AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

Other Proposals

A. PROPOSAL

Transfer of *Cypripedium elegans* from Appendix II to Appendix I.

B. PROPONENT

India.

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. **Class:** Monocotyledoneae

12. **Order:** Orchidales

13. **Family:** Orchidaceae

14. **Scientific Name:** *Cypripedium elegans* Reichb. f. in Flora 69: 561. 1886.

15. **Scientific Synonyms:** None.

16. **Common Names:**

   English: "Lady’s Slipper" Orchid

   French:

   Spanish:

17. **Code Numbers:**

2. Biological Data

21. **Population Status:** Listed as "Rare" in the Red Data Book of Indian Plants vol.1.

22. **Population Trend:** Vulnerable.

23. **Distribution:** U.P., Sikkim. Nepal; Bhutan; S.E. Tibet.

24. **Habitat Availability:** In moist shady places near streams or along open hill slopes at alt. 3300-4200 m.

25. **Geographic Trend:** Himalayas, from Garhwal eastward to Sikkim and S.E. Tibet.

26. **Threats:** Becoming rare due to drastic habitat destruction, overgrazing and ruthless collections.

3. Utilization and Trade

31. **National Utilization:** Horticultural and ornamental for elegance of flowers.
32. **Legal International Trade**: Trade regulated under CITES Appendix II.  
*Cypripedium* spp. Exports 1983-1987:

1983 Total: 5433 plants (AU,3; GH,730; DE,110; NL,4500; NZ,30; US,60)
1984 Total: 1373 (AU,446; FR,50; DE,300; NL,3; CH,400; US,111; JP,60; CA,3)
1985 Total: 11085 (AU,5020; 78; HK,400; NL,3000; US,#&; JP,2450)
1986 Total: 7963 (AU,1228; DK,1050; DE,1300; HK,200; NL,3312; CH,300; US,308; JP,190; GB,75)
1987 Total: 1236 (AU,150; BE,18; HK,400; US,588; GB,80)

33. **Illegal Trade**: Insufficient data available.

34. **Actual Potential Trade Impact**: It is an attractive high altitude ground orchids with elegant flower having high potentiality in national and international trade.

35. **Captive Breeding and Artificial Propagation** (outside country of origin): As reported artificial propagation through tissue culture is difficult.

4. **Conservation and Management**

41. **Legal Status**

41.1. **National**: Export of wild orchids prohibited under Export (Control) Order.

41.2. **International**: Export regulated under Appendix II of CITES.

42. **Species Management**

42.1. **Population Monitoring**: Being undertaken.

42.2. **Habitat Conservation**: *In situ* habitat conservation measure taken in Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks.

42.3. **Management Measures**: Multiplication through tissue culture technique and subsequent reintroduction in areas of similar habitat is being tried.

43. **Control Measures**

43.1. **International Trade**: Regulated under Appendix II of CITES.

43.2. **Domestic Measures**: Exploitation from wild source prohibited and some *in situ* protection within national parks/sanctuaries is being undertaken.

5. **Information on Similar Species**

51. **Similarity in Appearance**: All *Cypripedium* species belong to "Lady’s Slipper" Orchid group and superficially the habit of seedlings and flowers look alike but *Cypripedium elegans* can be separated by nearly orbicular 2-leaved habit and very short lip, ca 1 cm long.

52. **Nature of Specimen in Trade**: Seedlings, mature plants and flowers.

6. **Comments from Countries of Origin**
7. **Additional Remarks**

*Description:* Hairy herbs, 10-60 cm high. Leaves 2, without stalk (sessile), opposite, nearly orbicular, 5 x 3.5 cm, hairy. Flower single, 2-2.5 cm across, brownish with dark lines. Lip shorter than sepals, ca 1 cm long, depressed, sides abruptly infolded about 1 cm long.

8. **References**


