

# NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2025/069

Geneva, 19 May 2025

CONCERNING:

Standard nomenclature:  
Standard references to be considered at CoP20

1. In Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Standard nomenclature*, the Conference of the Parties RECOMMENDS, in paragraph 2 i), that:

*the Secretariat be provided with the citations (and ordering information) of checklists that will be nominated for standard references at least six months before the meeting of the Conference of the Parties at which such checklists will be considered. The Secretariat shall include such information in a Notification to the Parties so that Parties can obtain copies to review if they wish before the meeting.*

2. The Animals and Plants Committees will be proposing a number of new standard nomenclatural references at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP20; Samarkand, 2025) and in accordance with the above instruction, the Secretariat hereby conveys details of the citations for these and a link to where each reference can be accessed or ordered.

## FAUNA

3. The proposed updates to standard references for fauna are provided in **Annex 1** to this Notification.

***With regard to cartilaginous and bony fishes as well as sea cucumbers***, the Nomenclature specialist of the Animals Committee prepared amended versions of Annexes 1 and 2 to document AC33 Doc. 48, respectively concerning CITES-listed and closely related fishes, and concerning sea cucumbers of CITES interest, for consideration by the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Links to access these updated checklists are provided in Annex 1.

***With regard to African elephants***, following consultation with the members of the intersessional working group on nomenclature of the Animals Committee after the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee, the Nomenclature specialist of the Animals Committee recommends that the nomenclatural standard references concerning African elephants be updated by:

- i) deleting Wilson & Reeder 1993 as the specific reference for *Loxodonta africana* in the Annex of Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Standard nomenclature* and therefore including African elephants as covered by the adopted nomenclatural standard reference Wilson & Reeder 2005; and

- ii) adopting Kuhner, M.K., Gobush, K.S., Kaliszewska, Z.A., Horwitz, R., & Wasser, S.K. (2025): Distribution of African savanna elephants (*Loxodonta africana*), African forest elephants (*L. cyclotis*), and their hybrids across Africa based on genetic evidence. *Global Ecology and Conservation* 59 (2025) e03530. DOI:10.1016/j.gecco.2025.e03530 as a supplementary standard reference to clarify the distribution of *Loxodonta africana*, *L. cyclotis*, and their hybrids.

## FLORA

4. The proposed updated standard references for flora are provided in **Annex 2** to this Notification.

**With regard to *Dalbergia* spp.**, the Nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee prepared additional supporting references for new *Dalbergia* species.

**With regard to a standard reference for *Anacampseros* (=Avonia)**, the Nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee considered various options and proposes a time-stamped extract from *Plants of the World Online* as the interim standard reference. Draft decisions relating to this will also be considered by CoP20.

**With regard to *Dipteryx* spp.**, the Nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee reviewed the publication Carvalho *et al.* (2020) as well as the newly published Carvalho *et al.* (2024). Since Carvalho *et al.* (2024) resolves the questions regarding the placement of three species that were raised at PC27, the Nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee is of the opinion that this monograph would be a more suitable standard nomenclature reference than a time-stamped extract and proposes it as the standard reference.

**With regard to *aloes***, contingent on the adoption of the listing proposal to be submitted by the Depositary Government, and any resulting amendments required for the four species previously treated in *Chortolirion*, the Nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee proposes the Aloe Checklist as standard reference.

**With regard to *Diospyros* spp. (populations of Madagascar)**, the Nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee confirmed that, once published, the eight unpublished species contained in the *Diospyros* Checklist will be subject to CITES regulations. Their inclusion in the *Diospyros* Checklist is thus important and this checklist is proposed as the standard reference.

**With regard to *Rhodiola* spp.**, the Nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee prepared an updated time-stamped extract similar to the one proposed in Annex 1 to document PC27 Doc. 41.8 and proposes it as the standard reference.

**With regard to *Cyclamen* spp., *Galanthus* spp. and *Sternbergia* spp.**, the Nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee prepared separate time-stamped database extracts for the genera *Cyclamen*, *Galanthus*, and *Sternbergia* and proposes these as the interim standard references.

**With regard to *Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.**, the Nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee prepared separate updated time-stamped extracts similar to the ones proposed in Annexes 1 and 2 to document PC27 Doc. 41.1 and proposes these as the interim standard references.