IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANNOTATION FOR HOODIA SPP.

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

2. At the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Bangkok, 2004), a proposal to include Hoodia spp. in Appendix II was adopted and this genus was listed in Appendix II with annotation #9 as follows:

   Designates all parts and derivatives except those bearing a label “Produced from Hoodia spp. material obtained through controlled harvesting and production in collaboration with the CITES Management Authorities of Botswana/Namibia/South Africa under agreement no. BW/NA/ZA xxxxxx.”

3. At the 15th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC15, Geneva, May 2005), the Chairman outlined the difficulties that importing Parties experienced in interpreting and applying this annotation (see document PC15 Inf. 8). The observer from Namibia, speaking on behalf of the three countries concerned, reported that these three Hoodia spp. range States were planning to meet in June 2005 to discuss the implementation of the current annotation, and indicated that the countries may consider proposing an amendment to the annotation at a future meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

4. The Plants Committee requested the Secretariat to inform the Parties through a Notification when Botswana, Namibia and South Africa reached the agreement referred to in annotation #9, and to clarify its practical implications for trade in parts and derivatives of Hoodia spp. The Plants Committee also requested the Secretariat first to issue an additional Notification asking range States and importing countries of Hoodia spp. to report on their experience with trade in Hoodia spp. under annotation #9, and second to make this information available at the present meeting.

5. Since PC15, Namibia, speaking on behalf of the three countries concerned, has advised the Secretariat that no agreement of the type mentioned in annotation #9 to the Appendices had been reached yet. Trade in all parts and derivatives of Hoodia spp. therefore currently falls under the provisions of the Convention. The exemption provided by the annotation is not currently in application and the Secretariat has consequently no information available regarding the experiences of Parties.