

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

Fifty-third meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 27 June-1 July 2005

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

ANNOTATIONS IN THE APPENDICES

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 13th meeting (CoP13, Bangkok, 2004), the Conference of the Parties adopted a proposal (CoP13 Prop. 48) to include in Appendix II the species *Taxus chinensis*, *T. cuspidata*, *T. fuana* and *T. sumatrana* and all infraspecific taxa with an annotation agreed during the meeting (indicated in document CoP13 Com. I Rep. 10) stating:

Whole artificially propagated plants in pots or other small containers, each consignment being accompanied by a label or document stating the name of the taxon or taxa and the text 'artificially propagated', are not subject to the provisions of the Convention.

3. In Notification to the Parties No. 2004/073 of 19 November 2004, which contained a list of all the amendments to the Appendices that had been adopted at CoP13, the Secretariat made the following comment:

The Secretariat believes that the annotation regarding four species of Taxus was adopted contrary to the Convention, which defines the specimens covered by the Convention as including "any animal or plant, whether alive or dead" [see Article I, paragraph (b) (i)] and makes no provision for the exclusion of any live or dead plant of species that are included in the Appendices. The Secretariat intends to bring this matter to the attention of the Standing Committee in order to seek agreement on the procedure for making a correction.

4. As the annotation in question is a substantive annotation, it may be amended or deleted only by the Conference of the Parties.
5. There may be similar problems with some other annotations, such as that for Euphorbia spp.
6. The Secretariat therefore intends to review these annotations and prepare a document for the 54th meeting Standing Committee. If appropriate, this would include draft proposals to amend Appendix II that the Committee could request the Depositary Government to submit for consideration at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.