1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat at the request of the Standing Committee.

2. At its 46th meeting, the Standing Committee considered the following documents related to the review of the criteria for the inclusion of species in Appendices I and II (all available on the CITES website http://www.cites.org):

- SC46 Doc. 14: Review of the criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II;
- SC46 Inf. 1: Criteria review for amendments to Appendices I and II: Report from the Chairman of the Plants Committee;
- SC46 Inf. 2: Criteria review for amendments to Appendices I and II: Comments from the Chairmen of the Animals Committee and the Criteria Working Group on the document prepared by the Chairman of the Plants Committee.

3. Following the discussion on the subject, the Standing Committee decided that the Secretariat should prepare a document that contained:

   a) the reports of the Chairmen as annexes;
   b) a clear reference to the fact that all comments received are available from the CITES website; and
   c) an identification of the issues which arise from the consideration of the documents noted in paragraphs 1 and 2 with a description of the discussion to date.

   The document further had to take account of the comments provided by the various members of the Standing Committee.

4. This document contains the following Annexes:

   - Annex 1: Explanation of why the criteria review process concluded that the current Resolution Conf. 9.24 should be amended;
   - Annex 2: The criteria review programme from CoP11 onwards;
   - Annex 3: Explanation of the proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 9.24;
   - Annex 4: A ‘clean’ version of the amended Resolution; and
   - Annex 5: The report from the Chairmen of the Animals Committee and the Criteria Working Group; submitted to the Standing Committee (Annex 5a) and the report from the Chairman of the Plants Committee (Annex 5b) submitted to the Standing Committee.