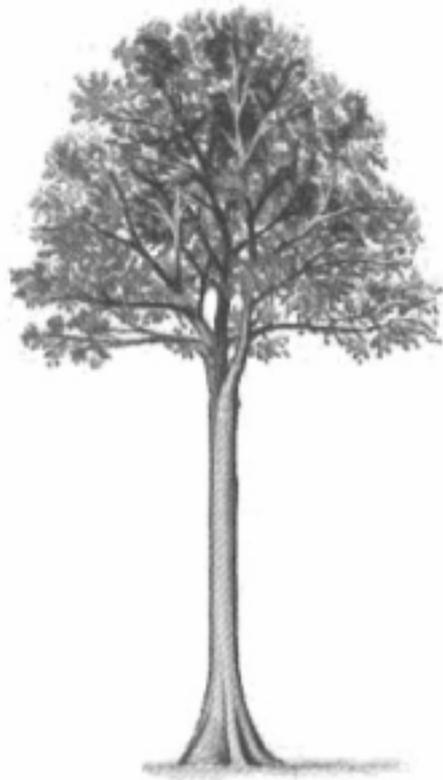




SUMMARY RECORD

SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE PLANTS COMMITTEE



Lima, Peru

3-8 July 2006

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Summary record

The Plants Committee (PC) convened during the last two days of its 16th meeting (PC16) with the Animals Committee (AC). The joint session was chaired alternatively by the Chairman of the Plants Committee and the Chairman of the Animals Committee. This Summary Record indicates which agenda items were discussed during the joint PC/AC session.

1. Opening of the meeting

Mr David Morgan, Chief of the Scientific Support Unit, in the name of the Secretary-General of the CITES Secretariat, Ms Catherine Nettleton, Ambassador of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Peru, and Ms Margarita Clemente, Chairman of the Plants Committee, welcomed participants to the 16th meeting of the Plants Committee and thanked the host country, Peru, for organizing the meeting.

Mr Manuel Manrique, Minister of Agriculture of Peru, formally opened the meeting and wished the participants success in their important tasks.

2. Adoption of the Rules of Procedure

2.1 Current Rules of Procedure

The Secretariat presented document PC16 Doc. 2.1, clarifying that the Rules of Procedure that it contained were identical to those of the previous meeting.

The Committee adopted the Rules of Procedure presented in document PC16 Doc. 2.1.

2.2 Proposed amendments

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The Secretariat introduced documents AC22 Doc. 2.2 and PC16 Doc. 2.2.

The AC chairman commented that the proposed rules 6 and 9 were overcomplicating the process for admitting observers to meetings of the Animals or Plants Committees, and that the current system worked well and should not be changed. The PC Chairman indicated that the requirements for credentials, that are not yet included in the Rules of Procedure for the Plants Committee, should be the same for both Committees. The AC representative of Europe (Ms Rodics) stated that the current rules of procedure had operated well for the last five sessions of the Animals Committee and that there was no need for the changes proposed by the Secretariat. She and the AC representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr Velasco) questioned the proposal in rule 18 to limit meeting documents to a maximum of 12 pages, stating that this may not be sufficient when detailed technical or comprehensive scientific information was required. Regarding the same proposed rule, the observer of Mexico was concerned that its adoption would imply that the current practice whereby the Secretariat gives notice of AC and PC meetings at least 105 days in advance would change into 75 days v. In further discussions, concerns were also raised about the proposed rules 11, 13, 17, 19, 20, 25 and 26.

The Secretariat recalled that at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP13; Bangkok, 2004), Parties had confirmed that the AC and PC were to follow the rules of procedure of the Standing Committee as far as practicable. It explained that the proposed rules would not affect the possibility of NGOs to attend meetings of the AC or PC, and that the restrictions on the length of documents to be discussed at meetings had been put in place to allow their translation in the other working languages of the Convention.

The Animals and Plants Committees did not make a decision on the rules of procedure proposed in Annex 3 of documents AC22 Doc. 2.2 and PC16 Doc. 2.2. They agreed to establish an intersessional working group composed of the members and alternate members of both Committees and led by the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees. Based on the rules of procedure proposed in Annex 3, the working group would draft a new version for consideration at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2007 (CoP14). This version should take into consideration all comments and questions raised during the discussion on this item, particularly concerning the proposed new Rules 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 25 and 26, and the matter of credentials for observers at AC or PC meetings, and clearly explain the rationale for deviating from the Rules of Procedures of the Standing Committee.

During discussions of this item, interventions were made by the AC and PC Chairmen, the AC representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr Velasco), Europe (Ms Rodics), North America and Oceania, the PC representative of North America, and the observers from Mexico, Humane Society International and Humane Society United States.

3. Adoption of the agenda and working programme

3.1 Agenda

The PC Chairman introduced the draft agenda presented in document PC16 Doc. 3.1 (Rev. 1) and asked for comments.

The Chairman, as representative of Europe and on behalf of Belgium, proposed to add an agenda item on a standardized procedure to undertake non-detriment findings for timber species listed in Appendix II of CITES to agenda item 26 on Any other business. The observer from Mexico proposed to add under the same agenda item the organization of an international workshop on the making of non-detriment findings and request that it be discussed during the joint session with the Animals Committee. Both proposals were agreed.

With these amendments, the Agenda contained in document PC16 Doc. 3.1 (Rev. 1) was adopted.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the observer from Mexico.

3.2 Working programme

The PC Chairman outlined the provisional working programme in document PC16 Doc. 3.2 (Rev. 1) and responded to a question from the observer from Madagascar that presentations on *Prunus africana* could be given on Monday 3 July when addressing item 10.2.

The Committee adopted the working programme in document PC16 Doc. 3.2 (Rev. 1).

During discussion of this item, an intervention was made by the observer from Madagascar.

4. Admission of observers

The PC Chairman read out the names of the observers that had requested to attend the 16th meeting of the Plants Committee (PC16).

The Committee noted document PC16 Doc. 4, which showed that 17 intergovernmental, international and national organizations had been invited to attend PC16.

5. Regional reports

5.1 Africa

The PC Representative of Africa (Ms Khayota) presented document PC16 Doc. 5.1, based on information from nine of the 52 Parties in the region, stressing that communication remained very problematic. She indicated that although the required scientific expertise

might be available at national level, resources to conduct plant inventories, make non-detriment findings or undertake the necessary research and monitoring were often lacking, and that the region generally needed more training on CITES.

The Committee noted the report.

5.2 Asia

The PC Representative of Asia (Mr Thitiprasert) presented document PC16 Doc. 5.2, based on information submitted by five of the 32 Parties in the region. Considerable regional activities, including various workshops, had focused on agarwood and ramin. As shown in Annexes 2 and 3 of the document, ASEAN countries had taken important steps to enhance collaboration and improve the general enforcement of CITES. Communication throughout the region remained nevertheless problematic, and the directory on CITES authorities needed updating.

The Committee noted the report.

5.3 Central and South America and the Caribbean

The PC Representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Mereles) presented document PC16 Doc. 5.3 (Rev. 1), drawing attention to the many national and regional capacity-building initiatives and workshops that had taken place. The directory of CITES authorities in the region had been partially updated. Peru's comprehensive contribution had been submitted late and had been incorporated as an Annex to document PC16 Doc. 5.3 (Rev. 1).

The Committee noted the report.

5.4 Europe

The PC Representative of Europe (Mr Frenguelli) presented document PC16 Doc. 5.4, indicating that since San Marino had acceded to CITES in 2005, the region had 45 Parties. Belgium and Ireland had provided information late, which had not been incorporated in the report. While communication with member states of the European Union was generally good, this was not the case with other European countries. He announced that the next European Regional CITES Plants Meeting would be held in Perugia, Italy, in October 2006, and that details could be found on the CITES website.

The Committee noted the report.

5.5 North America

The PC Representative of North America (Mr Gabel) presented document PC16 Doc. 5.5. He commented that the three Parties in the region had undertaken a lot of activities, including on native CITES-listed species such as *Panax quinquefolia* (Canada, United States), *Gaiacum*, Appendix-I listed Cactaceae and *Carnegiea gigantea* (Mexico). He drew attention to the many training and capacity building events that had been organized, the good regional collaboration on CITES issues, and the updated directory of CITES authorities in North America in the Annex to the document.

The Committee noted the report.

5.6 Oceania

The PC Representative of Oceania (Mr Leach) presented document PC16 Doc. 5.6. He highlighted a very successful regional capacity-building workshop that had been organized in Brisbane, Australia, in May 2006 in compliance with Decision 13.100.

The Committee noted the report.

6. Strategic Vision and Action Plan until 2013

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The Secretariat introduced documents AC22 Doc. 6 and PC16 Doc. 6, and the AC Chairman provided an oral update of the discussions that had taken place in the Standing Committee Strategic Plan Working Group since March 2006.

The Animals and Plants Committees noted documents AC22 Doc. 6 and PC16 Doc. 6.

7. Review of the scientific committees

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The Secretariat introduced documents AC22 Doc. 7 (Rev. 1) and PC16 Doc. 7 (Rev. 1), inviting the Committees to finalize the document in Annex 2 on a Review of the scientific committees by completing paragraphs 5 to 9 therein.

There were some questions concerning Annex 4 to the documents AC22 Doc. 7 (Rev. 1) and PC16 Doc. 7 (Rev. 1) and the degree to which it reflected the work and accomplishments of the Plants Committee.

The Animals and Plants Committees established a working group (PC16/AC22 WG1) composed of the Committee's members not participating in other working groups and the co-chairmen of the Nomenclature Committee, chaired by the PC representative of Oceania, co-chaired by the AC representative of North America. The Working Group was directed to undertake the following:

1. Finalize the self-evaluation by completing sections 5 to 9 in the 'Review of the scientific committees' presented in Annex 2 to documents AC22 Doc. 7 (Rev. 1) and PC16 Doc. 7 (Rev. 1).
2. With regard to section 6, finalize the work undertaken by a joined PC/AC working group and reported in document Doc. PC15/AC21 WG2 Doc. 1, and integrate the result in the paper on 'Review of the scientific committees'.
3. With regard to sections 7 to 9, produce practical suggestions for improving the operation, efficiency and effectiveness of the scientific committees, and provide options for regularly reviewing the performance of the scientific committees, including indicators.

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16/AC22 WG1, the PC representative of Oceania, introduced document PC16/AC22 WG1 Doc. 1, pertaining to issues addressed under agenda items 7 and 8.1, and the Co-Chairman, the AC representative of North America, explained the methodology that had been used for analysing the performance and undertaking the self-evaluation of the scientific committees.

The Chairman of PC16/AC22 WG1 noted that Tables 2a and 2b of document PC16/AC22 WG1 Doc. 1 were very long and not yet finalized, and had therefore not been included; and that Table 3 was being circulated to the members and alternates of the Committees for completion. He proposed to continue working on these tables and to finalize them after the meeting, and this course of action was agreed to by the Animals and Plants Committees.

The Animals and Plants Committees furthermore supported the following recommendations of PC16/AC22 WG1:

1. The Working Group (WG), composed of all scientific committees, concluded that the WG report should be submitted to the External Evaluation Working Group of the Standing Committee, and Annex 4 of documents AC22 Doc. 7 (Rev. 1) and PC16 Doc. 7 (Rev. 1) be replaced by Table 2a of the WG report for the Animals and Plants Committees, and by Table 2b for the Nomenclature Committee.
2. The Committees achieve a generally high level of performance in the high priority tasks assigned to them and often with very limited resources or a reliance on voluntary effort. To achieve

increased performance, particularly in lower priority tasks, it would be necessary to increase budgetary funds and other resources in relation to those tasks.

3. Performance of the committees would further improve if greater consideration is given by the Conference of the Parties and the Standing Committee at the time tasks are assigned to the scientific committees as to whether the tasks are within their mandates and the Convention's Strategic Action Plan and whether the task is adequately resourced.
4. Performance of the committees would improve if funds were made available for chairmen to operate, participate and represent committees at other meetings.
5. To promote and facilitate coordination and contact between the taxonomic expertise in regions, the Nomenclature Committee might best operate as a permanent working group of the Animals and Plants Committees.
6. The requirement of a Party/region to provide the time/resources for a regional representative to carry out his/her duties needs to be strengthened. It could be a mandatory commitment made at the time of nomination of a representative.
7. Regarding the challenge of the double role of chairmen as both chairman and a regional representative, the evaluation should note the approach taken by other environmental conventions where committee chairmen do not have regional tasks. The WG was of the strong opinion that the chairmen should originate from amongst the regional representatives.
8. To improve the scientific procedures that sustain all activities of the committees, AC and PC Chairmen and members should be more involved in the assignment of consultants and the definition of terms of reference for specific projects.
9. The review process of the performance of the Committees has consumed considerable resources and time and the WG does not recommend putting in place a periodic, detailed process of review. The WG agreed to recommend conducting internal monitoring through the regional reports and the Chairmen's' reports to the Conference of the Parties, and Table 3 can be appended to the format to prepare regional reports. External monitoring can examine and review the indicators as identified in Tables 1a and 1b.
10. Once the external evaluation has been completed, the delivery mechanisms will be decided.

With regard to the first recommendation to replace Annex 4 of documents AC22 Doc. 7 (Rev. 1) and PC16 Doc. 7 (Rev. 1) by Tables 2a and 2b of document PC16/AC22 WG1 Doc. 1, the Secretariat explained that as author of documents AC22/PC16 Doc 7 (Rev. 1), it could not agree to this without verifying the content of the tables concerned. It noted that these had not been circulated to the committees themselves. It repeated that Annex 4 of documents AC22/PC16 Doc 7 (Rev. 1) contained factual information only, and invited the Animals and Plants Committees to comment on its document to correct any error that it might contain.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the AC and PC Chairmen, the botanist of the Nomenclature Committee, the AC representatives of Oceania and North America, and the PC representative of Oceania.

8. Regional communication

8.1 Review of the conditions under which members and alternate members perform their duties

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The Secretariat introduced documents AC22 Doc. 8.1 and PC16 Doc. 8.1.

The AC Representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr Velasco) stated that communications from Parties to their regional AC representatives and finding solutions when AC or PC representatives performed poorly remained problematic, and that mechanisms should be developed to address these concerns.

The Committees determined that working group PC16/AC22 WG1 should review the conditions under which members and alternate members perform their duties, complete document Doc. PC15/AC21 WG2 Doc. 1 on this matter, and incorporate the result in the document on the review of the scientific committees mentioned under agenda item 7.

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16/AC22 WG1, the PC representative of Oceania, introduced document PC16/AC22 WG1 Doc. 1, which addressed issues concerning agenda items 7 and 8.1. The discussion of this document and the recommendations that the Animals and Plants Committees supported are presented under item 7 above.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the AC Chairman, the AC representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean, and the observer from Mexico.

8.2 Manual for regional representatives

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The AC alternate representative of Europe (Mr Ibero) introduced documents AC22 Doc. 8.2 and PC16 Doc. 8.2.

The Committees established a working group (PC16/AC22 WG2) on the manual for regional representatives. The membership of this working group is shown in Annex 1.

The Working Group was instructed to undertake the following:

1. Review the draft of a 'Manual for regional representatives' in the Annex to documents AC22/PC16 Doc. 8.2;
2. Verify the practicality, correctness and completeness of the draft manual regarding the guidance to regional representatives of the CITES technical committees envisaged in Decision 13.13, and make amendments as appropriate; and
3. Prepare a revised version of the manual for regional representatives for submission to and adoption by the Animals and Plants Committees.

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16/AC22 WG2, the AC alternate representative of Europe (Mr Ibero), presented document PC16/AC22 WG2 Doc. 1.

Some participants commented that the draft manual was not easy to read and contained many references to websites whereas in certain regions of the world, the lack of access to computer networks was a recurrent problem for committee members. All relevant website-based information should therefore appear in a printed version of the manual. The further development of the manual was agreed to be an ongoing process, independent from the meetings of the Conference of the Parties, which should be driven by the needs and experiences of AC and PC members.

Following discussions on the draft manual for regional representatives in the Annex to document PC16/AC22 WG2 Doc. 1 and the recommendations formulated by PC16/AC22 WG2, the Committees supported the following course of action:

1. The Annex to document PC16/AC22 WG2 Doc. 1, containing the Manual for regional representatives, should be adopted by the Committees in fulfilment of Decision 13.13.
2. The Animals and Plants Committees should request Parties at CoP14 to adopt the following draft decision:

Directed to the Secretariat

- a) to organize publication and distribution of printed and electronic versions of the Manual as capacity-building materials for the regional representatives;

- b) to provide versions of the publications in the three working languages of the Convention; and
- c) to seek funding for the translation, publication and distribution of the Manual.

The Committees also agreed that the utility of the Manual and the most appropriate way of its distribution should be tested by members and alternates in the course of the coming years, and that the Manual should be revised and updated accordingly. The Secretariat was invited to edit the text of the Manual as necessary.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the AC and PC Chairmen, the AC representative of North America, the AC alternate representative of Europe (Mr Ibero), the PC representative of Asia (Ms Irawati), and the observers from Mexico, the Netherlands and the United States.

9. Export Quota Working Group

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The Secretariat introduced documents AC22 Doc. 9 and PC16 Doc. 9, and the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees provided further information on the status of the working document on management of nationally established export quotas.

The Committees noted documents AC22/PC16 Doc. 9.

10. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

10.1 Progress in the implementation of the species-based Review of Significant Trade – Overview

The Secretariat introduced document PC16 Doc. 10.1, which provides an overview of Appendix-II plants species that had been selected for the Review of Significant Trade since the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP11; Gigiri, 2000).

The Plants Committee noted document PC16 Doc. 10.1.

10.2 Species selected following CoP11 and CoP12

The Secretariat introduced document PC16 Doc. 10.2, drawing attention to the actions to be undertaken by the Plants Committee as indicated in paragraphs 11 and 12, and the observer from IUCN-The World Conservation Union summarized Annexes 1 to 5 of the document.

The Chairman indicated her intention to establish a working group on the Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species. Comments from the observers from the European Community and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre on document PC16 Doc. 10.2, as well as additional information from the observer from Madagascar concerning trade in and conservation of *Prunus africana* in this country, were deferred to the working group.

10.2.1 Evaluation of the harvest of *Prunus africana* bark on the Bioko Island (Equatorial Guinea): Guidelines for a management plan

The observer from Spain introduced document PC16 Doc. 10.2. This concerned a project to study the range of *Prunus africana* on Bioko; determine levels of bark harvest; evaluate stocks; and design a management plan for sustainable use of the species. He explained that the study had taken one year at a cost of around EUR 60,000. The PC Chairman and the observers from Germany and Mexico commented that the project was a good example of how to make sound non-detriment findings for a species included in Appendix II, and could be used as a model.

Spain was congratulated for the research project that it had undertaken in Equatorial Guinea.

The Committee supported the recommendations at international, national and local level mentioned on page 13 of document PC16 Doc. 10.2.1 and emanating from the project. It advised the Working Group on the Review of Significant Trade to take into consideration these recommendations when discussing *Prunus africana*.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC Chairman and observers from Germany, Mexico and UNEP World conservation Monitoring Centre.

10.3 Species selected following CoP13

The Secretariat introduced document PC16 Doc. 10.3.

The Plants Committee noted document PC16 Doc. 10.3.

10.4 Progress on the country-based Review of Significant Trade in Madagascar

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The Secretariat introduced documents AC22 Doc. 10.4 and PC16 Doc. 10.4, and the observer from Madagascar presented Annexes 1 and 2 to these documents. Examples of Madagascar's accomplishments included the development and adoption of new national CITES legislation; scientific studies on several CITES-listed animal and plant species; the establishment of a permanent secretariat servicing the country's Scientific Authorities; and various training and capacity-building initiatives. However, due to lack of long-term adequate funding, not all planned activities could be undertaken, and the observer from Madagascar appealed to the international community to support the country in implementing the country-based Review of Significant Trade. This would be particularly needed for undertaking field studies and monitoring activities to underpin the making of non-detriment findings for Appendix-II listed species exported from Madagascar, evaluating the socio-economic importance of Madagascar's wildlife trade and combating illegal trade.

Madagascar was congratulated for the progress that it had achieved in implementing the CITES Action Plan.

The Committees noted documents AC22/PC16 Doc. 10.4.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the AC and PC Chairmen, the AC representative of Oceania, and the observer from Madagascar.

10.5 Asian medicinal plants

The representative from Germany introduced document PC16 Doc. 10.5 on status, use, trade and trade controls of seven Appendix-II medicinal plant species, four of which were selected for the Review of Significant Trade following the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP13; Bangkok, 2004). He clarified that the majority of species-specific problems and associated recommendations proposed in the Annex to document PC14 Doc. 10.5 were not directly related to the implementation of Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), and therefore fell outside the purview of the Review of Significant Trade. The Secretariat explained that under the terms of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), such problems should be addressed to the Secretariat for follow-up in accordance with other provisions of the Convention and relevant Resolutions. It stated that it was unclear what should happen with the recommendations concerning the three species not selected for the Review of Significant Trade.

The Plants Committee noted document PC16 Doc. 10.5.

The Committee established a working group (PC16 WG1) on the Review of Significant Trade that should deal with all relevant matters raised under agenda item 10. The composition of the Working Group is shown in Annex 1.

The Terms of Reference of the Working Group were agreed as follows:

Concerning issues raised in document PC16 Doc. 10.2

- In accordance with paragraphs k) and l) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13), the Plants Committee is requested to review the reports and the responses received from range States and, if appropriate, to revise the preliminary categorizations proposed by the consultant. Problems identified that are not related to the implementation of Article IV paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a) should be referred to the Secretariat.
- In accordance with paragraphs m) to o) of the same Resolution, the Plants Committee is also requested to formulate recommendations for species in categories i) and ii). Such recommendations should differentiate between short-term and long-term actions, and be directed to the range States concerned. Species of least concern shall be eliminated from the review.
 - i) *'species of urgent concern' shall include species for which the available information indicates that the provisions of Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a) of the Convention are not being implemented;*
 - ii) *'species of possible concern' shall include species for which it is not clear whether or not these provisions are being implemented; and*
 - iii) *'species of least concern' shall include species for which the available information appears to indicate that these provisions are being met.*

Concerning issues raised in document PC16 Doc. 10.3

- In accordance with paragraph f) of the same Resolution, the Plants Committee is invited to review the available information to determine whether it is satisfied that Article IV, paragraphs 2 (a) and 3, are being correctly implemented. If so, the species shall be eliminated from the review with respect to the range State concerned and, the Secretariat shall notify the Parties accordingly within 60 days.
- In the event that the species is not eliminated, the Secretariat shall proceed with the compilation of information and preliminary categorization regarding the species in accordance with paragraphs g) to j) of the Resolution.

Concerning issues raised in document PC16 Doc. 10.5

- Advise whether the Committee should approve the recommendations in the Annex to document PC16 Doc. 10.5.

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16 WG1, the observer from the United Kingdom, presented document PC16 WG1 Doc. 1. This was followed by extensive discussions on the recommendations formulated by PC16 WG1, resulting in several amendments thereof. With regard to *Prunus africana*, in a later session, the PC Chairman proposed new wording for general recommendations concerning populations of *Prunus africana* that had been categorized as 'of urgent concern'.

Based on document PC16 WG1 Doc. 1 and taking account of the proposed modifications and rewording, the Plants Committee adopted the following recommendations for species that it had selected for Review of Significant Trade.

Concerning species selected following CoP11 and CoP12 (document PC16 Doc. 10.2)

1. The Plants Committee, having reviewed the preliminary categorizations proposed by the consultants, decided on the following final categorizations:

1.1 *Prunus africana*

urgent concern	possible concern	least concern
Burundi Cameroon Democratic Republic of Congo Equatorial Guinea Kenya Madagascar United Republic of Tanzania	None	All other range States

1.2 *Cibotium barometz*

urgent concern	possible concern	least concern
	Viet Nam	

1.3 *Cyathea contaminans*

urgent concern	possible concern	least concern
	Indonesia	

1.4 *Dendrobium nobile*

urgent concern	possible concern	least concern
Viet Nam	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Indonesia

1.5 *Galanthus woronowii*

urgent concern	possible concern	least concern
	Georgia	

2. With respect to the species of 'urgent' and of 'possible' concerns, the Plants Committee made the following recommendations in accordance with paragraph m) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13).

2.1 *Prunus Africana*

General recommendations at international level

Range States concerned	Recommendations and time-frames		
	Within 3 months	Within 1 year	No time limit
All range States with populations of 'urgent concern'	– The Management Authorities of the range States listed below should report to the Secretariat their proposed actions to implement the provisions of Article IV, and how the Scientific Authority determines	– The Secretariat should liaise with the range States to organize a workshop for all range States that will compile a work programme for the full implementation of points 1 to 5 (under 'At the international level' in document	– Effectively foster implementation of management plans in range States – Coordinate complete studies of the populations of <i>Prunus africana</i> across the whole of its range. – Coordinate the future

	<p>that levels of export are not detrimental to the populations concerned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management Authorities of the range States listed below should report to the Secretariat the actions proposed in their management plans to train resource harvesters in techniques that will conserve the resource. 	<p>PC16 Doc. 10.2.1).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management Authorities of the range States listed below should report to the Secretariat the results of their actions to implement the provisions of Article IV, and how the Scientific Authority determines that levels of export are not detrimental to the populations concerned. 	<p>studies in the range area with methods used on Bioko for evaluating <i>P. africana</i> production in natural ecosystems (document PC16 Doc. 10.2.1).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure the quality of studies and follow-up of management plans for the species. – Encourage international cooperation projects that promote the use of <i>Prunus africana</i> in agro-forestry systems and plantations, using proper genetic diversity and optimizing propagation and agro-forestry cultivation techniques.
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Recommendations specific to range States with populations of 'Urgent concern'

Range States concerned	Recommendations and time-frames		
	Within 3 months	Within 1 year	Within 2 years
Burundi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In consultation with the CITES Secretariat and the Chairman of the Plants Committee, establish a conservative quota for export of <i>P. africana</i> bark and other parts and derivatives exported. – Clarify reported exports of extract which are likely to be powder, and inform the Secretariat of any facilities to produce extract within the country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carry out a preliminary inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take, taking into account the need to conserve large seed-producing trees, and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested <i>P. africana</i> populations. – Establish a revised conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and the estimates of sustainable off-take. – Provide a timetable to carry out peer-reviewed ecological studies and appropriate population modelling of <i>P. africana</i> in order to establish a long-term management plan for the sustainable use of this species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management and Scientific Authorities should report to the Secretariat the final version of the long-term management plan and progress made against that plan.

Range States concerned	Recommendations and time-frames		
	Within 3 months	Within 1 year	Within 2 years
Cameroon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In consultation with the CITES Secretariat and the Chairman of the Plants Committee, review their current export quota and establish a conservative reduced quota for export of <i>P. africana</i> parts and derivatives. – Clarify whether they have a working facility to process and export extract, in addition to bark and powder and inform the Secretariat of what parts and derivatives they plan to export (bark, powder, extract). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To complement work already carried out on Mount Cameroon, in other areas subject to harvest, carry out a inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take, taking into account the need to conserve large seed-producing trees, and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested <i>P. africana</i> populations. – Establish a revised conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and the estimates of sustainable off-take. – The Management Authority of Cameroon should collaborate with the Management Authority of Nigeria to enhance the monitoring of trade in <i>P. africana</i> between Cameroon and Nigeria. – Provide a timetable to carry out peer-reviewed ecological studies and appropriate population modelling of <i>P. africana</i> in order to establish a long-term management plan for the sustainable use of this species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management and Scientific Authorities should report to the Secretariat the final version of the long-term management plan and progress made against that plan.
Equatorial Guinea (Bioko)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In consultation with the CITES Secretariat and the Chairman of the Plants Committee, establish a conservative quota for export of <i>P. africana</i> bark and other parts and derivatives exported. This quota should be based on results of studies conducted in the new harvesting areas. – Clarify reported exports of extract which are 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carry out a preliminary inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take, taking into account the need to conserve large seed-producing trees, and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested <i>P. africana</i> populations. – Establish a revised conservative export quota based on the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management and Scientific Authorities should report to the Secretariat the final version of the long-term management plan and progress made against that plan.

Range States concerned	Recommendations and time-frames		
	Within 3 months	Within 1 year	Within 2 years
	likely to be powder, and inform the Secretariat of any facilities to produce extract within the country.	inventory of standing stock and the estimates of sustainable off-take. – Provide a timetable to carry out peer-reviewed ecological studies and appropriate population modelling of <i>P. africana</i> in order to establish a long-term management plan for the sustainable use of this species.	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In consultation with the CITES Secretariat and the Chairman of the Plants Committee, review their current export quota and establish a conservative reduced export quota for export of <i>P. africana</i> parts and derivatives exported. – Clarify reported exports of extract which are likely to be powder, and inform the Secretariat of any facilities to produce extract within the country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carry out a preliminary inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take, taking into account the need to conserve large seed producing trees, and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested <i>P. africana</i> populations. – Establish a revised conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and the estimates of sustainable off-take. – Provide a timetable to carry out peer-reviewed ecological studies and appropriate population modelling of <i>P. africana</i> in order to establish a long-term management plan for the sustainable use of this species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management and Scientific Authorities should report to the Secretariat the final version of the long-term management plan and progress made against that plan.
Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management Authority should report to the Secretariat the result of its actions to implement the provisions of Article IV, and how the Scientific Authority determines that levels of export are not detrimental to the populations concerned. – Clarify reported exports of extract which are likely to be powder, and inform the Secretariat of any facilities to produce extract within 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carry out an inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take, taking into account the need to conserve large seed-producing trees, and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested <i>P. africana</i> populations. – Establish a revised conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and the estimates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management and Scientific Authorities should report to the Secretariat the final version of the long-term management plan and progress made against that plan.

Range States concerned	Recommendations and time-frames		
	Within 3 months	Within 1 year	Within 2 years
	<p>the country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Clarify whether wood or plywood of <i>P. africana</i> is or is likely to be exported from Kenya. – In consultation with the CITES Secretariat and the Chairman of the Plants Committee, establish a conservative quota for export of <i>P. africana</i> bark and other parts and derivatives exported. 	<p>of sustainable off-take.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Provide a timetable to carry out peer-reviewed ecological studies and appropriate population modelling of <i>P. africana</i> in order to establish a long-term management plan for the sustainable use of this species. 	
Madagascar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Report to the Secretariat on the implementation of the National Action Plan for sustainable production of <i>P. africana</i> and how this contributes to its Scientific Authority's determination that levels of export are not detrimental to the populations concerned. – In consultation with the CITES Secretariat and the Chairman of the Plants Committee, establish a conservative quota for export of <i>P. africana</i> bark and other parts and derivatives exported. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Update their inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take, taking into account the need to conserve large seed-producing trees, and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested <i>P. africana</i> populations. – Establish a revised conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and the estimates of sustainable off-take. – The Management Authority should report to the Secretariat the result of its actions to implement the provisions of Article IV, and the current means by which the Scientific Authority determines that levels of export are not detrimental to the populations concerned. – Provide a timetable to carry out peer-reviewed ecological studies and appropriate population modelling of <i>P. africana</i> in order to establish a long-term management plan for the sustainable use of this species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management and Scientific Authorities should report to the Secretariat the final version of the long-term management plan and progress made against that plan.

Range States concerned	Recommendations and time-frames		
	Within 3 months	Within 1 year	Within 2 years
United Republic of Tanzania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In consultation with the CITES Secretariat and the Chairman of the Plants Committee, establish a conservative quota for export of <i>P. africana</i> bark and other parts and derivatives exported. – Clarify reported exports of extract which are likely to be powder, and inform the Secretariat of any facilities to produce extract within the country. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carry out a preliminary inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take, taking into account the need to conserve large seed-producing trees, and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested <i>P. africana</i> populations. – Establish a revised conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and the estimates of sustainable off-take. – Provide a timetable to carry out peer-reviewed ecological studies and appropriate population modelling of <i>P. africana</i> in order to establish a long-term management plan for the sustainable use of this species. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management and Scientific Authorities should report to the Secretariat the final version of the long-term management plan and progress made against that plan.

2.2 *Cibotium barometz*

Range State concerned	Recommendations and time-frames	
	Within 3 months	Within 1 year
Viet Nam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management Authority should report to the Secretariat its actions to implement the provisions of Article IV, and how the Scientific Authority determines that levels of export are not detrimental to the populations concerned. – The Management Authority should clarify and standardize the units and terms used in reporting trade in parts and derivatives and inform the Secretariat when it has completed this task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carry out a preliminary inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested populations. – Establish a revised conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and estimates of sustainable off-take.

2.3 *Cyathea contaminans*

Range State concerned	Recommendations and time-frames	
	Within 3 months	Within 1 year
Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management Authority should report to the Secretariat its actions to implement the provisions of Article IV, and how the Scientific Authority determines that levels of export are not detrimental to the populations concerned. – The Management Authority should clarify and standardize the units and terms used in reporting trade in parts and derivatives and inform the Secretariat when it has completed this task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carry out a preliminary inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested populations. – Establish a revised conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and estimates of sustainable off-take.

2.4 *Dendrobium nobile*

Range States concerned	Recommendations and time-frames	
	Within 6 months	Within 1 year
Lao PDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management Authority should report to the Secretariat its actions to implement the provisions of Article IV, and how the Scientific Authority determines that levels of export are not detrimental to the populations concerned. – The Management Authority should clarify and standardize the units and terms used in reporting trade in parts and derivatives and inform the Secretariat when it has completed this task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carry out a preliminary inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested populations. – Establish a conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and estimates of sustainable off-take.
Viet Nam	<p style="text-align: center;">Within 3 months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management Authority should report to the Secretariat its actions to implement the provisions of Article IV, and how the Scientific Authority determines that levels of export are not detrimental to the populations concerned. – The Management Authority should clarify and standardize the units and terms used in reporting trade in parts and derivatives and inform the Secretariat when it has completed this task. 	<p style="text-align: center;">Within 1 year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carry out a preliminary inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested populations. – Establish a conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and estimates of sustainable off-take.

2.5 *Galanthus woronowii*

Range State concerned	Recommendations and time-frames	
	Within 3 months	Within 1 year
Georgia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Management Authority should report to the Secretariat its actions to implement the provisions of Article IV, and how the Scientific Authority determines that levels of export are not detrimental to the populations concerned. – The Management Authority should clarify and standardize the units and terms used in reporting trade in parts and derivatives and inform the Secretariat when it has completed this task. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Carry out a preliminary inventory of standing stock, establish estimates of sustainable off-take and establish a scientific monitoring system of the harvested and unharvested populations. – Establish a conservative export quota based on the inventory of standing stock and estimates of sustainable off-take.

Concerning species selected following CoP13 (document PC16 Doc. 10.3)

3. With respect to document PC16 Doc. 10.3, the Plants Committee decided on the inclusion or exclusion of species for review following CoP13 as follows:

Species selected following CoP13	Range States	Inclusion or exclusion for further review
<i>Aloe ferox</i>	South Africa	Exclude
<i>Christensonia vietnamica</i>	Viet Nam	Include
<i>Euphorbia candelabrum</i>	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Exclude
	Ethiopia	Exclude
	Kenya	Exclude
	Malawi	Exclude
	Somalia	Exclude
	Sudan	Exclude
	Uganda	Exclude
	United Republic of Tanzania	Exclude
	Zambia	Exclude
<i>Euphorbia stellata</i>	South Africa	Exclude
<i>Myrmecophila tibicinis</i>	Belize	Include
<i>Nardostachys grandiflora</i>	Bhutan	Exclude
	China	Exclude
	India	Exclude
	Nepal	Exclude
<i>Pachypodium bispinosum</i>	South Africa	Include
<i>Pachypodium succulentum</i>	South Africa	Include
<i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i>	India	Include
<i>Rauvolfia serpentina</i>	Bangladesh	Exclude
	Bhutan	Exclude
	India	Include
	Indonesia	Exclude

<i>Rauvolfia serpentine</i> (cont.)	Malaysia	Exclude
	Myanmar	Include
	Nepal	Exclude
	Pakistan	Exclude
	Sri Lanka	Exclude
	Thailand	Include
	Viet Nam	Exclude
<i>Taxus wallichiana</i>	Afghanistan	Exclude
	Bhutan	Exclude
	China	Exclude
	India	Include
	Malaysia	Exclude
	Myanmar	Exclude
	Nepal	Exclude
	Pakistan	Exclude
	Viet Nam	Exclude

Regarding document PC16 Doc. 10.5 on seven Asian medicinal plant species, the observer from Germany commented that controlling trade in these species, of which four had been selected for Review of Significant Trade, remained very difficult in the Himalayan region. The ongoing illegal trade between Nepal and India was of particular concern. These enforcement problems were not directly related to the implementation of Article IV and could therefore not be dealt with through the Review of Significant Trade. He proposed regional actions to address them. The Plants Committee endorsed the implementation and enforcement recommendations presented in the Annex to document PC16 Doc. 10.5, and requested the Chairman of the Plants Committee to forward them to the Secretariat in accordance with paragraph I) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13).

The Committee agreed that in its report for CoP14, the PC Chairman should draw attention to ongoing problems with the effective implementation of the Convention for trade in CITES-listed medicinal plant species, and the urgent need for a coordinated regional effort in Himalayan range States to improve the management of and trade in the seven species of medicinal plants discussed in document PC16 Doc. 10.5. Furthermore, this effort could include measures to combat illegal trade, regional capacity-building workshops, harmonization of regulations and legislation, etc.

Later in the meeting, the PC representative of Africa (Ms Khayota) proposed the establishment of a working group of the Plants Committee on *Prunus africana* and made suggestions for its terms of reference, functioning and general membership. The Plants Committee agreed to establish an intersessional working group on *Prunus africana* with the task of providing guidance to the relevant range States on the implementation of the recommendations resulting from the Review of Significant Trade in this species, as well as of addressing general issues related to the management of and trade in *Prunus africana*, setting of precautionary quotas and making of non-detriment findings, need for studies and establishment of priorities, capacity building efforts, etc. The Committee also agreed to the following terms of reference and functioning for the working group:

1. Terms of Reference of the *Prunus africana* working group:
 - a) Liaise with the CITES Secretariat regarding the status of the Review of Significant Trade communications with countries where the species has been categorized as of 'urgent concern'.
 - b) Raise funds and organize a workshop that will develop a programme of work for meeting significant trade responsibilities, taking into account relevant case studies such as *P. africana* research in Bioko.

- c) Work with the CITES Secretariat on fund-raising for and implementation of significant trade work programme activities, such as the conducting of non-detriment findings and establishment of preliminary quotas.
 - d) Facilitate and promote the submission by the Parties concerned of reports on progress of the Review of Significant Trade to the Secretariat no later than 90 days before the 17th meeting of the Plants Committee for compilation into reports that will be presented at that meeting.
 - e) The working group will make use of the online forum available at the CITES Website.
2. In order to facilitate the fulfilment of these Terms of Reference, the Plants Committee has decided to establish the working group with at least the following members:
 - a) Scientific and Management Authority representatives of countries with populations categorized as being of 'urgent concern';
 - b) the African representatives of the CITES Plants Committee, Ms Khayota and Mr Hafashimana (Co-Chairmen of the WG);
 - c) the African alternate representatives of the CITES Plants Committee, Mr Akpagana and Mr Luke (Deputy Co-Chairmen of the WG);
 - d) at least one *Prunus africana* importing Party (e.g. France, Italy and Spain), including the industry of importers and exporters;
 - e) a member of the CITES Secretariat; and
 - f) other organizations and consultants that may assist with fund-raising to support the implementation of the Review of the Significant Trade recommendations in the countries concerned, for instance in terms of capacity building and conducting non-detriment findings.
 3. The working group shall conduct its work intersessionally (between PC16 and PC17), mainly through remote communication (email, fax or phone) and shall present at PC17 substantive results in accordance with the Terms of Reference mentioned above.
 4. Once selected, the Co-Chairmen and Deputy Co-Chairmen shall start their work at the beginning of September 2006 by contacting the members of the working group and initiating the work specified in the Terms of Reference mentioned above.
 5. The CITES Secretariat will send to the Parties concerned (range States and importing countries), on behalf of the Plants Committee, the present agreement right after the end of PC16, for general information and required action.

Although membership of the working group on *Prunus africana* was not established exhaustively, the observers from France and Spain, and the PC representative of Europe (Mr Frenguelli), on behalf of Italy, commented their wish to participate in this working group. The Committee noted these requests.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representatives of Africa (Ms Khayota), Asia (Ms Irawati and Mr Thitiprasert), Europe (Mr Frenguelli), North America and Oceania, and the observers from Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Madagascar, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and TRAFFIC.

11. Periodic review of plant species included in the CITES Appendices

The Secretariat introduced document PC16 Doc. 11 (Rev. 1). It drew attention to Annexes 3 and 4 of the document, prepared by the Chairman of the Working Group on the Periodic Review of Plant Species Included in the CITES Appendices, which proposed several new species for review in addition to those agreed to by the Plants Committee at its 15th meeting. The Secretariat noted that according to information in these Annexes, several range States had apparently already initiated reviews even though the list of species to be reviewed had yet to be finalized by the Plants Committee in consultation with the Standing Committee.

The Chairman, the PC representatives of North America and Oceania, and the observer from Mexico recognized that the periodic review needed to be conducted efficiently, transparently and quickly, and wished to improve the guidelines for undertaking the review process.

The Plants Committee noted document PC16 Doc. 11 (Rev. 1) and established a new working group (PC16 WG2) on the periodic review of plant species included in the CITES Appendices that should deal with matters raised under agenda item 11. The composition of PC16 WG2 is shown in Annex 1.

The Terms of Reference of the Working Group were agreed as follows:

Concerning issues raised in document PC16 Doc. 11

1. In conformity with paragraph c) in Annex 1 of the same document, and taking into account the comments in Annexes 2, 3 and 4 to this document, the Plants Committee is requested, in consultation with the Standing Committee, to finalize the selection of plant species to be reviewed before the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
2. The working group needs to decide whether proposals to amend the Appendices should be prepared for submission to be submitted at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the basis of those reviews that have been already undertaken.
3. The Working Group on the Periodic Review of Plant Species Included in the CITES Appendices will revise the current procedure for undertaking periodic reviews of the Appendices that was adopted by the Standing Committee at its 51st meeting (Bangkok, October 2004).

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16 WG2, the observer from Mexico, presented document PC16 WG2 Doc. 1.

The Plants Committee adopted all recommendations made by the Working Group, including those on the revision of 'Periodic Review of the Appendices – Recommendations of the Standing Committees adopted at its 51st meeting' and the proposed course of action concerning the involvement of the Animals and Standing Committees, as follows:

1. The Plants Committee adopts for review those taxa that it had agreed to at its 15th meeting, and rejects all modifications mentioned in Annex 3 of document PC16 Doc. 11 (Rev. 1).
2. The Plants Committee acknowledges the countries volunteering to undertake reviews for selected taxa, as indicated in Annex 1 of document PC16 WG2 Doc. 1. The Committee representatives of the relevant regions should communicate to Parties in their regions about these reviews and invite them to participate in the process.
3. The Plants Committee will inform the Standing Committee about its final list of taxa that it intends to review between CoP13 and CoP15.
4. For the following taxa, the Plants Committee, and particularly the relevant regional representatives, should identify countries willing and able to undertake reviews:
 - Asia: *Dioscorea deltoidea*, *Hedychium philippinense*, *Cycas beddomei*;
 - North America: *Agave victoriae-reginae*, *Sclerocactus* spp.;

- North America and Central and South America and the Caribbean: *Tillandsia kammii*, *Tillandsia mauryana*, *Pereskia* spp.; and
 - Africa: *Didieraceae* spp., *Euphorbia* spp. in Appendix I, Malagasy species of *Aloe* in Appendix I.
5. In case that the draft review by Mexico of *Pereskiaopsis* spp., contained in document PC16 Inf. 6, becomes a proposal to amend the Appendices for submission at CoP14, the Plants Committee will express its support. Concerning species mentioned in document PC16 Inf. 7, Argentina and Switzerland are encouraged to submit draft reviews of *Pereskia* spp. and *Quiabentia verticillata* for consideration by the Plants Committee.
 6. The Plants Committee adopts the following amended and simplified version of 'Periodic review of the Appendices – Recommendations of the Standing Committee adopted at its 51st meeting':
 - a) The Animals and Plants Committees should share their experience during joined meetings regarding the undertaking of periodic reviews of species included in the Appendices (including financing of reviews, processes, format and outputs).
 - b) The Animals and Plants Committees should establish a schedule for the periodic review of the Appendices, and identify a list of species they propose to review during the next two intersessional periods between meetings of the Conference of the Parties. The list should be established at their first meeting after the meeting of the Conference of the Parties that initiates the review period.
 - c) The Animals and Plants Committees are encouraged to follow the guidelines and rapid assessment technique in Annexes 1 and 2 of document SC51 Doc. 16 and their updates when selecting species and conducting the periodic review.
 - d) The Secretariat should send a copy of the list of taxa to all Parties, and request range States of the species to comment on the need to review the species and express their interest in undertaking the reviews. The responses should be relayed by the Secretariat to the Animals or Plants Committee.
 - e) Taking these comments into account, the Animals and Plants Committees will inform the Standing Committee about the finalized selection of species to be reviewed.
 - f) The Chairmen of the Plants and Animals Committees should keep the Standing Committee informed about the conduct of periodic reviews of species included in the Appendices.
 - g) The Animals and Plants Committees should conduct or organize the reviews, seeking information, participation and support from the range States. The regional representatives of the Animals, Plants and Standing Committees should seek assistance from range States within their region to support the species reviews.
 - h) A draft of each review (in an agreed format) should be submitted as a working document to the Plants or Animals Committee for their review. The Secretariat should draw attention of the relevant range States to these working documents.
 - i) In cases where a review indicates, and the technical committee concerned agrees, that it would be appropriate to transfer a species from one Appendix to another, or to delete a species from Appendix II, the Animals or Plants Committee should, in consultation with the range States, prepare (or arrange the preparation of) a proposal to amend the Appendices.
 - j) The Secretariat, on behalf of the Standing Committee and the Animals or Plants Committee, should provide copies of the proposal to the range States and request that one or more should submit the proposal for consideration at the following meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
 - k) If no range State is willing to submit the proposal, the Secretariat should request the Depository Government to submit it [as specified in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP13)] and to include the comments of the range States in the supporting statement.

- l) Proposals resulting from the periodic review of the Appendices must be submitted for decision by the Conference of the Parties.

The observer from Germany explained that the Scientific Authority was still seeking funds to undertake the review of *Saussurea costus*, and that the 'status of review' in Annex 1 of document PC16 WG2 Doc. 1 should indicate "On the condition that funds are provided". This was acknowledged by the Committee.

Concerning the revised version of 'Periodic review of the Appendices – Recommendations of the Standing Committee adopted at its 51st meeting', the Plants Committee agreed to seek comments from the Animals Committee on this revision, and agreement to submit a joined document on this matter to the Standing Committee, possibly in the form of a draft resolution.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representatives of North America and Oceania, and the observers from Belgium, Germany, Mexico and the United States.

12. Production systems for specimens of CITES-listed species

12.1 Review of production systems

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The PC representative of North America introduced documents AC22 Doc. 12.1 and PC16 Doc. 12.1. The main areas of disagreement within the joint PC/AC working group on production system, established at the previous joint meeting of the AC and PC in 2005, were codes and definitions for artificially propagated plants, captive-bred animals and ranching, and the use of source code 'F'.

The Committees established a working group (PC16/AC22 WG3) on the review of production systems, of which the membership is shown in Annex 1.

The working group was instructed to undertake the following:

1. Finalize the report in the Annex to documents AC22/PC16 Doc. 12.1;
2. In particular try to reach consensus on the use of source code 'R' and on source codes applicable to artificially propagated plants and animals that are bred in captivity;
3. Consider a revision of Resolution Conf. 11.16 on Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II in the light of the discussion on the use of source code 'R' and ranching production systems; and
4. Prepare a report for the Animals and Plants Committee to submit to CoP14.

12.2 Review of global crocodile ranching programmes

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session and at the 22nd meeting of the Animals Committee.

The AC representative of Europe (Mr Althaus), on behalf of Switzerland, introduced documents AC22 Doc. 12.2 and PC16 Doc. 12.2. He explained that the outcome of the review by the IUCN/SSC Crocodile Specialist Group of global crocodile ranching programmes, summarized in the document, and Resolution Conf. 11.16 on Ranching and trade in ranched specimens of species transferred from Appendix I to Appendix II could be of relevance to Working Group PC16/AC22 WG3. He recommended that the Working Group consider a revision of Resolution Conf. 11.16 in the light of its discussions on ranching production systems and the use of source code 'R'. The Committee agreed to this recommendation.

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16/AC22 WG3, the PC representative of North America, presented document PC16/AC22 WG3 Doc. 1, pertaining to items 12.1 and 12.2.

He explained that the discussion in the working group on the proposed use of source code R (for 'ranching') had not been concluded, and that no consensus had been reached on the use of source codes A, C and D (for 'artificially propagated' and 'captive bred') and F for animals born in captivity that do not fulfil the definition of 'bred in captivity' in Resolution Conf. 10.16 (Rev.), as well as parts and derivatives thereof. The Working Group had also been unable to agree on a possible revision of Resolution Conf. 11.16. However, in view of the progress that had been made, he believed that all these issues could be resolved and a document prepared for CoP14. Broad agreement had for instance been reached on ranching and the use of source code 'R'. The observer from the Netherlands noted that the discussions in the Working Group had mostly involved importing countries and NGOs, and that it would be important to engage exporting countries.

The Committees took note of document PC16/AC22 WG3 Doc. 1, and agreed that their joint Working Group on Production Systems for Specimens of CITES-Listed Species continue intersessionally to attempt to fulfil its mandate as agreed at the present meeting. Parties, IGOs and NOGs interested in joining the existing Working Group should contact the Chairman of PC16/AC22 WG3. The Working Group was encouraged to seek the opinion of exporting Parties on the use of source codes.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the AC and PC Chairmen, the AC representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (A. Velasco), the PC representatives of North America and Oceania, and the observers from Israel, Madagascar, the Netherlands and Humane Society International.

13. Synergy between CITES and CBD

13.1 Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The Secretariat introduced documents AC22 Doc. 13.1 and PC16 Doc. 13.1, and the PC representative of Oceania presented Annex 2 to the document, drawing attention to the compilation of case studies and replies from range States, and the conclusions on page 68 of the document concerning the making of non-detrimental findings for export of species included in Appendix II. In the following discussion, it was noted that Decision 13.6 required the Committees to look beyond the making of non-detrimental findings, that the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity seemed to be valuable for the management of and trade in crocodylians and that this was insufficiently reflected in the document, and that the conclusions seemed based on a relatively small number of case studies.

The Committees established a working group (PC16/AC22 WG4) on the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity of with the membership is shown in Annex 1.

The mandate for the working group was decided to be as follows:

1. Review the Annexes to documents AC22/PC16 Doc. 13.1, and particularly the summary of the case studies and conclusions in Annex 2.
2. Draft a report to be submitted by the Animals and Plants Committees at CoP14 that, in compliance with Decision 13.6, identifies those principles and guidelines from the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity that are of most relevance to CITES.

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16/AC22 WG4, the AC alternate representative of Asia (Mr Giam), presented document PC16/AC22 WG4 Doc. 1, based on a review of the Annexes to documents AC22/PC16 Doc. 13.1.

Questions were raised concerning the work still required by the scientific committees on this matter, and the possible complications of using socio-economic aspects of the Addis Ababa

Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the making of non-detrimental findings. Others noted that the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines could support the existing IUCN guidance for the making of non-detrimental findings, and would be valuable for the development of taxa-specific guidelines in this regard, for instance for tree species. It was recognized that the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines, which had been developed over many years and received broad international support, were of global importance but that not all principles were of relevance to CITES.

The Committees adopted the following recommendations which should form the basis for a report to be submitted by the Animals and Plants Committees at CoP14 in compliance with Decision 13.6:

1. Whereas the Convention on Biological Diversity provides general guidance to Parties on how to address a broad range of biodiversity issues through national implementation, CITES is regulatory in nature, species-specific, and focuses on international trade in wildlife.
2. Although CITES does not have a definition of sustainable use, the case studies show that the elements of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity that are generally relevant to CITES are either already implicit in the language of CITES or are promoted by CITES. That for instance refers to practical Principles 1, 2, 4, 7, 9 and 12, elements of which are incorporated in the "Checklist to assist in making non-detriment findings for Appendix II exports".
3. From the case studies included in Annex 1 of documents AC22/PC16 Doc. 13.1 it is evident that the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity are not always immediately applicable for the decision-making process under CITES, particularly with respect to making non-detriment findings (NDF).
4. It is recognized that the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines are, on a case-by-case basis, relevant to the work of CITES (in addition to the Principles referred to in paragraph 3, e.g. Principles 5, 6, 8, 11), and may be considered for possible development of further taxa-specific NDF guidelines.
5. Propose the amendment of Resolution Conf. 10.4 to acknowledge the use of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity as a voluntary additional tool that can be used in making NDFs.

During discussions of this item, interventions were made by the AC and PC Chairmen, the AC representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr Velasco), the AC alternate representative of Asia (Mr Giam), the PC representative of Oceania, and the observers from Austria, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Spain, the United States, the European Commission and Species Management Specialists.

13.2 Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and links with the Convention on Biological Diversity Synergy between CITES and CBD

The observer from Mexico introduced document PC16 Doc. 13.2, inviting participants to comment on the draft text in the Annex and provide additional case study information for incorporation in the draft text, particularly on how CITES activities contribute to CBD's Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC).

Various suggestions were made regarding the best way to convey to CBD the examples contained in the Annex to document PC16 Doc. 13.2. The Secretariat pointed out that the more general linkages between CBD and CITES were discussed by the Standing Committee, and that the Plants Committee should focus on communicating with those instances that are involved in the implementation of GSPC. The PC Chairman explained that she had submitted to the CBD Secretary-General and on behalf of her Committee the documents that had been previously prepared by the Plants Committee. The CBD Secretary-General had circulated them to the relevant CBD authorities.

The Plants Committee encouraged Mexico to finalize the text provided in the Annex, in consultation with the PC representative of Oceania, the observer from Canada and the Secretariat. It recommended that the final text be forwarded to the CBD Secretariat, the SBSTTA Office and the GSPC officer for distribution to the GSPC national focal points.

Later in the meeting, the observer from Mexico reported on amendments of the text in the Annex to document PC16 Doc. 13.2. The observer from Austria explained that the word 'species' in the text concerned should be replaced by 'taxa'.

The Committee agreed to modify the wording in the Annex to PC16 Doc. 13.2 as follows:

Case studies

Delete the following text on page 5:

Parties and observers are asked to provide case studies concretely illustrating CITES actions that have benefited wild flora. Case studies being developed to illustrate how the Addis Ababa principles and guidelines may be used in specific cases of exports of specimens of Appendix II species may also be appropriate for this document. *Harpagophytum* might be an appropriate example.

and replace it with:

Among the actions undertaken by the Plants Committee the following can be given as examples that show a positive contribution to GSPC:

- Under the Review of Significant Trade, important listed plant groups such as cycads, agarwood, tree ferns and some medicinal plants have been analysed, resulting in measures taken to ensure that the international trade therein is sustainable.
- Even on non-listed taxa such as *Harpagophytum*, the Plants Committee has facilitated collaboration between range States to ensure that harvest of this taxa is sustainable in such a way that the inclusion into CITES Appendices is not needed.
- Studies on biology and trade were undertaken of taxa like *Guaiacum* spp., *Taxus* spp., various timber species, *Tillandsia xerographica*., *Hoodia* spp., mahogany, Orchidaceae, Cactaceae, leaf bearing cacti, among others, to correctly reflect their conservation and management needs.

The Secretariat undertook to provide its comments on the text when it returned to Geneva so that the text could be finalized.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representatives of North America and Oceania, and the observers from Austria and Mexico.

14. Trade in alien invasive species

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The Secretariat introduced documents AC22 Doc. 14 and PC16 Doc. 14, and informed the Committees about the responses that it had recently received from the CBD Secretariat and the IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group concerning the establishment of cooperation in relation to their work on alien invasive species.

The IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group wanted to explore further collaboration and drew attention to the provisions of CBD Decision VIII/27. The CBD Secretariat welcomed comments from CITES on its programme on alien species that was to be reviewed in 2008. It proposed to collaborate on: the implementation by CBD and CITES Parties of these Guiding Principles; developing a common list of alien invasive species with a sub-set of those that are included in CITES Appendices; assessing

the conditions under which species become invasive; and establishing the threat from invasive aliens associated with transport of and trade in CITES-listed species.

However, participants commented that the contribution of CITES to address threats posed by alien invasive species was likely to be very limited, and the practical utility of further work was questioned. In view of the means and resources that CBD had already mobilized to address the issue, it was generally felt that CBD should provide the necessary information and guidance to CITES, and not the other way around.

The Committees agreed that Resolution Conf. 13.10 on Trade in alien invasive species should be amended to eliminate the instructions in the operational part of the Resolution to the Secretariat, in conjunction with the Animals and Plants Committees, and that the remaining text of this Resolution should be integrated in Resolution Conf. 10.4 on Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The Committees recognized that the CBD Secretariat could keep the Animals and Plants Committees informed about relevant issues concerning alien invasive species and that it might consult them as appropriate. The Committees concluded that the activities outlined in paragraphs 3 and 4 of documents AC22/PC16 Doc. 14 were not a priority for the Committees, and advised the Secretariat not to pursue its efforts in this regard.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the AC and PC Chairmen, the AC representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr Velasco) and Oceania, and the observers from Austria, Mexico and the United States.

15. Transport of live specimens

15.1 Review of Resolution Conf. 10.21 on Transport of live animals

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The Secretariat introduced documents AC22 Doc. 15.1 and PC16 Doc. 15.1. The observer from Austria explained that he had been in contact with the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) on new transport standards that it had developed. He advised that these standards could complement or replace the CITES *Guidelines for transport and preparation for shipments of live wild animals and plants* for certain modes of transport of live animals, and should be considered by the Committees.

The Committees established a working group (PC16/AC22 WG5) on transport of live specimens, of which the membership is presented in Annex 1.

The working group was instructed to undertake the following:

1. Initiate the review of Resolution Conf. 10.21 on Transport of live animals in compliance with Decision 13.89 in order to *inter alia*:
 - i) revise the requirements regarding the collection, submission and analysis of data on mortality and injury or damage to health in transport of live animals, domestic measures directed to Parties, and reporting obligations;
 - ii) incorporate references to the transport of live plants; and
 - iii) clarify how IATA manuals and regulations can be mechanisms through which up-to-date guidance on the transport of live animals and plants of CITES-listed species can be provided, replacing the CITES *Guidelines for transport and preparation for shipment of live wild animals and plants*; and
2. Develop a clear time frame for the Animals Committee to finalize the revision of Resolution Conf. 10.21 in consultation with the Plants Committee and the Secretariat in time for consideration at CoP14.

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16/AC22 WG5, the observer from Austria (Mr Linhart), presented document PC16/AC22 WG5 Doc. 1, drawing attention to the text of a draft resolution on Transport of live specimens contained therein. He stated that the timeframe for implementing Decision 13.89 needed to be developed in consultation with the Animals and Plants Committees.

The Committees took note of the document. They agreed to discuss, in consultation with the Secretariat, the text for a new resolution proposed in document PC16/AC22 WG5 Doc. 1, and finalize the review of Resolution Conf. 10.21 in compliance with Decision 13.89.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the AC and PC Chairmen, the AC representative of Europe (Ms Rodics), the AC alternate representative of Asia (Mr Giam), and the observers from Austria, Mexico and the United States.

16. Harpagophytum spp.

The Secretariat introduced document PC16 Doc. 16. It recalled participants that at PC15, the Plants Committee had decided to request importing countries of *Harpagophytum* spp. to provide information on actions taken to implement Decision 13.60. It indicated that South Africa had given information after the deadline for responding to the request, and suggested that it could be invited to give an oral report on the matter. The observer from Germany then introduced Annex 2 of document PC16 Doc. 16, concluding that since the taxa was not included in the CITES Appendices, importing countries had been unable to take relevant actions or provide meaningful information on trade in these species.

Participants did not consider necessary for the Committee to continue addressing trade in this taxon as long as it was not included in the CITES Appendices. The observer from South Africa stated that the taxa was now protected through national legislation which facilitated the monitoring of exports, that regional collaboration between Botswana, Namibia and South Africa on *Harpagophytum* spp. management was ongoing, and that under the given circumstances, no matters remained to be addressed by the Plants Committee.

The Plants Committee decided that it had concluded the tasks assigned to it under Decision 13.60.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representatives of North America and Oceania, and the observers from Germany and South Africa.

17. Annotations for species in Appendices II and III

17.1 Medicinal plants

The observer from Germany introduced document PC16 Doc. 17.1, indicating that the proposed revision of annotations for the species mentioned in paragraphs 7 to 15 had already been agreed upon by the Committee at its 15th meeting, and that the remaining decisions concerned *Hydrastis canadensis* and *Podophyllum hexandrum* as mentioned in paragraphs 16 and 17.

The observers from the United States and the American Herbal Products Association requested reopening the discussion concerning annotation #10 for medicinal plants, and specifically regarding the use of the term 'pharmaceutical' therein, and this was agreed to by the Committee.

The Plants Committee established a working group (PC16 WG3) on annotations for medicinal plants in Appendices II and III. The composition of the Working Group is presented in Annex 1.

The Terms of Reference of the Working Group were agreed as follows:

Concerning issues raised in document PC16 Doc. 17.1

1. Discuss and decide upon issues raised in paragraph 18.
2. Clarify the definition of 'pharmaceutical products' in proposed new annotation #10.
3. In accordance with Decision 13.52: "The Plants Committee shall draft proposals to amend the Appendices in this respect for *the Depositary* Government to present for consideration at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties."

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16 WG3, the observer from Germany, presented document PC16 WG3 Doc. 1.

In response to a question by the Secretariat concerning the use of 'retail trade' in the proposed new annotation #10, the Chairman of PC16 WG3 explained that this involved trade for an individual patient and not bulk trade, and that this would be explained in an accompanying glossary. It was suggested to use similar language to that proposed for use in annotating Orchidaceae spp. in Appendix II, i.e. "specimens must be professionally processed for commercial retail sale".

The Plants Committee noted document PC16 Doc. 17.1.

On the basis of document PC16 WG3 Doc. 1, the Plants Committee agreed to the following:

1. to endorse the proposed changes to the annotations laid out in paragraphs 7 to 15 of document PC16 Doc. 17.1 and summarized in its Annex in tables 1 and 2, except:
 - a) to remove the term "pharmaceutical" from the proposed revision of #10 in table 2;
 - b) to annotate *Hydrastis canadensis* with "Designates underground parts (i.e. roots, rhizomes): whole, parts and powdered"; and
 - c) to annotate *Podophyllum hexandrum* with #10 as described in recommendation a) above;
2. that, in accordance with Decision 13.52, the Scientific Authority of Germany should draft a single amendment proposal with respect to recommendations 1 a), b) and c), and 3; and
3. that a glossary of terms similar to Table 3 in the Annex to document PC16 Doc. 17.1 be included in the Interpretation of the Appendices after CoP14, a draft of which will be submitted in the amendment proposal.

Consequently, the Plants Committee requested the observer from Germany to draft, with editorial assistance of the intersessional Working Group established at PC15, a proposal to amend the annotations for medicinal plants on Appendices II and III, and to ask the Depositary Government to submit this proposal at CoP14 on behalf of the Plants Committee. The observer from Germany concluded that the Plants Committee had agreed on draft wording for the annotations for medicinal plants in Appendices II and III, and that intersessional work would focus on the terminology and content of the accompanying glossary.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representative of North America, and the observers from Canada, Germany, the United States and American Herbal Products Association.

17.2 Implementation of the annotations for Orchidaceae spp. in Appendix II

The PC representative of Asia (Mr Thitiprasert) introduced document PC16 Doc. 17.2 on behalf of the Management Authorities of Thailand and Switzerland.

The Plants Committee established a working group (PC16 WG4) on the implementation of annotations for Orchidaceae spp. in Appendix II. The composition of the Working Group is present in Annex 1.

The Terms of Reference of the Working Group were decided to be as follows:

Concerning issues raised in document PC16 Doc. 17.2

1. The working group shall consider the proposed, modified wording of the current annotation and will consider options for further simplification.
2. The working group will advise the Plants Committee on the best way to follow up this matter.

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16 WG4, the PC representative of Asia (Mr Thitiprasert), presented document PC16 WG4 Doc. 1.

The second recommendation of PC16 WG4, to extend the exemptions provided for in the annotations for Orchidaceae spp. included in Appendix II to four additional New World genera, was mostly regarded as untimely. Some questioned the need to spend resources on monitoring and controlling trade in orchid hybrids, which were of little conservation value and not relevant to the overall objectives of CITES. But it was generally recognized that the impact of the current annotations needed to be evaluated before extending them to other genera. Such an evaluation would however require funding. It could be conducted by the Plants Committee or by the importing and exporting countries.

In response to questions regarding identification materials that Thailand had committed to disseminate to facilitate the enforcement of the annotations for Orchidaceae spp. included in Appendix II, the PC representative of Asia (Mr Thitiprasert) stated that leaflets had been sent to the Secretariat for distribution to the Parties. The Secretariat commented that it had not yet received these materials, and Thailand was urged to send them again.

The Plants Committee noted document PC16 Doc. 17.2

On the basis of recommendation 1 in document PC16 WG4 Doc. 1, the Plants Committee adopted the following revised wording for the annotations for Orchidaceae spp. included in Appendix II:

Artificially propagated hybrids of the genera *Cymbidium*, *Dendrobium*, *Phalaenopsis* and *Vanda* are not subject to the provisions of the Convention if:

- a) Specimens are readily recognizable as artificially propagated and do not show any signs of having been collected in the wild such as mechanical damage or strong dehydration resulting from collection, irregular growth and heterogeneous size and shape within a taxon and shipment, algae or other epiphyllous organisms adhering to leaves, or damage by insects or other pests; and
- b) i) when shipped in non flowering state, the specimens must be traded in shipments consisting of individual containers (such as cartons, boxes, crates or individual shelves of CC-containers) each containing 20 or more plants of the same hybrid; the plants within each container must exhibit a high degree of uniformity and healthiness; and the shipment must be accompanied by documentation, such as an invoice, which clearly states the number of plants of each hybrid; or

- ii) when shipped in flowering state, with at least one fully open flower per specimen, no minimum number of specimens per shipment is required but specimens must be professionally processed for commercial retail sale, i.e. labelled with printed labels or packaged with printed packages indicating the name of the hybrid and the country of final processing. This should be clearly visible and allow easy verification.

Plants not clearly qualifying for the exemption must be accompanied by appropriate CITES documents.

The Chairman of PC16 WG4 indicated that the Committee should request the Depository Government to submit at CoP14, on behalf of the Plants Committee, this proposal to amend the current annotation for Orchidaceae spp. included in Appendix II. The Plants Committee approved this course of action.

With regard to recommendation 2 in document PC16 WG4 Doc. 1, the Committee decided that it was premature to extend the current annotation to other genera of Orchidaceae. It was suggested that the Plants Committee should assess the possibility of adding further genera, focusing initially on *Miltonia*, *Odontoglossum* and *Oncidium*. Enforcement, identification and capacity in exporting countries to control orchid hybrids in trade should also be taken into consideration. The value of assessing the 'genus' *Cambria*, as recommended by PC16 WG4, was questioned as it was not a natural genus of Orchidaceae but a name for hybrids.

The Plants Committee agreed that the Chairman of the Committee should present the following draft Decisions on this issue for adoption at CoP14:

Directed to the Parties and to the Plants Committee

The Plants Committee shall monitor and assess possible conservation problems arising from the implementation of the annotation for Orchidaceae spp. included in Appendix II.

On the basis of information and identification materials provided by exporting and importing countries, the Plants Committee should develop recommendations concerning possible further exemptions for artificially propagated hybrids of Orchidaceae spp. included in Appendix II, in particular for the genera *Miltonia*, *Odontoglossum* and *Oncidium*, taking into consideration the capacities of countries to implement and control such exemptions effectively.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representatives of Africa (Ms Kayotha), Asia (Ms Irawati and Mr Thitiprasert), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera), Europe (Ms Clemente and Mr Frenguelli), North America and Oceania, and the observers from Austria, China, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Thailand, the United States, the European Community, IWMC-World Conservation Trust and TRAFFIC.

18. Effects of implementing the revised definition of 'artificially propagated'

The Secretariat introduced document PC16 Doc. 18. At the request of the PC representative of North America, the observer from Chile elaborated on the country's response to Notification to the Parties No. 2005/045 on this matter, explaining that in the case of the production of *Araucaria araucana* from wild-collected seeds, the revised definition of 'artificially propagated' had not caused negative effects on the conservation of the species.

The Plants Committee noted document PC16 Doc. 18. In the context of the implementation of Decision 13.72, the Committee concluded that for the time being, the revised definition of 'Artificially propagated' had not adversely effected the conservation of Appendix-I species that had been subject to it.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representative of North America and the observer from Chile.

19. Tree species

19.1 Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group

The Secretariat introduced document PC16 Doc. 19.1, and clarified the mandate of the Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group (BMWG) and the request of the Plants Committee to the BMWG to report at the present meeting on progress achieved. The Plants Committee noted document PC16 Doc. 19.1.

19.1.1 Report of the third meeting of the Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group

The Secretariat explained that the report of the Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group, document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1, was in Spanish only because it had been produced following a meeting of the working group from 29 June to 1 July 2006, and translation had not been possible within such a short time. It suggested that, exceptionally, the Plants Committee could consider discussing a document that was not available in the three languages of the Convention. The Plants Committee agreed to discuss document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1.

The observer from Peru, Chairman of the BMWG, then introduced document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1, remarking that it contained an overview of the implementation of Decision 13.58 by range States of *Swietenia macrophylla* that had attended the meeting (Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Equator, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Peru), prioritized thematic recommendations, and included additional notes on discussions at the meeting. The Chairman of the BMWG read the whole document in order to facilitate its understanding in the other working languages through interpretation.

Participants remarked on: the failure by all relevant Parties to report in a timely manner to the Plants Committee on progress with their implementation of Decision 13.58; large-scale, highly questionable trade in *Swietenia macrophylla* via the Dominican Republic in 2004 and 2006; the absence of proposals to resource and fund the implementation of the BMWG recommendations; various export bans of *Swietenia macrophylla* that had been put in place but were not reflected in the report; the absence in the report of recommendations made earlier by the BMWG that importing countries should not accept unauthorized or illegally exported *Swietenia macrophylla*; the lack of clear mechanisms to verify the implementation by relevant Parties of BMWG recommendations; illegal logging in Peru in protected areas and in areas for indigenous people, and the violence and crimes associated with it; the need to better prioritize the broad BMWG recommendations; and the subjective assertions by range States on their compliance with these recommendations, as presented in the table in document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1. It was also noted that range States may have broad forestry management plans and undertake forest inventories which were not necessarily specific to *Swietenia macrophylla*.

In response to questions regarding the lack of technical guidance for the making of non-detrimental findings for the export of *Swietenia macrophylla*, the Secretariat reported that CITES and ITTO were going to undertake a large joint project on improving the management of *Swietenia macrophylla* and several other CITES Appendix-II listed timber species, which included scientific research, monitoring, capacity building and enforcement activities.

It was agreed that these comments needed to be taken into account by the BMWG.

The Plants Committee noted document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1 and established a working group (PC16 WG5) to discuss the report from the BMWG. The composition of PC16 WG5 is presented in Annex 1.

The Terms of Reference of PC16 WG5 were decided to be as follows:

Concerning issues raised in document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1

1. Analyse information on actions taken by range States in conformity with Decision 13.58. Advise on any Plants Committee recommendations for CoP14 arising from them.
2. Review recommendations formulated by the BMWG and propose draft decisions to be submitted by the Plants Committee at CoP14 on the basis of these recommendations; if necessary, propose further decisions for the Plants Committee to submit for adoption at CoP14.
3. Advise on the possible inclusion of *Swietenia macrophylla* in the Review of Significant Trade.

Later in the meeting, the Chairman of PC16 WG5, the observer from Canada (Ms Lougheed), presented document PC16 WG5 Doc. 1.

Following extensive discussions and comments, and based on document PC16 WG5 Doc. 1, the Plants Committee adopted the following conclusions and recommendations:

1. Regarding progress made by the BMWG, the Plants Committee considers:
 - a) that some progress has been made by certain States (see document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1), although no Party has fully complied with Decision 13.58. The activities of the BMWG have promoted compilation and sharing of existing information, and have resulted in progress in development of inventories and other scientific applications that contribute to the making of non-detriment findings (NDF) for mahogany;
 - b) that the format used to report the results of the BMWG regarding evaluation of the fulfilment of Decision 13.58 does not adequately reflect the work that each of the countries has prepared;
 - c) that in spite of some range States having compiled trade information to estimate existing volumes of mahogany, field-based inventories, distribution statistics and age class information (critical to making NDFs) that are specific to mahogany are not available. In addition, range Parties have not developed effective mechanisms or a standardized approach for making NDF for mahogany; and
 - d) that there is currently no mechanism to systematically compile scientific information gathered by the range States and recommendations made by the BMWG to understand the situation at the regional level and to support the range States in adequately implementing Article IV of the Convention.
2. Regarding the 15 recommendations made by the BMWG in document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1, the Plants Committee agrees to:
 - a) endorse the following recommendations (document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1, pages 14-15, Table of order of priority) and submit them for consideration at CoP14: recommendation 1 (with the clarification that for the purpose of the work of the PC, the activities on information sharing and capacity building shall be related to the making of non-detriment findings); and recommendations 3, 9, 10 and 12; and
 - b) forward to the Standing Committee the following recommendations relating to compliance and enforcement for its consideration: recommendation 1 (activities on information sharing and capacity building related to compliance and enforcement); and recommendations 7, 11, 13 and 15.

Recommendations presented by the BMWG not included in items a) and b) above are currently included in the revised Decision 13.59 to be proposed at CoP14.

3. In addition to the BMWG report recommendations, the Plants Committee recommends the following short- and mid-term actions directed to the Plants Committee, the Parties or the Secretariat:

- a) Recommendations to be addressed in the short-term (next 6 months), urgent matters:
 - i) Directed to the Plants committee: support the development of further guidance to exporting countries regarding elements necessary for making NDFs for timber species.
 - ii) Directed to the Plants Committee: support the organization of a workshop on NDFs for timber species (focused on identification of information necessary for making and documenting a NDF).
 - iii) Directed to Parties: by 30 November 2006, Parties shall submit to the BMWG a report in a format agreed to by the Chairman of the Plants Committee that details the fulfilment of Decision 13.58. The BMWG will compile the reports and forward them to the Plants Committee to complement its own report for CoP14.
 - iv) Directed to Parties: emphasize the importance that no mahogany export shall take place without an NDF made by the Scientific Authority of the State concerned, based on valid, sound scientific information.
 - v) Directed to Parties: emphasize that no export shall take place without evidence of legal origin of the timber.
 - vi) Directed to Parties: importing countries should refuse mahogany shipments accompanied by CITES export permits issued under a court order, unless the importing country can confirm that an NDF has been made by the Scientific Authority of the country of origin.
 - vii) Directed to the Secretariat: to raise the issue of mahogany enforcement and compliance problems at SC54.
 - viii) Directed to the Secretariat: to investigate the high volume of mahogany imports taking place in the Dominican Republic.
 - ix) Directed to the Secretariat: to update its mahogany website links in order to provide, for use by the range countries, all information generated by meetings of the BMWG and other fora.
 - x) Directed to the Parties: export quotas should be based on sound, valid scientific information.
- b) Mid-term recommendations, to be submitted at CoP14 for adoption as new decisions and amendments to current Decisions 13.55 to 13.59:

Directed to Parties

- 14.XX Bigleaf mahogany range States, in cooperation with importing countries and international organizations, should develop a strategic action plan for the region with timelines to address: NDFs, legal origin, compliance and enforcement issues. The strategy should include the 15 recommendations made in the report of the BMWG (document PC16 Doc. 19.1.1) and

mechanisms to ensure adequate implementation and enforcement. Progress on implementation should be reported to the Plants Committee and at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 14.XX The Secretariat shall Seek funding for and facilitate production of guidelines for the making of NDFs for timber species. The guidelines should reflect the detailed information contained in document MWG2 Doc. 7.

Directed to the Plants Committee

- (13.55) The Bigleaf Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*) Working Group shall continue its work under the Plants Committee. The Working Group shall primarily comprise the range States of the species, the main importing countries and at least one member of the Plants Committee.
- (13.56) The Plants Committee shall present a report at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the progress made by the Working Group.
- 14.XX The Plants Committee shall discuss and review progress on the implementation of the strategic action plan for the region.
- 14.XX At its 17th meeting, the Plants Committee shall analyse the reports presented by the range States and progress made in implementing Decision 13.58, and review the need to include the species in the Review of Significant Trade.

Directed to the Standing Committee

- 14.XX The Standing Committee shall discuss compliance and enforcement with regard to *Swietenia macrophylla* at each of its meetings between its 57th meeting and the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and recommend appropriate action.

Directed to Parties

- (13.57) The country members of the Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group should attempt to ensure the presence of their representatives at the meetings of the Working Group, as well as the presence of at least one of the representatives of the Plants Committee from the range States.
- (13.58) In order to facilitate the making of non-detriment findings, the range States of *Swietenia macrophylla* should:
- a) prepare, adopt and implement, as a priority, forest management plans at a national and subregional level that include specific requirements for mahogany, as outlined in document MWG2 Doc. 7;
 - b) develop and conduct forest inventories which enable specific identification and analysis of *Swietenia macrophylla* data, as well as programmes to monitor the distribution, population size and conservation status of mahogany incorporating the three basic requirements for

non-detriment findings highlighted in document MWG2 Doc. 7, p. 44 a) to c);

- c) develop capacity-building programmes in monitoring and management, specifically related to requirements of CITES procedures and documents. This activity might also involve assistance from the Plants Committee and the Secretariat;
- d) submit reports on progress in the implementation of this Decision to the Secretariat no later than 90 days before the 17th meeting of the Plants Committee, so that the Secretariat may include them in a report that it will present at that meeting; and
- e) establish working groups at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the present Decision.

Directed to Parties, the Secretariat and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the bigleaf mahogany importing and exporting industries

- (13.59) Parties (importing and exporting), the CITES Secretariat and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations shall seek ways to share information through the organization of regional workshops, capacity-building programmes, the exchange of experiences and the identification of financial resources to support exporting countries on the activities, training, studies, and capacity building. Amongst others, support in the form of funding for such capacity building activities should be sought from bigleaf mahogany importing and exporting industries.

It was observed that many of these recommendations were similar to those that might be made if *Swietenia macrophylla* were to be included in the Review of Significant Trade, that the best way to ensure their effective implementation was to include the species in this process, and that this would draw the necessary political attention to the management of the species. However, several range States of *Swietenia macrophylla* opposed the inclusion, Peru claiming that it would cause difficulties for concession owners and exporters.

The Plants Committee, with the abstention of the PC representative of North America, decided not to include *Swietenia macrophylla* in the Review of Significant Trade at this moment in time.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera), North America and Oceania, and the observers from Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States, the European Community, Natural Resources Defence Council and TRAFFIC.

19.2 Proposals to amend the Appendices for tree species

The observer from the Netherlands introduced document PC16 Doc. 19.2 and summarized the information on the distribution and status of and trade in *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia retusa* and *Dalbergia stevensonii* in the Annexes of the document, which had been compiled in collaboration with UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre. He recalled the efforts that the Netherlands had undertaken to identify tree species that might qualify for CITES-listing, and highlighted the need to raise awareness about the benefits of including tree species in CITES Appendix II.

At the request of the Chairman, each of these species was presented and discussed separately.

With regard to *Cedrela odorata*, issues were brought up concerning difficulties to distinguish timber of *Cedrela odorata* from that of other species of *Cedrela* and similar species such as *Swietenia* spp.; the possible inclusion of the species in Appendix III, or of the entire genus *Cedrela* in Appendix II; the limited information on the status of the species in certain range States; its relatively easy propagation and the existence of plantations within and outside its natural range; the existence of various identification materials for this species, including studies on its wood anatomy, and of training in this regard; export restrictions and problems of illegal logging in Central America; the pressure on *Cedrela odorata* as a timber substitute for *Swietenia macrophylla*; and the parallels in forestry management requirements for *Cedrela odorata* and *Swietenia macrophylla*, which occurred in similar habitats.

Concerning *Cedrela odorata*, the Plants Committee requested that the Netherlands take note of the comments and questions raised during the discussion, continue collaborating with the range States of the species and address *inter alia* identification issues when developing a proposal to include this species in Appendix II for submission at CoP14. The Plants Committee encouraged all range States as well as the PC representatives for Central and South America and the Caribbean to support the Netherlands by collating and providing further information.

Later in the meeting, the Committee noted a request from the observer from the Netherlands for range States of *Cedrela odorata* to submit information to the Netherlands so that it could continue with the preparation of a proposal to include this species in the Appendices of CITES.

The observer from the Netherlands indicated that *Dalbergia retusa* had also been discussed at the previous meeting of the Plants Committee. It was observed that international trade appeared to concern mostly the United States and finished products; that the species had been heavily exploited and was therefore nearly extinct in certain range States such as Costa Rica, which had banned exports but experienced difficulties in controlling trade in handicrafts; and that the information on its conservation status seemed limited.

The observer from the Netherlands drew attention to the overview of *Dalbergia* species of Mesoamerica on pages 33 to 35 of document PC16 Doc. 19.2, indicating that *Dalbergia stevensonii* was very difficult to differentiate from other *Dalbergia* species. It was noted that including the species or the genus in CITES could help address this problem as well as the existing taxonomic difficulties.

Concerning *Dalbergia retusa* and *Dalbergia stevensonii*, the Plants Committee encouraged the Netherlands to continue collecting information on these species and to work closely with the range States when developing proposals to include the species in the Appendices of CITES. The Committee urged the range States of the species to collaborate with the Netherlands on this matter.

During the discussions on *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia retusa* and *Dalbergia stevensonii*, concerns were expressed about the overall lack of population studies and appropriate management plans for many trees species, which complicated the making of non-detriment findings required for exporting Appendix-II listed species. To facilitate the inclusion in CITES of economically valuable species such as timbers and allow range States the necessary time to develop scientifically-based non-detriment findings, it was suggested that the Plants Committee should promote the adoption of precautionary export quotas by range States as an initial measure to implement the relevant provisions of the Convention.

The Plants Committee established a small working group composed of the PC representative of North America and the observers from Chile, Mexico and Peru to draft, in consultation with the Secretariat, a text encouraging range States to establish cautious voluntary export quotas for timber species in case they have limited information on the conservation status of the species or the impact of exports. Later in the meeting, the Plants Committee discussed the text drafted by this small working group and consisting of a proposal to amend

Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP13) on Implementation of the Convention for timber species by adding the following paragraph under '*Regarding the establishment of export quotas for timber species*':

- k) whilst fully respecting the requirements of paragraphs 2 (a) and 3 of Article IV of the Convention, Parties exporting timber specimens from species listed in Appendix II consider establishing voluntary fixed national export quotas for such exports.

The observer from the United Kingdom said that the proposed amendment should be time-limited and this was supported by the PC Chairman, stating that Parties and the industry needed a period of time to adjust to the requirements of the Convention when new species are included in Appendix II. The Secretariat clarified however that the export quotas mentioned in the proposed amendment were of a voluntary nature, and could therefore not be limited in time without conflicting with Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP13). The Committee asked the Secretariat to refine the language of the proposed amendment and agreed to include the final version in the PC Chairman's report for CoP14.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representatives of Africa (Ms Khayota), Asia (Mr Thitiprasert), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera and Ms Mereles), Europe (Mr Frenguelli), North America and Oceania, and the observers from Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, the United Kingdom, the United States, the European Community, Organización del Tratado de Cooperación Amazónica, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, COMURNAT and TRAFFIC.

19.3 Standard procedure for the measurement of logs and sawn wood of timber species included in Appendices II and III

The PC representative of Europe (Mr Frenguelli), on behalf of Italy, introduced document PC16 Doc. 19.3, explaining the discrepancies that can exist when measuring timber volumes and weight at the time of export and import, mainly because of the influence of humidity and water loss.

While recognizing that it would be good to have a more standardized approach to address this well-documented problem, questions were raised concerning the applicability of the proposed approach for large shipments of timber, the difficulty of standardizing existing procedures for measuring timber in trade or developing new standardized procedures, and certain technical aspects of the procedure. The practical recommendations in document PC16 Doc. 19.3 could be refined and developed into practical guidelines that countries could take into consideration when inspecting small timber shipments.

Italy was requested to take note of the observations of the Plants Committee. In case further work on this issue was envisaged, the Plants Committee recommended Italy to develop realistic, enforceable guidelines based on the Annex to document PC16 Doc. 19.3. It noted that any decision directed to the Plants Committee on analysing systems of measurement for timber species would have to specify clearly what action would be required from the Committee, and that the result would have to be practical at enforcement level.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representatives of Africa (Ms Khayota), Asia (Mr Thitiprasert), Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Mereles), Europe (Mr Frenguelli), North America and Oceania, and the observers from Canada, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the United States and UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre.

20. Implementation of the annotation for *Hoodia* spp.

The Secretariat introduced document PC16 Doc. 20.

The observer from South Africa confirmed that no regional agreement existed between Botswana, Namibia and South Africa on the production of *Hoodia* spp. Consequently, the proposed annotation was not operational and South Africa therefore issued CITES permits for all specimens of

Hoodia spp. leaving the country She noted however that in each of these three range States, arrangements existed between the national CITES Management Authorities and collectors and traders.

The Plants Committee requested the Secretariat to circulate a Notification to the Parties explaining that the exemption provided for in annotation #9 for certain labelled parts and derivatives of *Hoodia* spp. was currently not in application and that therefore, trade in all parts and derivatives of *Hoodia* spp. required the issuance of CITES documents.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the observers from South Africa and the United States.

21. Advice and guidance on proposals to amend the Appendices

21.1 Use of annotations for plants in Appendix II and animals and plants in Appendix III

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The PC representative of North America introduced documents AC22 Doc. 21.1 and PC16 Doc. 21.1, referring to Annexes 1 and 2 in which amendments to Resolutions Conf. 9.25 (Rev.) on Inclusion of species in Appendix III and 11.21 (Rev. CoP13) on Use of annotations in Appendices I and II were proposed.

Several observers and the Secretariat offered minor amendments to the proposed language. The Secretariat suggested to include certain new paragraphs in the 'Interpretation' section of Appendices I, II and III.

The Committees adopted Annexes 1 and 2 to documents AC22/PC16 Doc. 21.1 with the following amendments:

- i) concerning Annex1: deletion of the first sentence of the preamble; and
- ii) concerning Annex 2: insertion of the proposed new text in the first RECOMMENDS a) iv) ["its request to include a species in Appendix III specify which readily recognizable part and derivatives are to be included unless it intends to include all readily recognizable parts and derivatives"] as a new paragraph e) of the first RECOMMENDS.

The Committees further agreed that the following proposed new text in Annexes 1 and 2 should also be reflected in the Interpretation of the Appendices: "Agrees further that, for plant species included in Appendix II, the absence of an annotation relating to that species shall indicate that all readily recognizable parts and derivatives are included" and "Agrees that the inclusion of a species in Appendix III without an annotation shall indicate that all readily recognizable parts and derivatives are included in the Appendix".

The Committees noted that the United States was intending to submit the agreed changes to Resolutions Conf. 9.25 (Rev.) and Conf. 11. 21 (Rev. CoP13), and the associated changes to the Interpretation of the Appendices, at CoP14 on behalf of the Plants Committee, but that in the event that it experienced any difficulties in doing so, it would request the Depositary Government to undertake this task.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC Chairman, PC representatives of North America and Oceania, and the observers from the United States, Humane Society International and IWMC-World Conservation Trust.

21.2 Proposals to amend the Appendices for possible consideration at CoP14

The Secretariat introduced document PC16 Doc. 21.2 (Rev. 1). The PC representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Mereles), on behalf of Paraguay, presented the Annex to this document, containing information on the status of the genus *Bulnesia* with a view of including it in Appendix II. She drew attention to paragraph 4 that

outlined the further steps that Paraguay wanted to take and included a request for financial support to finalize the proposal.

The Committee acknowledged the value of the research on *Bulnesia* spp. that Paraguay had initiated. Issues raised in the ensuing discussion included the limited information on levels of trade and on the status of the species outside Paraguay, the impact of ongoing habitat destruction on the conservation of *Bulnesia* spp. as compared to threats posed by unregulated international trade, and the possible confusion with specimens of *Gaiacum* spp.

The observer from the Netherlands expressed support for the work undertaken by Paraguay and his willingness to look into the possibility to fund further research for developing a proposal to include *Bulnesia* spp., or at least *Bulnesia sarmientoi*, in Appendix II.

The Plants Committee thanked the Netherlands for its offer to support Paraguay, and encouraged Paraguay to continue compiling information on conservation of and trade in *Bulnesia sarmientoi* and *Bulnesia* spp. with the aim to develop a proposal for consideration at CoP14.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Mereles), and the observers from Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands and IWMC-World Conservation Trust.

22. Progress report from the Co-Chairman of the Nomenclature Committee

The botanist of the Nomenclature Committee introduced document PC16 Doc. 22, reporting on recent activities and on the results of the meeting of the Nomenclature Committee (flora) held during the present meeting of the Plants Committee.

The observer from Austria stated that the draft *Bulbophyllum* checklist had been put on the CITES website with Notification to the Parties No. 2005/049 and that comments had been requested. The draft checklist had also been circulated to several experts. Very few comments had been received, except notably from the PC representative of Asia (Ms Irawati), and these had been included in a revised version. The checklist had then been compared with the *World Checklist of Monocotyledons*. Some 20 newly described species had been added, and the checklist was considered ready for submission at CoP14. In addition to producing a printed and an online version, he offered to regularly update the checklist. Since the taxonomy and generic limits of several genera in this large group of over 2,000 species and 50 genera were still under discussion, it was not possible at the moment to be conclusive on its nomenclature. As a practical solution, the checklist gave all the accepted alternative names for these genera.

The Plants Committee congratulated Austria for its work on the *Bulbophyllum* checklist, noted the report from the botanist of the Nomenclature Committee and its proposed work programme, and supported the recommendations in paragraph 10 of document PC16 Doc. 22.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the botanist of the Nomenclature Committee and the observer from Austria.

23. Identification material

23.1 Progress report on the Identification Manual

The agenda item was introduced by the Secretariat. It indicated that as of 2006, there was no longer a budget line in the Trust Fund for further work by the Secretariat on the Identification Manual. It noted that ironically, several Parties had started to develop identification materials independently from each other, resulting in considerable scope for duplication which was unfortunate given the scarcity of resources available for CITES work.

The Plants Committee noted the report from the Secretariat.

23.2 Interactive CD-ROM for macroscopic CITES timber identification

The observer from Germany introduced document PC16 Doc. 23.2 and gave a demonstration of *CITESwoodID*, a digital tool for macroscopic wood identification and information that is available on CD-ROM. The CD-ROM contained information on 47 characteristics of timber of 7 CITES-listed and 42 non-CITES tree species. He stated that the identification tool complemented the existing CITES identification materials (CITES Identification Guide – Tropical Woods. Environment Canada, 2002; timber sheets in the CITES Identification Manual, 1999), and that it was planned to include more species, translate the material and provide training in the use of *CITESwoodID*.

During the discussions on the use of *CITESwoodID*, it was reported that identification materials for timber species had also been developed by Brazil, Costa Rica and Peru.

The Plants Committee congratulated Germany for its innovative timber identification initiative. It also praised the other countries for developing timber identification materials. It encouraged international coordination of these efforts and more training in the use of these identification materials.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC representative of North America and the observers from Germany and Mexico.

24. Preparation of the Chairman's report for CoP14

The PC Chairman announced that she would ask the members to contribute to her report for CoP14, which would also contain information extracted from the regional reports. She expected the Secretariat to prepare a skeleton of the report, indicating which topics it needed to cover.

The members of the Plants Committee agreed to meet during the present meeting to discuss the content of the report of the Chairman to CoP14 and the contributions of each member to the report.

Later in the meeting, the Committee agreed to draw specific attention in the report of the Chairman for CoP14 to the advice that Scientific Authorities must give to ensure that exports are non-detrimental to the survival of wild species. The Plants Committee agreed that an introductory text, to be prepared by Germany, should be inserted as background to the following draft decision:

Directed to the Plants Committee

The Plants Committee will develop principles, criteria and indicators on the formulation of non detriment findings for those taxa of high priority as timber species, *Prunus africana* and other medicinal plants.

25. Time and venue of the 17th meeting of the Plants Committee

This agenda item was discussed during the joint PC16/AC22 session.

The AC Chairman stated that the 23rd meeting of the Animals Committee and the 17th meeting of the Plants Committee were scheduled to be held back-to-back in Geneva, Switzerland, in February or March 2008.

The Committees noted this announcement.

26. Any other business

26.1 Need for relevant information and a standardized procedure to evaluate the non-detrimental character of trade in timber species listed in Appendix II of CITES

The observer from Belgium introduced the agenda item, referring to document PC16 Inf. 11. He made a presentation focusing on three CITES-listed tree taxa (*Gonystylus* spp., *Perocopsis elata* and *Swietenia* spp.) and the concept of 'sustainable yield' as a pragmatic means to evaluate the non-detrimental nature of timber logging and trade, focusing on 10

essential elements of information on tree status and management that Scientific Authorities would need to make NDFs.

Participants questioned whether it would be possible to take a standardized approach to forestry. In some instances, information could be required on, for instance, frequency of occurrence of trees within the distribution range or the site-classes of harvested trees. It was also noted that a sustained yield did not mean that the impact of the logging regime on the ecosystem was sustainable. The Plants Committee was encouraged to consider developing a view on forestry practices in the context of CITES. The information requirements presented by the observer from Belgium were observed to be closely connected to those used in forest certification, which could be problematic and costly to obtain.

Belgium was congratulated for its initiative. The Plants Committee expressed its intention to continue looking into the issue of the making of non-detriment findings for trade in tree species and Non Timber Forest Products included in the Appendices. This should involve discussions with major exporting and importing countries.

During discussion of this item, interventions were made by the PC Representative of Oceania and the observers from Canada, Chile, Germany, Mexico and Peru.

The following two items were discussed during the joint session with the Animals Committee.

26.2 Implementation of Decisions 13.104 and 13.105

The observer from Spain reported on the implementation of Decisions 13.104 and 13.105 concerning the Master's course on Management, Access and Conservation of Species in Trade: The International Framework, run by the International University of Andalusia (Spain), which were directed to Parties, the Standing Committee and the Secretariat. The observer from Spain listed the contributions received which would be included in the reports of the Chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees for CoP14 and expressed her thanks.

The Master had been given in five previous editions by the International University of Andalusia with the collaboration of the University of Córdoba. In these five editions, quality specialized training had been provided to 137 people from 51 countries, and had led to excellent results in terms of CITES implementation. The sixth edition would take place from January to March 2007. The Animals and Plants Committees supported the inclusion in their Chairmen's reports of the draft decisions below for consideration at CoP14.

Directed to Parties

Parties are requested to provide financial assistance to the International University of Andalusia (Spain) in order to support the continuation of the Master's course on Management, Access and Conservation of Species in Trade: The International Framework.

Directed to the Standing Committee and the Secretariat

The Standing Committee and the Secretariat shall endeavour to raise external funds to support the participation in the Master's course of students from developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall continue to collaborate with the Master's course through the participation of staff members from its Scientific Support Unit, Convention Support Unit and Legal Affairs and Trade Policy Unit as lecturers on topics relevant to the correct implementation of the Convention.

26.3 Workshop for CITES Management and Scientific Authorities in Mexico

The observer from Mexico announced the organization in autumn 2007 of a workshop for CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, IGOs, NGOs and experts on the implementation of Article IV for trade in Appendix-II species, and particularly on the formulation of advice by Scientific Authorities that exports will not be detrimental to wild populations. He invited the Secretariat, CITES Authorities and others to support the initiative by providing suggestions for the conduct of the workshop, case-study information and funding.

27. Closing remarks

The PC Chairman introduced the Executive Summaries PC16 Sum. 2 and PC16 Sum. 3 and explained that the Committee did not have time to review and approve them. She requested participants to send comments on both documents to the Secretariat by 14 July 2006 as latest. The PC Chairman then added that the Committee would approve final versions of these documents via E-mail.

The Chairman thanked the Government of Peru, all participants, the Secretariat and the interpreters for their input during the meeting and closed the meeting.

On behalf of the participants, the PC Representative of Oceania thanked the Chairman of the Plants Committee for her chairmanship.

Membership of working groups

DESIGNATED MEMBERS OF PC16 WORKING GROUPS

PC16 WG1

REVIEW OF SIGNIFICANT TRADE IN SPECIMENS OF APPENDIX-II SPECIES

Chairman: Noel McGough (botanist of the Nomenclature Committee and observer from the United Kingdom)

Members: The regional representatives of Africa (B. Khayota), Europe (M. Clemente), North America (R. Gabel) and Oceania (G. Leach), and the observers from Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany, Madagascar, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Peru, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, the United States, Zambia, Zimbabwe, UNEP-WCMC, European Community, IUCN-The World Conservation Union, TRAFFIC, American Herbal Products Association, International Wood Products Association and Species Survival Network.

PC16 WG2

PERIODIC REVIEW OF PLANT SPECIES INCLUDED IN THE CITES APPENDICES

Chairman: Hesiquio Benítez Díaz (observer from Mexico)

Members: The regional representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (F. Mereles and D.I. Rivera), and the observers from Belgium, Canada, Peru, South Africa, the United States, the European Community and IWMC-World Conservation Trust.

PC16 WG3

MEDICINAL PLANTS

Chairman: Uwe Schippmann (observer from Germany)

Members: The observers from Canada, China, the United States and the American Herbal Products Association.

PC16 WG4

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANNOTATION FOR ORCHIDACEAE SPP. INCLUDED IN APPENDIX II

Chairman: Wichar Thitprasert (regional representative of Asia)

Members: The observers from Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, the United States and TRAFFIC.

PC16 WG5

REPORT OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE BIGLEAF MAHOGANY WORKING GROUP

Chairman: Cecilia Lougheed (observer from Canada)

Members: The regional representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (F. Mereles and D.I. Rivera), Europe (M. Clemente and G. Frenguelli), and the observers from Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States, UNEP-WCMC, European Community, IUCN – The World Conservation Union, Defenders of Wildlife, International Wood Products Association, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Natural Resources Defense Council, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC and WWF Peru.

DESIGNATED MEMBERS OF PC16/AC22 WORKING GROUPS

PC16/AC22 WG1

REVIEW OF SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

Chairman: Greg Leach (PC regional representative of Oceania); Co-Chairman Rodrigo Medellín (AC regional representative of North America)

Members: PC and AC regional representatives not participating in other working group, and the Co-Chairmen of the Nomenclature Committee.

PC16/AC22 WG2

MANUAL FOR REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Chairman: Carlos Ibero (AC alternate representatives of Europe)

Members: PC regional representatives of Africa (B Khayota) and Europe (G. Frenguelli), PC alternate representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (M. Mites Cadena), AC alternate representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (M. Calvar Agrelo), and the observer from Mexico.

PC16/AC22 WG3

REVIEW OF PRODUCTION SYSTEMS

Chairman: Roddy Gabel (PC regional representative of North America)

Members: AC regional representatives of Central and South America and the Caribbean (A. Velasco) and Oceania (R. Hay), AC alternate representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (M. Calvar Agrelo), and the observers from Canada, China, the Czech Republic, Belgium, France, Germany, Kenya, Madagascar, Mexico, the Netherlands, South Africa, Thailand, the United Kingdom, the United States, Zambia, UNEP-WCMC, European Community, IUCN – The World Conservation Union, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, Humane Society International, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Ornamental Fish international, Safari Club International Foundation, Species Management Specialists, Species Survival Network, Animal Welfare Institute, Association of Southeast Fish and Wildlife Agencies Born Free USA and Pro Wildlife.

PC16/AC22 WG4

ADDIS ABABA PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES FOR THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY

Chairman: Choo-Hoo Giam (AC alternate representative of Asia)

Members: AC regional representatives of Asia and Central and South America and the Caribbean, and the observers from Austria, Canada, China, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, the United States, UNEP-WCMC, European Community, IUCN – The World Conservation Union, Humane Society International, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Safari Club International Foundation, Species Management Specialists, TRAFFIC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, WWF, Conservation Force, David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation/IFAW, and Ornamental Aquatic Trade Association.

PC16/AC22 WG5

REVIEW OF RESOLUTION CONF. 10.21 ON TRANSPORT OF LIVE ANIMALS

Chairman: Peter Linhart (observer from Austria)

Members: PC regional representatives of Asia (Irawati) and Central and South America and the Caribbean (D. Rivera), AC regional representative of Europe (K. Rodics), and the observers from Canada, China, Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Peru, the United States, Russia, Care for the Wild International, International Air Transport Association, Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council, Fundación CETHUS, Humane Society of the United States and Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

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