

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

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Forty-second meeting of the Standing Committee  
Lisbon (Portugal), 28 September-1 October 1999

REVIEW OF THE CRITERIA FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

1. This document was prepared and submitted by the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees.

**Background**

2. In Resolution Conf. 9.24, the Conference of the Parties recommends that

*the text and the Annexes of this Resolution be fully reviewed before the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties with regard to the scientific validity of the criteria, definitions, notes and guidelines and their applicability to different groups of organisms.*

3. At its 41st meeting the Standing Committee decided to charge the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees with the responsibility for drafting the terms of reference for this review and to submit these to the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
4. This matter was discussed by the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees during the ninth meeting of the Plants Committee (Darwin, Australia; June 1999). Their discussions resulted in proposed draft terms of reference for the review of the criteria, which are included in the Annex to this document. These are based on the document proposed by the Secretariat for consideration by the Standing Committee at its 41st meeting.
5. The draft terms of reference were considered at the above-mentioned meeting of the Plants Committee and the 15th meeting of the Animals Committee (Madagascar, July 1999). Relevant comments from these meetings have been taken into account in revising the proposal.
6. The Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees would like to inform the Standing Committee, through this document, of the progress made and would welcome any suggestions for further improvement.



TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE CRITERIA FOR AMENDMENT  
OF APPENDICES I AND II

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Prepared by the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees

**Selection of taxa**

- a) The Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees, in collaboration with the Secretariat, should prepare separate lists of species for review.
- b) The taxa should be selected on the basis of the results of the Animals and Plants Committees' work on the regular review of the appendices, but may include, where appropriate, taxa that have not been subject to that review.
- c) In order to evaluate the applicability of the criteria to all organisms, using all appropriate sources, the Animals and Plants Committees should identify a variety of other taxa, or groups of taxa, not currently included in the appendices to the Convention, as additional candidates for review.
- d) The lists should be circulated to the members of the Animals and Plants Committee for their consideration and comments.
- e) The species assessments resulting from the review of the appendices should follow the format detailed in Annex 1 A and B.

**The review process**

A Criteria Working Group should be established by the Conference of the Parties at its 11th meeting, comprising a representative or alternate representative of the Animals Committee (nominated by the Chairman of the Animals Committee) and a representative or alternate representative of the Plants Committee (nominated by the Chairman of the Plants Committee) from each of the six CITES regions. The Criteria Working Group should be serviced by the Secretariat.

At its first meeting the Criteria Working Group should elect a Chairman and Vice-chairman from among the members of the Group.

The Criteria Working Group should have the authority to co-opt, as and when necessary, up to four experts to assist it in conducting the review, including representatives from organizations such as FAO and ITTO.

The Criteria Working Group should address *inter alia* the following questions:

1. Are the present criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24, Annexes 1 and 2, and definitions and notes in Annex 5 scientifically valid and applicable to and sufficient for all taxonomic groups of plants and animals?
2. Are the present guidelines in Annex 5 useful in assisting Parties to apply Resolution Conf. 9.24 when making proposals to amend the appendices to the Convention?
3. Does the format in Annex 6 address the biological information requirements and focus the proponent on the information required to assess a proposal against the criteria?

The species assessments, provided by the Animals and Plants Committees, will assist the Working Group to identify any deficiencies in Resolution Conf. 9.24. If deficiencies are identified, the Working Group should develop proposals for consideration at the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

The results of the review should be fully documented and a preliminary report will be submitted to the Secretariat for circulation to the Parties, to interested intergovernmental organizations, and to non-governmental organizations, seeking their comments. Respondents will have 60 days in which to provide written comments to the Secretariat.

The analyses and any conclusions reached by the Criteria Working Group should be reviewed at a joint meeting of the Animals and Plants Committees taking into account the comments received.

A final report, amended as appropriate, should be prepared by the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees for submission to the Conference of the Parties at its 12th meeting, including if necessary any proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 9.24.

N.B. Some text included in Resolutions adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and in draft resolutions for the 11th meeting might more properly be included in Resolution Conf. 9.24. If the Criteria Working Group is proposing amendments to Resolution Conf. 9.24, it should take these into account.

## **Funding**

At its 11th meeting, the Conference of the Parties should allocate sufficient funds in the Budget of the Secretariat for the period 2000-2002 to finance the activities of the Criteria Working Group and the associated joint meeting of Animals and Plants Committees. The amount of the budget required will be indicated by the Secretariat.

## **Timetable**

The following timetable is suggested on the assumption that the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be held in the second half of the year 2002.

### **1999**

**SC 41:** Requests the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees to prepare terms of reference for the review process.

**Chairmen:** The Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees will prepare a draft proposal for the Terms of Reference for review of the criteria, for presentation to the 42nd meeting of the Standing Committee.

### **2000**

**April:** 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to agree on a review process.

**June-July:** The Secretariat to convene a meeting of the Criteria Working Group.

**August:** The Criteria Working Group to submit a report to the Secretariat for circulation to and consultation with the Parties and relevant international organizations.

**November:** Joint meeting of the Animals and Plants Committees (including the co-opted experts from the Criteria Working Group); preparation of draft report.

## 2001

**April-May:** Consultation with the Parties.

**November:** The Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees prepare the final report for submission to the Standing Committee before the end of the year.

## 2002

**February-March:** The Standing Committee decides on the format and content of the report that should be presented at CoP12.





