

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



Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Bangkok (Thailand), 3-14 March 2013

Strategic matters

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

1. This document has been submitted by the Chair of the Plants Committee, on behalf of the Plants Committee, and it has been prepared by the Vice Chair of the Plants Committee (Mr. Hesiquio Benítez) in collaboration with the Mexican Scientific Authority.*

Background

2. The 6th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP6; Netherlands, 2002) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted, through decision VI/9, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC).
3. Since its 13th meeting (PC13; Geneva, 2003) the Plants Committee has recognized that CITES contributes in different ways to many of the targets of the GSPC. Furthermore, the Secretariat of the CBD has recognized —through the 2009 Plant Conservation Report— that Target 11 of the GSPC (No species of wild flora endangered by international trade) forms the core business of CITES flora-activities.
4. The 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (COP10; Japan, 2010) adopted the Consolidated updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020.
5. The 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Doha, 2010) adopted Decision 15.19 on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), as follows:

Directed to the Plants Committee and the Secretariat

- 15.19. *The Plants Committee shall collaborate with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and with any processes established to develop the Strategy beyond 2010, provided it is related to CITES, as well as on other issues related to flora species included in the CITES Appendices, and the Secretariat shall communicate the contributions of CITES in the context of its Memorandum of Understanding with the CBD Secretariat.*

Actions taken

6. The 19th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC19; Geneva, 2011), adopted the revised list of activities and products and their potential contribution to the objectives and targets of the Consolidated update of the GSPC 2011-2020 (PC19 Doc. 8.4, Annex 1), as well as the updated version of the objectives, mechanisms and methodologies to facilitate cooperation between CITES and the GSPC 2011-2020 (PC19 Doc. 8.4, Annex 2); and established an intersessional working group to draft a Resolution for consideration at PC20.

* *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.*

7. Furthermore, the 4th meeting of the Liaison Group on the GSPC of the CBD (St. Louis, Missouri, USA; August 2011), focused on the implementation of the updated strategy, making specific reference to CITES in the implementation of Targets 2, 11 and 12. Additionally, during the meeting, the relationship between the 16 GSPC Targets and the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets was identified (see full report at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/pc/gspclg-04/official/gspclg-04-02-en.pdf>).
8. The 20th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC20; Dublin, 2012) recommended the adoption of the draft resolution on Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity included in document PC20 Doc. 13 (with a minor amendment to the last sentence of the preamble). It is noteworthy to mention that, through document PC20 Inf. 8, the Executive Secretary of the CBD (Mr. Bráulio Ferreira de Souza Dias) expressed to the Plants Committee his support for the draft Resolution.
9. The Plants Committee considers finished the Decision 15.19.

Recommendation to the Conference of the Parties

10. Within the framework provided by the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of CITES and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (signed on 1996) and its amendment (signed in 2000 and 2001), the Conference of the Parties is invited to adopt the draft Resolution on Cooperation with the GSPC of the CBD included in the Annex of this document.

COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat welcomes cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) over the *Updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020*, and notes that the Parties to CBD, in Decision XI/26 on *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation* adopted at their 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, welcomed the draft Resolution in the present document. Concerning paragraph d) in the operative part of the draft Resolution, the Secretariat does not believe that the Plants Committee, whose members are elected in a personal capacity, can represent CITES at meetings of CBD SBSTTA, etc. The Secretariat recommends that the chapeau of paragraph d) therefore be amended as follows [NB: Text to be deleted is ~~crossed out~~. Proposed new text is underlined.]

“DIRECTS ~~the Plants Committee and~~ the Secretariat, in consultation with the Plants Committee to:”

- B. With this change, the Secretariat recommends that the Conference of the Parties adopt the draft resolution in the Annex to the present document.
- C. If the draft resolution is adopted, the Secretariat recommends that Decision 15.19 is repealed.
- D. If the draft resolution is adopted with the changes recommended in paragraph A above, the proposal will have some budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat, although these are not expected to be substantial.

DRAFT RESOLUTION CONF. 16.XX

Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 10.4 (Rev. CoP14) on *Cooperation and synergy with the Convention of Biological Diversity*, and the *Memorandum of Cooperation between the Secretariat of CITES and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity*, signed on March 1996, as well as its amendment, signed in 2000 and 2001;

RECALLING that in 2002, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted, through decision VI/9, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC), including outcome-oriented global Targets for 2010.

NOTING that since its 13th meeting (Geneva, 2003), the Plants Committee has recognized that CITES contributes to many of the Targets of the GSPC;

NOTING further that the Secretariat of the CBD recognizes in the 2009 *Plant Conservation Report* that Target 11 of the GSPC (*No species of wild flora endangered by international trade*) forms the core business of CITES activities related to flora;

RECALLING Decision 15.19 adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 15th meeting (Doha, 2010), which directs the Plants Committee and the Secretariat to collaborate with processes established to develop the GSPC beyond 2010, as it relates to CITES activities;

WELCOMING decision X/17 of the 10th Meeting of Conference of the Parties to the CBD (Japan, 2010), which adopted the *Consolidated updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020* (GSPC); and

RECOGNIZING the significant role that CITES can play in the achievement of the objectives and targets of the GSPC, and the effect upon CITES if the GSPC is successfully implemented.

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

INVITES Parties to:

- a) take note of the potential contribution of CITES to the objectives and targets of the *Updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020* through the activities and products listed in the Annex to the present Resolution.
- b) promote and enhance collaboration between their GSPC focal point and their CITES Authorities, through:
 - i) the involvement of CITES authorities in the development and implementation of the GSPC national strategies, particularly activities related to CITES-listed species; and
 - ii) the inclusion of CITES-GSPC-related activities in CBD National Reports.

DIRECTS the Secretariat to:

- c) encourage the exchange of information related to the GSPC and other plant conservation and sustainable use initiatives, by:
 - i) promoting awareness of ongoing CITES activities that contribute to the achievement of GSPC Targets, by communicating information among CITES bodies and Parties on the operations and outcomes of CITES processes, such as the Review of Significant Trade, Periodic Review of the Appendices, proposals to amend the CITES Appendices, and formulation of Non-detriment Findings (NDFs), among others; and

- ii) collaborating with CBD Secretariat to streamline reporting on relevant CITES activities related to the GSPC Targets.
- iii) including the GSPC in any work plans developed under the Memorandum of Cooperation with the Secretariat of CBD; and
- iv) inviting a CBD representative to participate as an observer at Plants Committee meetings that address GSPC.

DIRECTS the Plants Committee and the Secretariat to:

- d) promote CITES collaboration with CBD on the implementation of the GSPC by:
 - i) representing CITES at meetings of CBD's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and other GSPC meetings (subject to the availability of external funding); and
 - ii) providing contributions for CBD documents regarding the implementation of the GSPC.

Annex

List of potential CITES activities and products and their contribution to the objectives and targets of the Updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020

GSPC's Objective	GSPC's Target ¹	CITES' potential contribution
(I) Plant diversity is well understood, documented and recognized	1. An online flora of all known plants.	CITES checklists available online.
	2. An assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species, as far as possible, to guide conservation action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CITES Appendices. - Supporting statements for proposals to amend the Appendices.
	3. Information, research and associated outputs, and methods necessary to implement the Strategy developed and shared.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NDFs. - Periodic Review results. - Review of Significant Trade results.
(II) Plant diversity is urgently and effectively conserved	4. At least 15 per cent of each ecological region or vegetation type secured through effective management and/or restoration.	Not directly applicable as CITES works at species level.
	5. At least 75 per cent of the most important areas for plant diversity of each ecological region protected with effective management in place for conserving plants and their genetic diversity.	
	6. At least 75 per cent of production lands in each sector managed sustainably, consistent with the conservation of plant diversity.	
	7. At least 75 per cent of known threatened plant species conserved <i>in-situ</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusion of species/populations in CITES Appendices. - Identification of the location/habitat of Appendix I species.
	8. At least 75 per cent of threatened plant species in <i>ex-situ</i> collections, preferably in the country of origin, and at least 20% available for recovery and restoration programmes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Efforts by CITES Parties to ensure sustainable use of CITES-listed species: NDFs and national quotas. - Implementation of Resolution Conf. 13.9 on <i>Encouraging cooperation between Parties with ex situ breeding operations and those with in situ conservation programmes</i>. - CITES Certificate of Scientific

¹ As taken from the CBD Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020.

GSPC's Objective	GSPC's Target ¹	CITES' potential contribution
		Exchange
	9. 70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crops including their wild relatives and other socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, while respecting, preserving and maintaining associated indigenous and local knowledge.	Not directly applicable.
	10. Effective management plans in place to prevent new biological invasions and to manage important areas for plant diversity that are invaded.	Not directly applicable. Nevertheless, CITES Parties have recognized the link between trade and alien invasive species in Resolution Conf. 13.10 (Rev. CoP14) on <i>Trade in alien invasive species</i> .
(III) Plant diversity is used in a sustainable and equitable manner	11. No species of wild flora endangered by international trade.	All CITES activities contribute directly to this Target, and CITES is recognized as having a leadership role in implementing this Target.
	12. All wild harvested plant-based products sourced sustainably.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NDFs, national quotas, Review of Significant Trade, and Periodic Review of the Appendices. - Annotations to the Appendixes enable regulation of certain target commodities.
	13. Indigenous and local knowledge innovations and practices associated with plant resources, maintained or increased, as appropriate, to support customary use, sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NDFs. - Resolution Conf. 10.19 (Rev. CoP14) on <i>Traditional medicines</i>. - CITES Standing Committee working group on CITES and Livelihoods.
(IV) Education and awareness about plant diversity, its role in sustainable livelihoods and importance to all life on earth is promoted	14. The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into communication, education and public awareness programs.	<p>CITES tools, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training courses, workshops results and technical reports. - CITES Virtual College
(V) The capacities and public engagement necessary to implement the Strategy have been developed	15. The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities sufficient according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CITES website - CITES Identification Manual and Web pages. - Training materials, including PowerPoint presentations and CD-ROMs. - Capacity-building work of the Secretariat.
	16. Institutions, networks and partnerships for plant conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CITES Parties and Plants

GSPC's Objective	GSPC's Target ¹	CITES' potential contribution
	established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels to achieve the targets of this Strategy.	Committee. - Regional Directories.