

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



Nineteenth meeting of the Plants Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 18-21 April 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

16. Timber issues

- 16.1 Progress report of the Working Group on the Bigleaf Mahogany and Other Neotropical Timber Species  
[Decisions 15.91, 15.92 and 14.146 (Rev. CoP15)] ..... PC19 Doc. 16.1 (Rev. 1)

The Chair of the working group presented document PC19 Doc. 16.1 (Rev. 1), noting the need for more participation in the group. Chile asked whether they might become a member but, as they were a transit country rather than an importer or exporter, the Plant Committee Chair suggested they be invited to join the working group in a special advisory capacity. Chile's request and the document were noted.

- 16.2 Progress report on the joint CITES-ITTO timber programme ..... PC19 Doc. 16.2

The Secretariat presented document PC19 Doc. 16.2, noting the good results of the collaboration. This was echoed by the observer from ITTO, who drew attention to progress made in the Plurinational State of Bolivia and the Congo. The Committee noted the report.

9. Capacity building programme for science-based establishment and implementation of voluntary export quotas for Appendix-II species (Decision 12.91) – Secretariat report ..... PC19 Doc. 9

Document PC19 Doc. 9 was introduced by the Secretariat, who highlighted the need for input of materials by the Committee. Following a proposal from the Chair, an intersessional working group was established with the mandate to:

Discuss input from the Committee to the Secretariat regarding materials that:

- a) May be used in its capacity-building work relating to voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species, that go beyond the guidance provided in the Guidelines annexed to Resolution Conf. 14.7 (Rev. CoP15).
- b) Relate to the making of non-detriment findings. The Secretariat is particularly interested in case studies, examples of application and any methodologies that have been found to be effective in assisting Parties with establishing these quotas.

## Membership

Co-Chairs: Madelaine Groves (United Kingdom) and one to be proposed by the Animals Committee

Members: Chair of the Plants Committee and the representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera), Europe (Mr Sajeve) and Oceania (Mr Leach)

Observer Parties: Canada, Germany, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, Spain, United States of America

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, SSN, TRAFFIC International, WWF, American Herbal Products Association

The working group was requested to report at the 20th meeting of the Plants Committee.

## 10 Non-detriment findings

10.5 Addressing the challenges of making non-detriment findings for geophytes ..... PC19 Doc. 10.5

Document PC19 Doc. 10.5 was introduced by the United Kingdom, who noted that they were additionally preparing two scientific papers on the subject. The Committee was asked to assist Georgia by following paragraphs a) to e) in paragraph 26 of the document. This was agreed.

## 12 Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

12.1 Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade [Decision 13.67 (Rev. CoP14)] ..... PC19 Doc. 12.1

Document PC19 Doc. 12.1 was introduced by the Secretariat and the Chair called for the missing names of the focal points in the countries that had agreed to be members of the advisory working group. Madagascar put a name forward and the Plants Committee members were asked to contact their colleagues in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Iceland and the Russian Federation.

## 6. Regional reports

6.1 Africa ..... No document

The representative of Africa (Mr Luke) presented an oral report which was noted.

6.2 Asia ..... PC19 Doc. 6.2 (Rev. 1)

Document PC19 Doc. 6.2 (Rev. 1) was presented by the representative of Asia (Ms Al-Salem) and was noted.

6.3 Central and South America and the Caribbean ..... PC19 Doc. 6.3 (Rev. 1)

The representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera) presented document PC19 Doc. 6.3 (Rev. 1), explaining that the directory entry for Honduras would need to be changed in light of information recently received. The report was noted.

6.4 Europe ..... PC19 Doc. 6.4

Document PC19 Doc. 6.4 was presented by the representative of Europe (Mr Sajeve) and was noted.

6.5 North America ..... PC19 Doc. 6.5

Document PC19 Doc. 6.5 was presented by the representative of North America (Mr Benítez) and was noted.

6.6 Oceania ..... PC19 Doc. 6.6

Document PC19 Doc. 6.6 was presented by the representative of Oceania (Mr Leach) and was noted.

17. Production systems for specimens of CITES-listed species ..... No document

The Secretariat reported that they had located funding through the European Commission and would soon be engaging a consultant to produce the report called for in Decision 15.52 for the 20th meeting of the Plants Committee. This was noted.

8. Cooperation with advisory bodies of other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements

- 8.1 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (Decision 15.11) ..... No document

The Secretariat reported that it had participated in the partnership. The final report of its first phase could be found in document PC19 Inf. 1. This was noted.

- 8.2 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (Decision 15.12) .....PC19 Doc. 8.2 (Rev. 1)

Document PC19 Doc. 8.2 (Rev. 1) was presented by the PC Chair and further information was provided by the Secretary-General, who noted the importance of IPBES to all of the biodiversity-related conventions. He outlined that a small group had been set up within the Secretariat to monitor the issue. Given that further action on this issue would fall under the mandate of the Standing Committee, the Plants Committee noted the document.

- 8.3 Climate Change

- 8.3.1 Climate change (Decision 15.15) ..... PC19 Doc. 8.3.1

The Secretariat presented document PC19 Doc. 8.3.1, noting that the responses it had received from the secretariats of other multinational environmental agreements regarding their activities in response to climate change could be found in Annex 1 to that document. It further indicated the need to report on the issue to the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee. The document was noted.

- 8.3.2 Proposed Terms of Reference for technical committee discussions on climate change ..... PC19 Doc. 8.3.2

Document PC19 Doc. 8.3.2 was introduced by the United States, who drew attention to paragraph 6 that contained six decision-making processes that could be used in the consideration of the impacts of climate change. Noting that priorities might be different in the Animals Committee, the PC Chair suggested that the points be ordered differently, namely:

- a) Species listings [Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) and 9.25 (Rev. CoP15)];
- b) Non-detriment findings (Articles III and IV);
- c) Periodic Review of the Appendices (Resolution Conf. 14.8);
- d) Review of Significant Trade [Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), to the extent that this pertains to Article IV (non-detriment findings)];
- e) Quotas [Resolution Conf. 14.7 (Rev. CoP15)]; and
- f) Trade in alien invasive species [Resolution Conf. 13.10 (Rev. CoP14)].

The Chair suggested the establishment of an intersessional working group, under the co-chairmanship of the United States and a representative of the Animals Committee, to produce draft findings and recommendations for further action on point a) to f) above that could be finalized at the 20th meeting of the Committee. She called upon the following people to serve on the working group: the representatives of Asia (Ms Zhihua Zhou), Africa (Mr Luke), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera), North America (Mr Benítez) and Oceania (Mr Leach), and alternate representative of Europe (Mr Carmo). Australia, Canada, South Africa, the European Union, UNEP-WCMC, IUCN, TRAFFIC

International, WWF also volunteered to join the group. The Chair suggested that the working group work by email.

## 11. Annotations

### 11.4 Orchids: Annotations for species included in Appendix II –

Report of the working group ..... PC19 WG05 Doc. 1

The Chair of the working group reported that, by consensus, they had developed the following recommendations:

- a) i) No further exemption of orchid hybrids should be taken into consideration.
- ii) The Working Group had analysed trade trends and suggested no modification to the annotation.
- b) i) The Working Group recommended importing and exporting Parties to train inspection officers and to share their experience regarding the use and implementation of the annotation.
- ii) Parties interested in using the annotation will share its benefits to the pertinent sectors (producers and consumers).
- iii) Thailand has prepared an ID manual for the involved hybrids, which will be published on the CITES website.
- c) Parties that are still requiring CITES permits for taxa which could benefit from the annotation, are not doing so because of the lack of capacity to identify the hybrids. In this regard, the Working Group recommends importing Parties to exchange their experience in implementing the annotation.

Austria suggested that point a) i) be amended by the addition of the words for the time being and, with this amendment, the recommendations were adopted.

### Adoption of executive summary PC19 Sum. 1

The following corrections to executive summary PC19 Sum. 1 of 18 April were requested:

Change all references to the "European Commission" to the "European Union".

Under item 4.2, add a new subparagraph d) saying "that agenda item 11.6 be discussed together with the other documents on annotations".

Under item 10.3, add the alternate representative of Africa (Mr Akpagana) to the membership of Working Group 3.

Under item 11.2, add IWMC World Conservation Trust to the membership of Working Group 4.

Under item 11.4, add the United States to the membership of Working Group 5.

Under item 12, replace "Mr Akpagana" with "Mr Luke" in the membership of Working Group 8.

Under item 13.2, add a reference to document PC19 Inf. 15 on *Agave victoriae-reginae* submitted by Mexico.

Under item 14.3, add the alternate representative of Africa (Mr Luke) and IWMC World Conservation Trust to the membership of Working Group 10.

Under item 16.3, in the mandate of Working Group 11, add a new subparagraph e) saying "Discuss the issues around the timing and subject matter for the two proposed agarwood workshops in Indonesia and Kuwait."

Under item 16.5, in the membership of Working Group 12, move "Brazil" from co-chair to Party observer.

The United States also passed on minor editorial corrections directly to the Secretariat.

With these corrections, executive summary PC19 Sum. 1 was adopted.