

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

Nomenclature Committee
Lima (Peru), 4, 7 and 10 July 2006

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2006 MEETINGS OF THE NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE

Part 1 – Flora: 4 July 2006

1. Opening remarks

The botanist of the Nomenclature Committee (NC) chaired the meeting and welcomed all participants.

2. Agenda

The Chairman introduced the draft agenda in document NC2006 (flora) Doc. 2 and the agenda was adopted.

3. UNEP-WCMC Checklist of CITES species [Update by UNEP-WCMC on the 2005 edition]

The Chairman reported that although the timetable had been tight, the new procedure whereby the Nomenclature Committee was given an opportunity to review a draft version of the UNEP-WCMC *Checklist of CITES species* had worked well.

4. Update on issues following CoP13

4.1 Hoodia [Germishuizen & Meyer 2003]

The Chairman reported that he was intending to propose at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the parties (CoP14) that Germishuizen G. and Meyer N.L., (eds.) (2003) *Plants of southern Africa: an annotated checklist. Strelitzia* 14: 561. National Botanical Institute, Pretoria, be adopted as the official standard taxonomic and nomenclatural reference for the genus *Hoodia*.

The observer from the United States noted that the Germishuizen & Meyer (2003) publication does not appear to include range state information for Angola or Zimbabwe and also lacks synonyms. The Red Data Book of Namibian plants [Loots S. (2005) *Red data book of Namibian plants*. Southern African Botanical Diversity Network Report No. 38. SABONET. Pretoria and Windhoek] may provide more information on the Namibian *Hoodia* species and should be compared with the Germishuizen & Meyer (2003) publication.

4.2 Gonystylus

It was concluded that, because research on this matter was still ongoing, no official standard taxonomic and nomenclatural reference for the genus *Gonystylus* would be proposed at CoP14.

4.3 Aquilaria

The Chairman noted that research work at the Hortus Botanicus Leiden in the Netherlands was continuing and that it may be a further one or two years before the publication of a suitable standard taxonomic and nomenclatural reference which could be proposed for adoption at a

meeting of the Conference of the Parties as a standard reference. In the mean time, the names used in the UNEP-WCMC *Checklist of CITES species* could continue to serve as a guideline.

4.4 Gyrinops

The Chairman noted that Research work at the Hortus Botanicus Leiden in the Netherlands was continuing and that it may be a further one or two years before the publication of a suitable standard taxonomic and nomenclatural reference which could be proposed for adoption by a meeting of the Conference of the Parties as a standard reference.

5. Update on groups for which the NC has not recommended a standard reference

5.1 Cyathea [possible source Hassler and Swale, 2001- ?]

5.2 Didiereaceae

5.3 Anacampseros

5.4 Avonia

It was agreed that for the taxa *Cyathea*, Didiereaceae, *Anacampseros* and *Avonia*, there is no particular priority taxon for the adoption of an official standard taxonomic and nomenclatural reference. UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) was asked to note the recent splitting of a new genus *Grahamia* from the genus *Anacampseros*. The Chairman called for suggestions for experts qualified to advise on the genus *Cyathea* and to review Hassler M. and Swale B. (2001): *Checklist of world ferns*. URL: <http://homepages.caverock.net.nz/~bj/fern>.

5.5 Guaicum [Mexico-Germany list]

The Chairman reported that the list of species jointly prepared by Mexico and Germany (in document NC2005 Doc. 6) would be placed on the CITES website for review, with a view to proposing it at CoP14 as the official standard taxonomic and nomenclatural reference. The observer from Germany undertook to check whether the name *G. angustifolium* should be *G. angustifolia*.

6. Update on standard references

6.1 Orchids Volume 4 [Published]

The Chairman drew attention to Notification to the Parties No. 2006/029 with which the Secretariat had circulated for review Smith M.J. *et al* (2006) *CITES Orchid Checklist Volume 4 for the genera: Aerides, Coelogyne, Compantia and Masdevallia*. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, with a view to its adoption at CoP14 as the official standard taxonomic and nomenclatural reference for these genera.

6.2 Orchids Volume 5 [Update of Paphiopedilum, Phragmipedium, etc.]

The Chairman noted that the Scientific Authority of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland intended to prepare a fifth volume in this series which could include an update of earlier volumes and an additional list of traded taxa not included in the earlier checklists. There was a particular need to update Volume 1, which included the widely-traded genera *Paphiopedilum* and *Phragmipedium*.

6.3 Orchids Bulbophyllum [Austria]

The observer from Austria noted that draft standardized nomenclatural reference for the genus *Bulbophyllum* placed on the CITES website for review between 24 August and 30 September 2005 had been revised. He agreed to provide a new version to the Secretariat so that any further comments could be sought prior to proposing it at CoP14 as the official standard

taxonomic and nomenclatural reference. After completion, updates were likely to be produced every few months. It was agreed that the Conference of the Parties should be asked about the practicability of adopting a reference which was regularly changing. However, the Nomenclature Committee will suggest that if adopted as the official standard taxonomic and nomenclatural reference at CoP14, a copy of the checklist be maintained on the web and also published. Any updates should be posted separately on the web and be for information only.

6.4 CITES Aloe & Pachypodium Checklist (2001) [Switzerland]

The Chairman noted that there was a need to update the current adopted standard taxonomic and nomenclatural reference, Egli U., Newton L.E. & Rowley G.D. (2001) *CITES Aloe & Pachypodium Checklist*, Kew Publishing, Kew. The Chairman recommended that the Secretariat issue a Notification to the Parties drawing attention to the list of changes and additional taxa in document NC2006 (flora) Doc. 6.4 and asking for comments, before this list is submitted for adoption at CoP14.

6.5 Cactus Checklist [To be based on an extract from the Cactus Lexicon]

The Chairman noted that Hunt D., Taylor N. and Charles G. (2006) *The New Cactus Lexicon, Volumes I and II: Descriptions and Illustrations of the Cactus Family*, DH Books, Sherborne, has recently been published. It would be desirable to extract from it a list of species which could be proposed at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties as a new standard taxonomic and nomenclatural reference. The current standard reference, Hunt D. (1999) *CITES Cactaceae Checklist*, second edition, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, was currently out of print. The Scientific Authority of the United Kingdom was investigating the possibility of doing this but the work was unlikely to be completed in time for CoP14.

7. Databases

As suggested in document NC2006 (fauna & flora) Doc. 4, the Chairman agreed with the need to ask the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties requesting information about species databases being used by Parties.

8. Potential sources of external funding

The Chairman appealed to all participants to advise him of any possible sources of funding for CITES flora nomenclature work.

9. Any other business

The Chairman requested participants to provide information on additional experts and database resources germane to the agenda items. The observer from the United States provided several comments and was requested to submit this information by e-mail to the Nomenclature Committee and UNEP-WCMC.

10. Closing remarks

The Chairman thanked the observers for their work and continuous support with the tasks that the Nomenclature Committee needed to fulfil with respect to flora.

Part 2 – Fauna and Flora: 7 July 2006

1. Opening remarks

The botanist and zoologist of the Nomenclature Committee (NC) welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was chaired alternately by both.

2. Agenda (fauna and flora)

The committee adopted the agenda in document NC2006 (fauna & flora) Doc. 2.

3. UNEP-WCMC Checklist of CITES species [Update by UNEP-WCMC on the 2005 edition]

The observer from UNEP-WCMC explained that 921 printed copies and 1,600 CD-ROMs of the publication were produced and that copies of the latter were still available from the Secretariat. She thanked the Committee members for their input prior to production. Two printed copies had been sent to each CITES Management Authority. Some participants hoped that more printed copies could be produced for future editions. The Nomenclature Committee noted this report and the comments made.

4. Taxonomic databases to support CITES permitting Questionnaire from the CITES Nomenclature Committee

Participants made comments on the draft Notification to the Parties in document NC2006 (fauna & flora) Doc. 4 and the Committee agreed to take these into account before sending a final version to the Secretariat. Participants remarked on possible linkages which could be made with the Global Biodiversity Information Facility and the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature ZooBank and the Nomenclature Committee agreed to reflect on these.

5. Potential sources of outside funding

The Chairmen noted the significant support for Nomenclature Committee activities that had been received from the European Commission and the Government of Germany and, requested participants to notify the Committee of any other potential sources of funding.

6. Any other business

There was none.

7. Closing remarks

The botanist and the zoologist of the Nomenclature Committee thanked the observers for their participation and expressed their appreciation for the cooperative spirit of the meeting.

Part 3 – Fauna: 10 July 2006

1. Opening remarks

The zoologist of the Nomenclature Committee (NC) chaired the meeting and welcomed the participants.

2. Agenda

The Chairman introduced the draft agenda in document NC2006 (fauna) Doc. 2 (Rev. 1) and the agenda was adopted.

3. UNEP-WCMC Checklist of CITES species [Update by UNEP-WCMC on the 2005 edition]

The observer from UNEP-WCMC (UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre) stated that the *Checklist of CITES species*, after having been reviewed by the botanist and zoologist of the Nomenclature Committee, the Secretariat and other experts, had been published in 2005 together with a CD-ROM which also contained the *Annotated CITES Appendices and reservations*. She invited participants to provide suggestions for further editions of the *Checklist of CITES species*.

4. Update on issues following CoP13

4.1 Bird nomenclature

The Chairman introduced document NC2006 (fauna) Doc. 4.1. She drew attention to Annexes 1 to 4 of the document which contained a detailed analysis of how the currently adopted bird taxonomy would change if *The Howard and Moore Complete Checklist of the Birds of the World* were accepted as the standard reference for birds. She stated that the new checklist would be submitted for adoption at CoP14. The adoption would not seem to cause major implementation problems, with the possible exception of *Trichoglossus haematodus* and *Psittacula intermedia*. She was offered assistance by observers to further examine these two cases and to update the bird nomenclature regularly in future.

4.2 Chamaeleo excubitor

The Chairman explained that at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP13, Bangkok, 2004), Kenya had asked whether *Chamaeleo excubitor* should be considered a separate species. The issue had been referred to the Nomenclature Committee. *Bradypodion (Chamaeleo) excubitor* is currently regarded as a subspecies of *Bradypodion fisheri*. There seems however widespread consensus amongst herpetologists that the taxonomy of *Bradypodion fisheri* needs to be revised, and that several subspecies would have to be elevated to species-level, including *Bradypodion fisheri excubitor*. But all existing scientific publications, including the standard CITES reference, still describe the taxon *excubitor* as a subspecies. The Chairman therefore concluded that *Bradypodion (Chamaeleo) excubitor* could not be regarded as a full species. She stated that the Nomenclature Committee would look into the issue of *Bradypodion fisheri excubitor* again when a taxonomic revision of the *Bradypodion fisheri* complex had been formally published.

4.3 Brachypelma reference update

The Chairman introduced document NC2006 (fauna) Doc. 4.3, explaining that the updated *Taxonomic Checklist of CITES-listed Spider Species* attached to the document had been based on the 2006 version of *The World Spider Catalog* by Norman Platnick. The checklist included synonyms, and would be submitted at CoP14 for adoption.

5. Tortoises and turtles Checklist

The Chairman introduced document NC2006 (fauna) Doc. 5, which contained a draft *Checklist of Chelonians of the World*, compiled by Uwe Fritz and Peter Havas for the Nomenclature Committee.

The Checklist would be completed with the inclusion of synonyms and of information on the distribution of the different taxa. Considering the urgent need for this checklist, the Chairman invited participants, and particular the IUCN/SSC Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group, to review the draft and to provide comments to her by the end of October 2006. Based on this input, a revised draft would be circulated for last comments, and finalized by the end of November 2006. The checklist would be submitted for adoption at CoP14. The Chairman stated that she would prepare an accompanying information document for CoP14 to indicate which changes to the current standard references would occur in case the new *Checklist of Chelonians of the World* were accepted.

6. Amphibian reference update

The Chairman introduced document NC2006 (fauna) Doc. 6, containing a draft *Taxonomic Checklist of CITES-listed Amphibians*, based on *Amphibians Species of the World*, Version 3.0 of 2004 by D.R. Frost, indicating that she would submit the checklist for adoption at CoP14.

She further announced that she would make proposals at CoP14 to ensure that all standard references that are based on online databases or were compiled by experts on behalf of the Nomenclature Committee be updated at every other meeting of the Conference of the Parties. This concerned for instance the standard references for chelonians, amphibians and spiders. She also recommended that these references be made available from the Nomenclature Committee page of the CITES website.

7. List of standard references for animal species

The Chairman introduced document NC2006 (fauna) Doc. 7. She had compiled the table in the Annex to this document on the basis of the standard references for fauna listed in the Annex to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP13) (Standard nomenclature and operation of the Nomenclature Committee). The table provided an overview of the applicable references arranged by taxa, and was available from the Nomenclature Committee page on the CITES website. The Chairman suggested to amend Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP13) to reflect this tabular presentation of standard reference. It would have to be updated after each meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

8. Cordylus reference update

The Chairman introduced document NC2006 (fauna) Doc. 8, drawing attention to the Annex which contained an update of the *CITES Standard reference for the Species of Cordylus (Cordylidae, Reptilia)*, compiled by D. Broadley at the request of the Nomenclature Committee. The Chairman explained that she would submit the updated checklist at CoP14 for adoption.

9. Mammal reference

The Chairman introduced document NC2006 (fauna) Doc. 9. She drew attention to the following omission on page 16 of the Annex under 'Canidae': '*Pseudalopex griseus fulvipes* = *Pseudalopex fulvipes*'. She observed that this proposed change might cause some implementation problems. Participants noted that on page 17, the family Suidae and the proposed changes to *Babyrousa babyrussa* should have been added under 'Artiodactyla'.

The Chairman commented that in case the third edition of *Mammals Species of the World* by Wilson and Reeder were adopted as the standard reference for mammals, the main changes would concern primates. She stated that the new edition would be submitted at CoP14 for adoption, but that she would recommend to maintain the current nomenclature for *Loxodonta africana*.

10. Databases

The Chairman reminded the participants that the Nomenclature Committee had requested at its Flora meeting held on 4 July 2006 that the Secretariat circulate a Notification to the Parties with a questionnaire about taxonomic databases used by Scientific Authorities.

11. Potential sources of external funding

The Chairman announced that she would request at CoP14 that the Parties allocate a separate budget for supporting the operation of the Nomenclature Committee.

12. Any other business

It was noted that in August 2006, the International Commission for Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN), responsible for assigning unique scientific names to animals in keeping with existing international taxonomic standards, was going to launch ZooBank, an online register of the scientific names of every animal species known. This could be of particular interest for the future work of the Nomenclature Committee.

13. Closing remarks

The Chairman thanked the observers for their continuous support and participation in the meeting.