

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



Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Johannesburg (South Africa), 24 September – 5 October 2016

Committee II

International trade in *Encephalartos* spp.

DRAFT DECISIONS ON *ENCEPHALARTOS* SPP.

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat, on the basis of document CoP17 Doc.58, as agreed at the ninth session of Committee II (see document CoP17 Com. II Rec. 9).

Directed to all Parties

17.xx All Parties should:

- a) immediately bring every seizure of illegal *Encephalartos* species specimens made within their territories to the attention of authorities in range States, countries of origin, transit and destination, as applicable, and to the attention of the Secretariat. Information on the seizure should be accompanied by available associated information to enable follow-up investigations to take place;
- b) notify the CITES Secretariat of seizures of specimens of *Encephalartos* species specimens for which the origin cannot be determined. Such a notification should include information describing the circumstances of the seizure;
- c) submit samples from specimens of *Encephalartos* species specimens confiscated and/or subject to criminal investigation, to designated forensic laboratories for DNA analysis on the basis of a standard protocol provided by South Africa;
- d) prior to issuing permits or certificates, including pre-Convention certificates, authorizing the import or re-export of specimens of *Encephalartos* species, consult with the country of origin, so that the true nature of the trade and source of specimens may be confirmed and monitored.

Directed to the Secretariat

17.xx The Secretariat shall:

- a) subject to external funding, develop, in conjunction with relevant institutions and experts, a manual containing guidelines on best practices, protocols and operational procedures that will promote the use of wildlife forensic technology as it relates to plant material;
- b) prepare a questionnaire to assist Parties in compiling information on legal and illegal trade in *Encephalartos* spp. specimens, drawing upon the template for species-specific reporting adopted by the Standing Committee, and make this questionnaire available to Parties through a Notification to the Parties; and
- c) drawing upon the reports received from Parties in response to the Notification to the Parties mentioned in Decision 17.AA paragraph a), prepare a report on legal and illegal trade in *Encephalartos* spp. specimens, including recommendations, for consideration by the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

17.xx The Standing Committee shall at its 69th meeting, consider the report of the CITES Secretariat and determine further actions to be implemented by Parties in relation to the international trade in Encephalartos species.