 6, and agreed to submit a number of draft decisions for consideration of the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting and the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, some of which were overlapping.
  5. A consolidated version of these draft decisions can be found in the Annex to the present document. In the process of consolidating the decisions agreed by the Plants Committee, some adjustments on timelines have been made, while making sure the essence of the mandates agreed is maintained.

#### Recommendations

6. The Standing Committee is invited to:
  - a) take note of the progress in the implementation of Decisions 17.53 and 17.54;
  - b) consider the draft decisions on the GSPC of the CBD, as proposed in the Annex to the present document; and
  - c) request the Plants Committee to present for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its 18th meeting, the deletion of Decisions 17.53 and 17.54, and the adoption of the draft decisions in the Annex to the present document.

**Draft decisions for consideration at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties**

**Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC)**

**Directed to the Secretariat**

18.AA The Secretariat shall:

- a) publish and maintain updated on its website the summary of the Periodic Review proposals submitted to Conference of the Parties for amendments to Appendices I and II, taxa selected for Periodic Review of species included in Appendices I and II, and Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix II species, with relevant updates derived from the 23rd and 24th meetings of the Plants Committee and the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- b) in collaboration with the Plants Committee, update the report on the contribution of CITES to the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) [CoP17 Doc. 14.6 (Rev. 1)], to take account of the outcomes of the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and provide it to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) for further consideration by the CBD at the 15th meeting of its Conference of the Parties;
- c) consult the Secretariat of CBD concerning the post-2020 future of the GSPC, and collaborate with the Plants Committee in drafting any required revision of Resolution Conf. 16.5 on *Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020*; and
- d) report on progress with the implementation of paragraphs a) to d) to the Plants Committee and the Standing Committee, and submit recommendations as appropriate to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

**Directed to the Plants Committee**

18.BB The Plants Committee shall:

- a) consider the updated report on the contribution of CITES to the implementation of the GSPC at its 25th meeting; and,
- b) in collaboration with the Secretariat and if required, draft a revision to Resolution Conf. 16.5, taking into account the discussions under CBD regarding the post-2020 future of the GSPC, and present its recommendations to the Standing Committee.

**Directed to the Standing Committee**

18.CC The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider the recommendations of the Plants Committee concerning any proposed revision of Resolution Conf. 16.5, and make its own recommendations, as appropriate, taking account of the discussions regarding the post-2020 future of the GSPC; and
- b) submit any proposed revisions of Resolution Conf. 16.5 to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its 19th meeting.