

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

Summary record of the fifth session of Committee I

6 March 2013: 14h15-17h40

Chair: C. Caceres (Canada)
Secretariat: D. Morgan
M. Sosa Schmidt
Rapporteurs: S. Delany
S. Glaser
R. Parry-Jones
C. Rutherford

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

67. Agarwood-producing taxa

67.1 Report of the Plants Committee

The Chair reminded delegates of interventions on agarwood made at the previous session, and asked the Parties to bear in mind the decisions already accepted.

Canada, Ireland, on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, Kuwait and the United States opposed the proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.13 on implementation of the Convention for timber species in the annex to document CoP16 Doc. 67.1 (Rev. 2), but supported the draft decisions contained in the annex to document CoP16 Doc. 67.1 (Rev. 2).

Canada added that a definition of artificially propagated which took into account mixed plantations could be produced but would require detailed consideration and, like Chile and Kuwait, felt that further reflection by the Plants Committee as proposed in one of the draft decisions would be a prudent approach.

Brazil, supported the Plants Committee's proposal to amend Resolution Conf. 10.13 as, like agarwood, other tropical timbers were grown mostly in mixed plantations.

The Committee did not accept these changes, but accepted the draft decisions in the annex to document CoP16 Doc. 67.1 (Rev. 2).

Trade control and marking

33. Non-detriment findings

The Chair again reminded Parties of decisions taken at the previous session and re-opened the floor for discussion on the draft decisions contained in Annex 4 to document CoP16 Doc. 33 (Rev. 1) regarding agarwood species.

Kuwait opposed the first two draft decisions in this annex as they overlapped with the Draft resolution on the making of non-detriment findings in Annex 1. The Chair of the Plants Committee supported this and suggested either rejecting the third and fourth draft decisions, or removing references to agarwood-producing species from them.

The four draft decisions in Annex 4 to document CoP16 Doc. 33 (Rev. 1) were not accepted.

Species trade and conservation

61. Sharks and stingrays

The Chair introduced document CoP16 Com. I.1, concerning proposed amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP15) on *Conservation and management of sharks (class Chondrichthyes)*. The Chair noted that “data reporting,” had mistakenly been omitted from the proposed insertion after the words “data collection” in the third paragraph beginning “ENCOURAGES Parties” in the operative part of the Resolution. New Zealand reported that it wished to retain the addition of “data reporting” but that, following discussion with Japan, IUCN and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, it proposed withdrawing the additional wording proposed in this paragraph. This was agreed. New Zealand also suggested the Animals Committee examine whether such wording might be required.

With these amendments, the amendments to Resolution Conf. 12.6 (Rev. CoP16) and the draft decisions in document CoP16 Com. I.1 were accepted.

68. Bigleaf mahogany

The Chair of the Plants Committee introduced Document CoP16 Doc. 68 (Rev. 1).

The Chair of the Working Group on the Bigleaf Mahogany and other Neotropical Timber Species (Guatemala) concurred that all tasks directed to the Working Group through Decisions 15.91 and 15.92 had been fulfilled. He further proposed that, should the group continue its work, a new mandate would be required. He provided draft decisions for this mandate:

Directed to the Plants Committee

The Working Group on Neotropical Timber Species shall work under the auspices of the Plants Committee.

During its 21st meeting, the Plants Committee shall define the membership and the terms of reference of the Working Group.

The Working Group shall preferably work through electronic means in order to reduce costs and speed up information exchange and progress in the activities included in its terms of reference.

The Working Group shall report on its progress at the 22nd meeting of the Plants Committee. In turn, the Plants Committee shall prepare a report on work completed for submission at CoP17.

Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat, within the scope of its cooperation with ITTO and other bodies, shall seek external funding to support the work of this working group if necessary.

Chile, Costa Rica, Ireland on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, Mexico, Peru and the United States of America, and the Chair of the Plants Committee supported adoption of the draft decisions.

The two proposed decisions presented by the Chair of the Working Group on Bigleaf Mahogany and other Neotropical Timber Species, Guatemala, were accepted pending the presentation of final language in English. It was agreed that Decisions 15.91 and 15.92 should be repealed.

69. *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia retusa*, *Dalbergia granadillo* and *Dalbergia stevensonii*

The Chair of the Plants Committee introduced document CoP16 Doc.69 (Rev. 1) regarding Decision 14.146 (Rev. CoP15) concerning tasks directed to the Working Group on the Bigleaf Mahogany and other Neotropical Timber Species.

Ireland, on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, concurred that Decision 14.146 (Rev. CoP15) had been fulfilled. However, it asked the Working Group to address *Bulnesia sarmientoi* and *Aniba rosaeodora*. The Chair of the Plants Committee, echoed by Guatemala and Mexico, emphasized the flexibility of the arrangements for determining the Working Group's terms of reference as just agreed under item 68, enabling the addition or withdrawal of species as necessary. She added that they would take into account all decisions arising from CoP16 and would therefore include these two species. Mexico and Guatemala agreed with this explanation.

The United States noted that the workplan included as Annex 4 to the CoP15 Decisions related to Decision 14.146, so that repeal of 14.146 might also result in the Annex being repealed. They suggested that elements of the existing Annex 4 should be considered by the Plants Committee for inclusion in the terms of reference of the new work plan.

Côte d'Ivoire stated that *Cedrela odorata* was grown in plantations in their country, and requested that although their country was not a range State, provision should be made within the mandate of the new Working Group for extralimital populations grown in plantations.

Points raised by the United States and Côte d'Ivoire were noted for the attention of the Plants Committee when drawing up the terms of reference of the new Working Group. It was agreed to repeal Decision 14.146 (Rev. CoP15).

Amendment of the Appendices

71 Criteria for the inclusion of species in Appendices I and II

Canada introduced document CoP16 Doc 71 (Rev. 1), regarding implementation of Decisions 15.28, 15.29 and 15.30, on behalf of the Standing Committee.

IUCN, also speaking on behalf of TRAFFIC, noted the need for continued discussions regarding application of the listing criteria in Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. Cop. 15) in order to develop further guidance on species whose status and trade varied widely over their range, possibly through the Animals Committee, for both aquatic and terrestrial species.

The Committee noted document CoP16 Doc. 71 (Rev. 1) and agreed to repeal Decisions 15.28, 15.29 and 15.30.

72. Criteria related to ranched populations

Uruguay, on behalf of the Chair of the Animals Committee, introduced document CoP16 Doc. 72 (Rev. 1).

Australia and Ireland, on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, agreed with the proposal to revise the wording in paragraph A. 2 in Annex 4 of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) but were not convinced that it was warranted at this time to merge Resolution Conf. 11.16 (Rev. CoP15) with Resolution Conf. 9.20 (Rev).

China requested clarification regarding whether the proposed amendment to paragraph 5 subparagraph 2.b) was a more restrictive measure than that currently in force. Australia indicated that this was not the intention.

The Secretariat proposed moving the word "or" at the beginning of paragraph 2. b) to the end of paragraph 2. a) iii).

The amendments proposed to Resolution Conf. 9.24 Annex 4, including that of the Secretariat, were agreed. The recommendation to merge Resolution Conf 11.16 (Rev. CoP15) with Resolution Conf. 9.20 (Rev) was not agreed. It was agreed to repeal Decision 15.51.

74. Periodic Review of the Appendices

74.1 Revision of Resolution Conf. 14.8 on *Periodic Review of the Appendices*

The Chair of the Animals Committee introduced document CoP16 Doc.74 (Rev. 1) concerning the revision of Resolution Conf. 14.8.

Ireland, on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, supported the proposed revisions subject to the deletion of paragraph c). ii). D). The United States suggested amending the text by inserting need to between "no possibility to" and "amend the Appendices".

New Zealand requested the insertion of all assessment categories used in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species into the Appendix II box on the left-hand side of the flow diagram filter in the Annex of document CoP16 Doc.74 (Rev. 1). Ireland, on behalf of the Member States of the European Union and Croatia, Mexico, Paraguay, South Africa, the United States, the Chair of the Animals Committee, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and IUCN spoke, each having differing views on the merits of including particular categories, notably Extinct, Extinct in the Wild, Vulnerable and Least Concern in the filter.

The Chair of the Animals Committee proposed that during the next periodic review, CITES-listed species categorised as Extinct and Extinct in the Wild by IUCN should be reviewed separately. The Secretariat concurred and observed that species in the Appendices categorized as Extinct or Extinct in the Wild warranted a holistic review which would best be achieved outside the purview of the Periodic Review. The Secretariat drew attention to the draft decisions directed to the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee in document CoP16 Doc. 77. The chair proposed examining this further under Agenda item 77.

The revisions to Resolution Conf. 14.8 as presented in the annex to document CoP16 Doc.74 (Rev. 1), together with the amendment proposed by the United States were accepted.

74.2 Review of the Appendices: Felidae

The United States introduced document CoP16 Doc. 74.2 (Rev. 2) on behalf of the Animals Committee.

The Secretariat concurred with the report of the Animals Committee, but suggested deletion of text as suggested in paragraph B under "Comments from the Secretariat".

Kenya, also speaking on behalf of Namibia, encouraged all relevant Parties to submit information concerning the African lion as called for in Notification 2011/038. They hoped to submit a report by the next meeting of the Animals Committee. Ethiopia expressed their willingness to contribute to the report.

The Chair of the Animals Committee proposed amending the last sentence in the proposed amendment to Decision 13.93 (Rev. CoP15) in paragraph B under "Comments from the Secretariat", by replacing "progress" with result. With this change, the amended Decision was agreed.

77. Proposals to amend Appendices I and II

The Secretariat introduced CoP16 Doc. 77, drawing attention to paragraph 12 and the draft decisions proposed. Australia, Israel, Mexico and Paraguay expressed broad support for the draft decisions.

Paraguay questioned the need for modifying a higher taxon listing in the Appendices if an extinct species in that taxon were to be removed. Israel agreed with the Secretariat that clarification on the issue was needed.

Australia and Mexico drew attention to their proposals to remove some extinct species from the Appendices, and asked the Parties to consider the proposals on their merit irrespective of the issues outlined by the Secretariat in relation to Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15).

IUCN, speaking also on behalf of TRAFFIC, encouraged the Parties to decide whether species listed in the Appendices through a higher taxon listing, but known to be extinct before that listing came into force, should be regarded as included in the Appendices.

The draft decisions were accepted.

The meeting was adjourned at 17h40