

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



Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Geneva (Switzerland), 17–28 August 2019

Committee II

Annotations

This document has been prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of document CoP18 Doc. 101 after discussion in the eleven session of Committee II (see document CoP18 Com. II Rec.11).

Directed to the Standing Committee, Animals Committee, Plants Committee

16.162 (Rev. CoP18) The Standing Committee shall re-establish the working group on annotations, in close collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees, recognizing that the Animals and Plants Committees are an important source of expertise and advice to Parties on such scientific and technical issues. The group shall include, but not be limited to, members from the Standing Committee, Animals Committee, Plants Committee, observer Parties, CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, enforcement authorities, including customs, and industry representatives. The Standing Committee shall particularly endeavour to ensure balanced representation of importing and exporting Parties. The terms of reference for the working group shall be:

- a) in close collaboration with ongoing efforts in the Plants Committee, to continue reviewing the appropriateness and practical challenges resulting from the implementation of the annotations to the Appendices, including but not limited to those on the tree species, of the agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.), *Aniba rosaeodora*, *Bulnesia sarmientoi* and orchids, and to identify options to streamline these annotations taking into account the guidance provided by Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP17); ~~taking into consideration the previous work done by the range and consumer States of these species;~~
- ~~b) to review outstanding implementation challenges, resulting from the listings of *Aniba rosaeodora* and *Bulnesia sarmientoi* in the Appendices, particularly concerning trade in extracts, and proposed appropriate solutions;~~
- ~~c) to review in close cooperation with the Standing Committee, the implementation challenges linked to the orchid annotations;~~
- ~~d) to draft definitions of terms included in annotations, in cases where the terms are not easily understood or where there has been difficulty in implementing the listing as a result of confusion about what commodities are covered, and submit them to the Standing Committee for adoption by the Conference of the Parties and subsequent inclusion in the Interpretation section of the Appendices;~~
- ~~e) consider the preparation of clear definitions for terms used in the annotations, including for example, the terms “musical instruments” and “transformed wood”, in order to facilitate their use and understanding by CITES authorities, enforcement officers and importers;~~
- b) to develop or refine definitions of terms used in current annotations as appropriate, including but not limited to the terms “musical instruments” and “transformed wood”, and

submit them for adoption by the Conference of the Parties and subsequent inclusion in the Interpretation section of the Appendices;

- c) to conduct any work related to annotations directed to it by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing, Animals or Plants Committee; and
- d) to prepare reports on progress made in addressing the issues tasked to it and submit them for consideration at the 73rd and 74th meetings of the Standing Committee.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 18.AA The Standing Committee shall, in collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees, determine requirements for development and adoption by the Conference of the Parties of:
- a) a mechanism for undertaking a periodic review of existing annotations; and
 - b) a mechanism for the a priori review of annotations proposed for consideration at meetings of the Conference of the Parties, to support consistent implementation of the guidance on annotations provided in Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP17).

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 18.BB The Standing Committee shall explore the feasibility of, and the requirements for developing an information system for the purpose of processing trade data associated with transactions in specimens of CITES-listed tree species authorized under the provisions of the Convention.

Directed to Parties and relevant stakeholders

- 18.CC Parties ~~and relevant stakeholders~~ are invited to consult with relevant stakeholders and provide to the Secretariat information regarding the mechanisms proposed ~~paragraph a)~~ in Decision 18.CCAA; the definitions proposed in ~~Decision 18.BB~~ paragraph b) of Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP18) and the ~~implementation~~ practical challenges resulting from the implementation of the annotations to the Appendices, including but not limited to those on the rosewood-tree species, agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.), *Aniba rosaeodora*, *Bulnesia sarmientoi* and orchids proposed in paragraph a) of Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP18), and provide examples of practical solutions identified when handling those challenges.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 18.DD The Standing Committee shall, in consideration of work under Decision 16.162 and the report submitted by the Secretariat required under Decision 18.EE, if appropriate, make recommendations for submission to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 18.EE The Secretariat shall issue a Notification to the Parties requesting input pursuant to Decision 18.AA and provide a summary of the responses received from Parties, and provide recommendations regarding the mechanisms and the information system proposed in Decision ~~AACC and 18.DD~~, the definitions to be developed under paragraph b) of Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP18) and the challenges resulting from the implementation of the annotations to the Appendices to the Standing Committee.