A. PROPOSAL

Transfer of *Pachypodium brevicaule* from Appendix I to Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT

Madagascar and Swiss Confederation.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Magnoliopsida (Dicotyledoneae)

12. Order: Gentianales

13. Family: Apocynaceae

14. Species: *Pachypodium brevicaule* Baker (1886)

141. Common Vernacular Names(s):

Kimondromondro, Trimondromondro, stone plant (Guillaumet 1987)

16. Code Numbers:

15. Common Names:

16. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: Species endemic to Madagascar's High Plateau, primarily south of Antananarivo. It is found on the Antananarivo-Ambositra and Antsirabe-Mandoto axis (see appendix). In the past, little information on the distribution of this species was available, suggesting that it was threatened (Jenkins, 1990). However, a recent survey (Supthut, D & B von Arx, 1992) has identified a number of stations with favourable soil conditions.

22. Population: The majority of the localities surveyed support very large populations, involving tens of thousands of plants (Supthut, D & B von Arx, 1992).
Inaranandrina (NR 7, 40 km south of Tana): approx 10,000 m^2 1-2 specimens/m^2 (up to 4/m^2)
Ambosakely (NR 7, 20 km south of Tana): a few young plants
Ambatoaranana (NR 34, 45 and 60 km west of Antsirabe): A few old specimens
Mt Ibity: up to 3 spec/m^2 in several locations on the mountain
Itremo: abundant on the east face of the Col (the other face has not been inspected), etc
Abundant flowering has been observed on a number of occasions. Moreover, the large number of young plants indicates that the populations are successfully regenerating (undoubtedly as a result of the species' inclusion in Appendix I). Sustainable exploitation of

these populations, primarily through the collecting of some of the young plants and seeds, would appear to be acceptable. In addition, wide availability of parent plants in local and foreign nurseries should eliminate the need for any further collection of wild plants, which, in any event, is subject to authorization.

23. Habitat: The species is found in three types of environments:

- on lateritic soil strewn with small lumps of quartz, in open areas (meadows),
- on granitic rocks, in fissures,
- on very coarse quartzitic soil with small lumps of rock.

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: A few specimens of this species are found in trade. The plants are collected from the wild and sold in markets or along the roadside. All have bare roots and are often severely damaged. One single specimen was observed for sale along the roadside in the course of project S-52.

32. Legal International Trade: There has been virtually no further trade in this species in the past three years (1990-1992).

321. Wild Plants

Statistics drawn from Madagascar's annual reports (1991-1992)

1 specimen was exported to Switzerland in 1992 for scientific purposes (herbaria); a portion was returned to Madagascar.

WCMC statistics, based on the annual reports of the various Parties (1989-1991)

	1989 Import	1989 Export	1990 Import	1990 Export	1991 Import	1991 Export
West Germany	--	16	--	--	--	--
United States	--	--	--	--	3*	--
Japan	--	120	--	--	--	--
France	--	6000	--	2	--	--
Reunion	--	11	--	10	--	--
Netherlands	1	--	--	--	--	--

Exports: reported by Madagascar
Imports: reported by importing country
* confiscated plants

Data prior to transfer to Appendix I (1989) WCMC

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
West Germany	--	--	32,000	50,000	5
Japan	50 ap	105	110	100	--
United States	4 ap	200	86 ap	75 ap	25
United Kingdom	50 ap	--	--	--	--
Zimbabwe	--	--	2	--	--

-- = no data provided
ap = artificially propagated

As regards these data, it should be noted that a number of countries have failed to submit their statistics on imported plants. It can thus be assumed that many more plants have been exported from Madagascar. As regards the data marked "ap", indicating artificially propagated plants, it should be noted that, at the time, no nurseries were performing artificial propagation as defined by Conf 8-17. These species should thus be included in the total for wild plants.

322. Artificially Propagated Plants: Very few plants are truly artificially propagated in Madagascar. However, propagation is relatively easy, particularly in regions with favourable climates (High Plateau). In addition, cases of artificial propagation (seedlings) have been reported in European greenhouses.

33. Illegal Trade

Plants exported prior to the transfer of the species to Appendix I (1989) are in circulation, particularly in Europe. However, no illicit exports have been reported in recent years by either the Malagasy authorities or the importing countries.

34. Potential Trade Threats

341. Live Specimens: Some producers have been successful in, relatively rapidly, artificially propagating *P. brevicaule* in large quantities in accordance with Conf 8-17 (from seeds). However, to minimize the pressure on the wild populations, the circulation of these artificially propagated specimens should be facilitated, in particular by the transfer of the species to Appendix II. It should be noted in passing that artificially propagated plants are readily identifiable and that the species itself is clearly distinguishable from other types of *Pachypodium*. Effective monitoring and promotion of nursery propagation of the species, particularly in Madagascar, would be desirable as well. At the same time, a strict control of "bulk exporters" is desirable. Finally, given the number and size of the wild populations, rational exploitation guaranteeing the continuing maintenance of these populations would appear to be quite feasible. Once again, this obviously implies a good knowledge of the number of plants held in nurseries and strict observance of the export quotas established by the Scientific Authority, as based on accurate field data. Some of these data are already available and could be improved with additional data.

342. Parts and Derivatives: While the seeds of species listed in Appendix I are subject to CITES regulation as well, no information on this species is available. It should be noted that very few Parties control the seeds of Appendix I species. It should also be noted, however, that it is relatively difficult to collect the seeds of *Pachypodium* in the field, since, when the fruit opens, it releases feathery seeds which are then widely scattered by the wind. A concerted effort is therefore required. In addition, immature seeds have virtually no ability to germinate. It can thus be assumed that, even if some seeds are collected, enough remain for proper regeneration of the wild population.

4. Protection Status

41. National: Trade in wild plants listed in the Appendices of CITES is prohibited without authorization in Madagascar. A forest decree (Ord 75-014) regulates collection and trade. Artificially propagated plants are not subject to this restriction.
As indicated above, these laws appear to have halted roadside sales of wild specimens.
It should be noted, however, that most recognized horticulturists rarely comply with this law and collect wild plants for their nurseries without authorization. In the past, after a brief

period in these establishments, which often bear little resemblance to horticultural centres, the plants were exported as "artificially propagated" with the support of the authorities. However, this no longer appears to be case: all exported Appendix II plants are believed to be wild. Monitoring of export quotas may, however, still be required.

42. International: This plant has been listed in Appendix I since 1989; consequently, wild plants cannot be exported. However, this measure also prevents the free movement of artificially propagated plants, which, if promoted, could reduce the pressure on the wild populations.

43. Additional Protection Needs: This species is of potential value for trade and was at one time heavily collected in the wild, resulting in a severe decline in its wild populations. Its transfer to Appendix I virtually eliminated these activities. In this connection, a number of wild populations have shown excellent regeneration (Supthut, D & B von Arx, 1992). Since nurseries are well supplied with parent plants to produce the seeds required for artificial propagation, and artificially propagated specimens are already in circulation, pressures on wild populations are not expected to intensify, particularly if the authorities exercise effective control. On the other hand, rapid changes in the living environment of these species as a result of trampling and repeated prairie fires, which are particularly frequent on the High Plateaus, represent a much more serious threat to these still vigorous wild populations. A number of protected areas should be defined in which fires would be prevented and grazing made very extensive. Similarly, the ability of the species to regenerate under extreme conditions should also be scientifically monitored.

5. Information on Similar Species

This species is quite different from the other representatives of its genus. It cannot be confused with other species of *Pachypodium*.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

This proposal is designed to promote international trade in artificially propagated species, in order to reduce the pressure on wild specimens. Applications for collection and export permits must, of course, be subject to extremely close scrutiny. The number of specimens to be exported each year may also be subject to a maximum quota, based on current and future data.
In addition, nursery activities will be subject to more systematic monitoring.

7. Additional Remarks

While *Pachypodium brevicaule* has clearly been subjected to heavy exploitation in the past, as the condition of a number of stations indicates, it is still relatively widespread. Moreover, its range is much broader than had been suggested by the incomplete information previously available. Increasingly frequent prairie fires appear to be having a more disturbing impact than collection.

8. References

Jenkins, M D (1990). *Madagascar: profil de l'environnement* [Madagascar: Environmental Profile]. 439 pp. IUCN & WCMC, Gland, Switzerland & Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Supthut, D & B von ARX (1992). *Madagascar 92: Rapport de mission* [Mission Report] (CITES Project S-52, Part 1). 50 pp. Unpublished.

WCMC (1991). *Review of significant trade in species of plants listed on Appendix II of CITES (1983-89).*

Proposed amendment by the United States of America (1989), "*Transfer of Pachypodium baronii, P. brevicaule and P. decaryi (and their natural hybrids) from Appendix II to Appendix I*".

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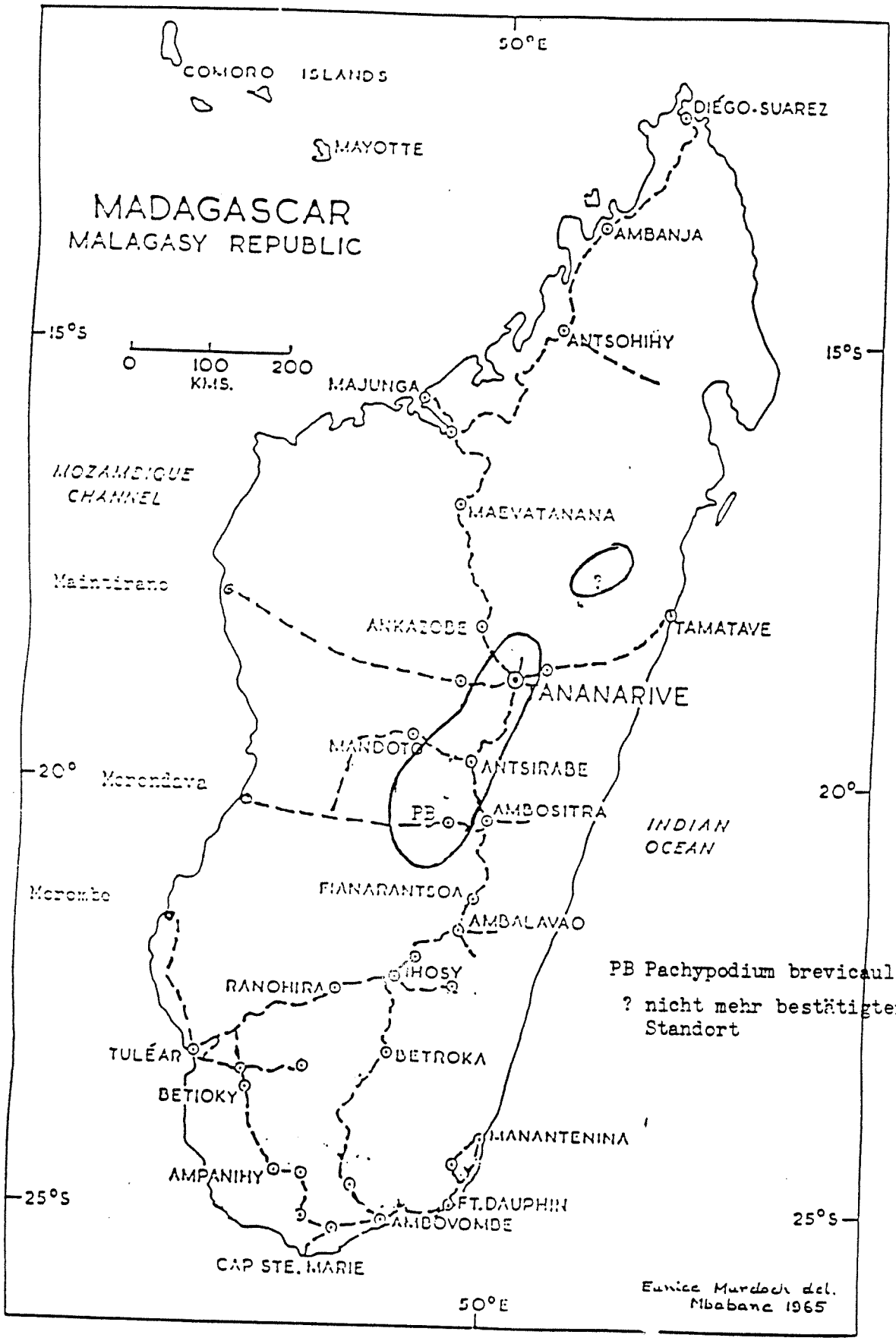

PB Pachypodium brevicaule

? nicht mehr bestätigter Standort