

## Interpretation and Implementation of the Convention

## STANDARD NOMENCLATURE

The attached draft resolution (Annex) has been prepared and submitted by the United States of America.

Note from the Secretariat

Recommendations a), b) and c) are covered by the proposed draft resolution on the new criteria (Doc. 9.41).

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Doc. 9.56 Annex

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## DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Standard Nomenclature

NOTING that biological nomenclature is dynamic;

AWARE that the names of the genera and species of several families are in need of standardization and that the current lack of a standard reference with adequate information decreases the effectiveness of the implementation of CITES in conserving the many species that are listed in the appendices;

RECOGNIZING that the taxonomy used in the appendices to the Convention will be most useful to the Parties if standardized by nomenclatorial references;

AWARE that the Nomenclature Committee has identified names of taxa used in the appendices to the Convention that should be changed to reflect accepted biological use;

NOTING that these changes should be adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

RECOGNIZING that, in the case of new proposals for listing in the appendices, a Party should use adopted standard references whenever available;

CONSIDERING the great practical difficulties involved in recognizing many of the subspecies at present listed in the appendices when they appear in trade; and the need to weigh ease of subspecies identification against reliability of information on geographic source, for enforcement purposes;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE  
CONVENTION

## RECOMMENDS

- a) that a subspecies be proposed for inclusion in the appendices only if it is generally recognized as a valid taxon, and easily identifiable in the traded form;
- b) that where there are identification difficulties, the problem be approached by either including the entire species in Appendix I or Appendix II or by circumscribing the range of the subspecies warranting protection and listing the populations within this area on a country basis;
- c) that when submitting proposals to amend the appendices to the Convention the proponent identify the reference used to describe the entity being proposed;
- d) that upon receiving proposals to amend the appendices to the Convention, the Secretariat seek, where appropriate, the advice of the Nomenclature Committee on the correct names to use for the species or other taxa in question;
- e) that the Secretariat may make orthographic changes in the lists of species included in the appendices to the Convention, without consulting the Conference of the Parties;

f) that the Secretariat inform the Parties whenever the name of a taxon to be used in the appendices to the Convention changes, provided that:

- i) the change has been recommended or agreed to by the Nomenclature Committee; and
- ii) the change will not alter the scope of protection for fauna or flora under the Convention;

g) that, whenever the scope of a taxon is redefined as a result of a taxonomic revision, the Nomenclature Committee advise the Secretariat on the name to be listed in the appendices or on alternative actions, including amendments to the appendices, required to ensure that the original intent of the listing is retained;

ADOPTS the following standard references:

- a) *Mammal Species of the World: A Taxonomic and Geographic Reference*, 2nd edition, (edited by D.E. Wilson and D.M. Reeder, 1993. Smithsonian Institution Press) for mammalian nomenclature;
- b) *A Reference List of the Birds of the World* (J.J. Morony, W.J. Bock and J. Farrand Jr 1975, American Museum of Natural History) for order and family level names for birds;
- c) *Distribution and Taxonomy of Birds of the World* (C.G. Sibley and B.L. Monroe, Jr, 1990, Yale University Press) for the genus and species names of birds listed in the appendices;
- d) *Amphibian Species of the World: A Taxonomic and Geographic Reference* (D.R. Frost, 1985, Allen Press and The Association of Systematics Collections) for amphibian nomenclature;
- e) *CITES Cactaceae Checklist* (compiled by D. Hunt, 1992, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew) as a guideline when making references to names of species of Cactaceae;
- f) *A World List of Cycads* (D.W. Stevenson, R. Osborne and J. Hendricks, 1990, Memoirs of the New York Botanical Garden 57: 200–206) as a guideline when making reference to names of species of Cycadaceae, Stangeriaceae and Zamiaceae;
- g) *The Plant-Book*, reprinted edition, (D.J. Mabberley, 1990, Cambridge University Press) for the generic names of all CITES plants; and
- h) *A Dictionary of Flowering Plants and Ferns*, 8th edition (Willis, J.C., revised by H.K. Airy Shaw, 1973, Cambridge University Press) for generic synonyms not mentioned in *The Plant-Book*, until they are superseded by standard checklists adopted by the Parties;

DECIDES to consider any *Euphorbia* included in the following publications to be succulent and included in

Appendix II, and to use the names in these publications until a nomenclatural checklist is prepared:

- a) *Lexicon of Succulent Plants/Das Sukkulentenlexikon* (Jacobson, H., 1977, English edition, Blandford Press, Dorset, U.K., 1970 and 1981 German editions, Gustav Fischer Verlag, Jena, Germany; supplemented by:

*List of Names of Succulent Plants Other than Cacti Published 1950–1992* (U. Eggli and N. Taylor, editors, 1994, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, U.K.); and

- b) for names published from 1993 onwards:

*Repertorium Plantarum Succulentarum*, vol 44 (U. Eggli and N. Taylor, compilers, 1993, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, U.K.);

URGES Parties to assign to their Scientific Authorities the principal responsibility for:

- a) interpretation of the listings;
- b) consultation with the CITES Nomenclature Committee as appropriate;
- c) identification of nomenclatural issues that may warrant further review by the appropriate CITES Committee and preparation of proposals to amend the appendices if appropriate; and
- d) supporting and co-operating in the development and maintenance of the checklists;

AMENDS Resolution Conf. 6.1 Annex 5, adopted at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Ottawa, 1987), as follows:

- a) by replacing paragraph a) i) with the following:  
cause standardized nomenclatorial references, including synonyms, to be prepared, or propose for adoption existing nomenclatorial references for animal and plant taxa to the level of subspecies or botanical variety, as appropriate, for all species listed in the appendices to the Convention;
- b) by adding the following new paragraph a) ii):  
upon acceptance by the Nomenclature Committee, present the new or updated references (or parts thereof) for a given taxon to the Conference of the Parties for adoption as the standard reference for that taxon;
- c) by adding the following new paragraph a) iii):  
ensure that the highest priorities in developing the standard reference lists of plant names and synonyms be:

- A) species names of plants listed at the species level in the appendices;
- B) generic names of plants listed at the genus or family level in the appendices; and
- C) family names of plants listed at the family level in the appendices;

- d) by renumbering present paragraphs a) ii) to v);

- e) by adding the following new paragraph c):

that the Nomenclature Committee shall establish two subcommittees, one to address nomenclatorial issues for animals and the other for plant taxa;

- f) by adding the following to the existing paragraph c) and relettering this as paragraph d):

that the Committee shall elect its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman, of which one shall be a zoologist, who shall chair the Animals Subcommittee, and the other shall be a botanist, who shall chair the Plants Subcommittee; and

- g) by replacing the present paragraph d) with the following new paragraph e):

that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Nomenclature Committee co-ordinate and monitor the input needed from specialists in fulfilling the responsibilities assigned by the Parties and report annually on the progress of the respective Subcommittees to the Standing Committee; and

REPEALS the Resolutions, or parts thereof, listed hereunder:

- a) Resolution Conf. 1.6 (Berne, 1976) – paragraph 1.;
- b) Resolution Conf. 2.20 (San José, 1979) – The Use of the Subspecies as a Taxonomic Unit in the Appendices;
- c) Resolution Conf. 4.23 (Gaborone, 1983) – Standard Nomenclature;
- d) Resolution Conf. 5.14 (Buenos Aires, 1985) – Improving the Regulation of Trade in Plants – paragraph c);
- e) Resolution Conf. 5.19 (Buenos Aires, 1985) – Nomenclature Committee;
- f) Resolution Conf. 6.20 (Ottawa, 1987) – Standard Nomenclature for Cactus Plants;
- g) Resolution Conf. 8.18 (Kyoto, 1992) – Standard References to the Names of Birds and Plants Listed in the Appendices – paragraphs a) to d); and
- h) Resolution Conf. 8.19 (Kyoto, 1992) – Standard Reference to the Names of Orchidaceae.