

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



Fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
The Hague (Netherlands), 3-15 June 2007

Strategic matters

REVIEW OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

1. This document has been submitted by the Standing Committee.
2. Under Decision 13.10, adopted at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP13, Bangkok, 2004), the Standing Committee is directed to:

determine a process for the review [of the scientific committees] and proceed with the review based on the terms of reference produced by the scientific committees and report at the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
3. At its 53rd meeting (SC53, Geneva, June – July 2005), the Committee agreed to the terms of reference for the review set out in paragraph 3 of document SC53 Doc. 12 and to the suggestions set out in paragraph 4 of that document. It also established an External Evaluation Working Group to undertake the review.
4. The Chairman of the Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to assemble basic background information to put the review in context. The resulting document, SC54 Inf. 4, describes the evolution of the terms of reference of the committees and of the duties and responsibilities of the committee members, together with the results achieved, resources and support available to the committees and a comparison with practices in other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs).
5. At its 54th meeting (SC54, Geneva, October 2006), the Committee adopted, against each of the paragraph headings in the terms of reference for the review, the recommendations shown in Annex 1 to this document.
6. The Committee subsequently agreed to propose the following modifications to Resolutions of the Conference of the Parties in order to reflect the suggested changes to the structure, terms of reference and *modus operandi* of the scientific committees:
 - a) In the Resolution on Financing and budgeting of the Secretariat and of meetings of the Conference of the Parties to be adopted at the present meeting, insert the sentence:

INSTRUCTS the Secretariat to seek assistance from the Animals and Plants Committees in the assignment of scientific consultants and the definition of terms of reference for specific science-based projects.
 - b) Make the changes to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP13) on Standard nomenclature and operation of the Nomenclature Committee shown in Annex 2 to this document.
 - c) Make the changes to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP13) on Establishment of committees shown in Annex 3 to this document.

7. The Standing Committee recommends the approval of the conclusions in Annex 1 to this document and the adoption of the amendments to Resolutions proposed in paragraph 6 above.

COMMENTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT

- A. The Secretariat notes that the structure and *modus operandi* of the scientific committees have changed little since they were created over 20 years ago and that this review offers Parties an opportunity to ensure that the committees are meeting today's challenges to the Convention efficiently and in line with best practice used in other MEAs.
- B. Concerning the recommendation in paragraph 6 a) above, the Secretariat does not recommend adoption by the Conference of the Parties. Aside from the bureaucratic burden of the proposal, responsibility for expenditure from the CITES Trust Fund rests solely with the Secretary-General. In addition, as individuals, many members of the Animals and Plants Committees are engaged in seeking funds for scientific projects and to involve them in the selection of contractors may lead to a perceived conflict of interest.
- C. The Secretariat recommends that the Conference adopt the recommendations in paragraphs 6 b) and c) above.
- D. Regarding the first bullet point in paragraph b) of Annex 1 to this document, the Secretariat has added an extra USD 146,400 to its costed workplan in document CoP14 Doc. 7.3 to reflect the real cost of translation of Animals and Plants Committee documents as experienced at AC22 and PC16. The Secretariat is unable to estimate the cost of 'intersessional work' without knowing what this might involve and would appreciate guidance from the Standing Committee on this point. Concerning the fifth bullet point in paragraph b) of Annex 1 to this document, the cost of funding participation of the two chairmen of the Animals and Plants Committees at meetings of the Standing Committee would depend on the physical location of the Chairmen but would be around USD 4,000 per Chairman, per meeting. The cost of attendance at other meetings that the Conference of the Parties requires them to attend would depend on the number and venues of such meetings. The Secretariat notes that in document CoP14 Doc. 8.2 the Chairman of the Animals Committee requests USD 30,000 to assist with the work of the chairman. The Chairman of the Plants Committee does not comment on this matter in her report in document CoP14 Doc. 8.3.
- E. The Secretariat agrees with the Standing Committee's conclusion in the fourth bullet point of paragraph c) of Annex 1 to this document. Given the quite different nature of the posts and the difficulties experienced by the post holders in carrying the double burden of being both chairman and regional representative at the same time, it is necessary to consider the need for independent chairmen in addition to the members appointed by the five CITES regions. The Secretariat considers that it would be most appropriate if, as in the Convention on Biological Diversity, the chairmen of the scientific committees were selected by the Conference of the Parties and on a regional rotation basis. The Secretariat suggests that two other issues be explored to modernize the structure and functions of the scientific committees:
- a) Comparison with other MEAs shows that CITES is unique in having three scientific subsidiary bodies, rather than one. This increases the participation costs for Parties and also consumes additional staff time and financial resources in the Secretariat. The terms of reference for the Animals and Plants Committees are identical and although there are some differences in the approach taken between fauna and flora, these are no larger than those between corals and elephants in the Animals Committee or orchids and timber in the Plants Committee. A merger of the committees could bring cost savings without loss of expertise.
 - b) In order to improve the advice provided to the Conference and the Parties, consideration could also be given to the membership of the committees moving from purely regional representatives to a composition of some regional representatives and some thematic specialists in subjects of high importance to the Convention.

Consequently, the Secretariat suggests that the Conference of the Parties adopt the following decision:

Directed to the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee, in cooperation with the scientific committees and the Secretariat, shall

- a) develop a costed proposal to:
 - i) merge the CITES scientific committees;
 - ii) without any change in the overall number of members, ensure that the membership of the committee reflects the need for both regional and thematic expertise; and
 - iii) provide for an independent chairman, selected by the Conference of the Parties on a regional rotation basis; and
- b) propose an amendment to Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP13) on Establishment of committees (and other Resolutions if necessary) at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Recommendations of the External Evaluation Working Group of the
Standing Committee for the Review of the Scientific Committees

a) Achievements of the scientific committees in relation to delegated duties

- The scientific committees achieved 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.

b) Gap analysis of duties performed and factors that could be compromising their performance, ways to improve or modify relevant procedures

- 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, especially for translation and intersessional work.
- Performance of the scientific committees would further improve if greater consideration were given by the Conference of the Parties and the Standing Committee at the time tasks are assigned to the scientific committees, particularly with regard to whether these tasks are within their mandates and the forthcoming Strategic Plan, and whether the tasks are adequately resourced. However, resources *per se* should not be a limiting factor.
- The scientific committees should be able to organize their working methods within the priorities allocated to them by the Conference of the Parties.
- The Conference of the Parties should take into account the workload of the committees in assigning tasks to them, but the frequency of the committee meetings should remain unchanged unless otherwise determined by the Conference of the Parties.
- Performance of the scientific committees would improve if funds were made available for the chairmen to operate and participate and represent their committees at meetings of the Standing Committee and at any other meetings that the Conference of the Parties requires them to attend.
- Their terms of reference in Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP13) could be revised with a view to clarifying their mandate.

c) Opportunities for efficiencies in the functioning of the scientific committees

- To promote and facilitate coordination and contact between the taxonomic expertise in regions, the Nomenclature Committee could function as a working group of the Animals and Plants Committees, but should retain its ability to take decisions intersessionally in accordance with Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties.
- The members of the Nomenclature Committee should be elected for a fixed term lasting two intersessional CoP periods, e.g. from CoP14 to CoP16.
- The requirement of a Party/region to provide the time and resources for a regional representative to carry out his/her duties needs to be strengthened. Parties nominating members should be encouraged to commit to giving such support at the time of nomination.
- The costs and benefits of the Conference of the Parties nominating independent chairmen of the scientific committees or extra regional representatives fulfilling this role should be explored.
- The Secretariat should seek assistance from the scientific committees in the assignment of consultants and the definition of terms of reference for specific projects.

d) Means and mechanisms to deliver the products of the revision

- Proposals for the relevant changes to the Resolutions and Decisions of the Conference of the Parties should be used to put into effect the results of the review.

e) Options for ongoing or periodic review of the Committees and indicators to monitor the improvement of the performance

- The review process of the performance of the scientific committees has consumed considerable resources and time and there should not be further periodic and detailed reviews. Internal monitoring through the regional reports and the reports of the scientific committees' chairmen to the Conference of the Parties and Table 3 of document SC54 Inf. 5 can be appended to the format to prepare regional reports. The Standing Committee can conduct external monitoring by examining and reviewing the indicators identified in Tables 1a and 1b of the same document.

NB: Text to be deleted is ~~crossed out~~. Proposed new text is underlined.

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP134)* Standard nomenclature and operation of the Nomenclature Committee

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 11.22, adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 11th meeting (Gigiri, 2000);

NOTING that biological nomenclature is dynamic;

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

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

AWARE that the ~~Nomenclature~~ Animals and Plants Committees ~~have~~ has identified names of taxa used in the Appendices to the Convention that should be changed to reflect accepted use in biology;

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

RECOGNIZING that there are several taxa included in the Appendices of which domesticated forms exist, and that in several cases the Parties have chosen to discriminate between the wild form and the domesticated form by applying a name that differs from the name cited in the standard nomenclature for the protected form;

RECOGNIZING that, in the case of new proposals for listing in the Appendices, the Parties should use adopted standard references whenever available;

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

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

AGREES that species of fungi are covered by the Convention;

RECOMMENDS that:

- a) a subspecies be proposed for inclusion in the Appendices only if it is generally recognized as a valid taxon, and easily identifiable in the traded form;
- b) where there are identification difficulties, the problem be approached by either including the entire species in Appendix I or Appendix II or by circumscribing the range of the subspecies warranting protection and listing the populations within this area on a country basis;
- c) where there are domesticated forms of listed taxa, the ~~Nomenclature~~ Animals and Plants Committees recommend names for the wild and domestic forms;
- d) when submitting a proposal to amend the Appendices to the Convention, the proponent identify the reference used to describe the entity being proposed;

* Amended at the 13th and 14th meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

- e) upon receiving proposals to amend the Appendices to the Convention, the Secretariat seek, where appropriate, the advice of the Nomenclature Animals and Plants Committees on the correct names to use for the species or other taxa in question;
- f) whenever a change in the name of a taxon included in the Appendices is proposed, the Secretariat, in consultation with the Nomenclature Animals or Plants Committee, determine whether this change would alter the scope of protection for fauna or flora under the Convention. In the case where the scope of a taxon is redefined, the Nomenclature Animals or Plants Committee shall evaluate whether acceptance of the taxonomic change would cause additional species to be included in the Appendices or listed species to be deleted from the Appendices and, if that is the case, the Depository Government should be requested to submit a proposal to amend the Appendices in accordance with the recommendation of the Nomenclature Animals or Plants Committee, so that the original intent of the listing is retained. Such proposals should be submitted for consideration at the next regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties, at which the recommendations of the Nomenclature Animals and Plants Committees will be considered;
- g) if there is conflict regarding the choice of taxonomic authority for taxa for which no standard references have been adopted by the Conference of the Parties, countries authorizing export of animals or plants (or parts or derivatives thereof) of such taxa inform the CITES Secretariat and prospective importing countries of their preferred published taxonomic authority. 'Taxonomic authority' means a recent published paper or monograph that reviews the nomenclature of the taxon being exported and that has been reviewed by professionals in the pertinent discipline. In cases where specimens of the taxon are exported from several countries and the exporting countries do not agree, or the exporting and importing countries do not agree, on the taxonomic authority, the Nomenclature Animals or Plants Committee should determine the most appropriate taxonomic authority, until a formal recommendation to the Conference of the Parties is made. The Nomenclature Animals or Plants Committee shall include this interim decision in its report to the Conference of the Parties, for adoption. The Secretariat shall notify the Parties about the interim decision;
- h) the Secretariat be provided with the citations (and ordering information) of checklists that will be nominated for standard references at least six months before the meeting of the Conference of the Parties at which such checklists will be considered. The Secretariat shall include such information in a Notification to the Parties so that Parties can obtain copies to review if they wish before the meeting; and
- i) when the Nomenclature Animals or Plants Committee recommends a change in the name of a taxon to be used in the Appendices, it also provide an evaluation of the implications for the implementation of the Convention;

RECOMMENDS the following procedure for updating current standard nomenclatural references and adoption of new ones:

- a) the process for updating current standard nomenclatural references and adoption of new ones shall be initiated directly by the Animals or Plants Committee on its own initiative or by the submission of a proposal to the Committees by:
 - i) one or more Parties;
 - ii) the Secretariat, on its own initiative or in response to information it has received from the Parties;
- b) proposed changes shall be based on recognized taxonomic publications. In the case where a proposed amendment to the nomenclatural status of a taxon is still under discussion, the new taxonomy should not be adopted;

[Formerly in Annex 3 of Resolution Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP13)]

RESOLVES that the Secretariat, in consultation with the Nomenclature Animals or Plants Committee, may make orthographic changes in the lists of species included in the Appendices to the Convention, without consulting the Conference of the Parties, and it shall inform the Parties of those changes;

ADOPTS the taxonomic and nomenclatural references listed in the Annex to this Resolution as the official standard references for species included in the Appendices;

RECOGNIZES the *Checklist of CITES Species*, compiled by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, 2003⁵, and its updates, as an official digest of scientific names contained in the standard references, that fully reflects the taxonomy and nomenclature contained in the original species proposals, the recommendations of the ~~Nomenclature~~ Animals or Plants Committee and all accepted names included in the standard references that have been adopted by the Conference of the Parties for species included in the Appendices;

AGREES that the adoption of a standard checklist or reference by the Conference of the Parties does not by itself change the status vis-à-vis CITES of any entity, whether it is listed in the Appendices or not, and the status of the entity remains as intended in the proposal adopted by the Conference unless specifically changed by the adoption of a further amendment proposal;

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

- a) interpretation of the listings;
- b) consultation with the ~~CITES Nomenclature~~ Animals or Plants Committee as appropriate;
- c) identification of nomenclatural issues that may warrant further review by the appropriate CITES committee and preparation of proposals to amend the Appendices if appropriate; and
- d) supporting and cooperating in the development and maintenance of the checklists;

REQUESTS the Secretariat to make each standard reference for Orchidaceae available to the Parties immediately after its completion; and

REPEALS Resolution Conf. 11.22 (Gigiri, 2000) – Standard nomenclature.

Annex

List of standard references adopted by the Conference of the Parties

FAUNA

[No changes proposed in the context of the review of the scientific committees]

FLORA

The Plant-Book, second edition, [D. J. Mabberley, 1997, Cambridge University Press (reprinted with corrections 1998)] for the generic names of all plants included in the Appendices of the Convention, unless they are superseded by standard checklists adopted by the Conference of the Parties).

A Dictionary of Flowering Plants and Ferns, 8th edition, (J. C. Willis, revised by H. K. Airy Shaw, 1973, Cambridge University Press) for generic synonyms not mentioned in *The Plant-Book*, unless they are superseded by standard checklists adopted by the Conference of the Parties as referenced below in paragraphs c) to k).

A World List of Cycads (D. W. Stevenson, R. Osborne and K. D. Hill, 1995; In: P. Vorster (Ed.), Proceedings of the Third International Conference on Cycad Biology, pp. 55-64, Cycad Society of South Africa, Stellenbosch) and its updates accepted by the ~~Nomenclature~~ Plants Committee, as a guideline when making reference to names of species of Cycadaceae, Stangeriaceae and Zamiaceae.

CITES Bulb Checklist (A. P. Davis *et al.*, 1999, compiled by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and its updates accepted by the ~~Nomenclature~~ Plants

Committee, as a guideline when making reference to the names of species of *Cyclamen* (Primulaceae) and *Galanthus* and *Sternbergia* (Liliaceae).

CITES Cactaceae Checklist, second edition, (1999, compiled by D. Hunt, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and its updates accepted by the Nomenclature Plants Committee, as a guideline when making reference to names of species of Cactaceae.

CITES Carnivorous Plant Checklist, second edition, (B. von Arx *et al.*, 2001, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and its updates accepted by the Nomenclature Plants Committee, as a guideline when making reference to names of species of *Dionaea*, *Nepenthes* and *Sarracenia*.

CITES Aloe and Pachypodium Checklist (U. Eggli *et al.*, 2001, compiled by Städtische Sukkulentensammlung, Zurich, Switzerland, in collaboration with Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and its updates accepted by the Nomenclature Plants Committee, as a guideline when making reference to the names of species of *Aloe* and *Pachypodium*.

World Checklist and Bibliography of Conifers (A. Farjon, 2001) and the updates accepted by the Nomenclature Plants Committee, as a guideline when making reference to the names of species of *Taxus*.

CITES Orchid Checklist, (compiled by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and the updates accepted by the Nomenclature Plants Committee, as a guideline when making reference to the names of species of *Cattleya*, *Cypripedium*, *Laelia*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Phalaenopsis*, *Phragmipedium*, *Pleione* and *Sophranitis* (Volume 1, 1995); *Cymbidium*, *Dendrobium*, *Disa*, *Dracula* and *Encyclia* (Volume 2, 1997); and *Aerangis*, *Angraecum*, *Ascocentrum*, *Bletilla*, *Brassavola*, *Calanthe*, *Catasetum*, *Miltonia*, *Miltonioides* and *Miltoniopsis*, *Renanthera*, *Renantherella*, *Rhynchostylis*, *Rossioglossum*, *Vanda* and *Vandopsis* (Volume 3, 2001).

The CITES Checklist of Succulent Euphorbia Taxa (Euphorbiaceae), Second edition (S. Carter and U. Eggli, 2003, published by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, Bonn, Germany) following notification of its publication and comments from the Parties, and the updates accepted by the Nomenclature Plants Committee, as a guideline when making reference to the names of species of succulent euphorbias.

Dicksonia species of the Americas (2003, compiled by Bonn Botanic Garden and the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, Bonn, Germany) following notification of its publication and comments from the Parties and the updates accepted by the Nomenclature Plants Committee, as a guideline when making reference to the names of species of *Dicksonia*.

NB: Text to be deleted is ~~crossed out~~. Proposed new text is underlined.

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Conf. 11.1 (Rev. CoP134)*

Establishment of committees

RECALLING Resolution Conf. 9.1 (Rev.), adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting (Fort Lauderdale, 1994) and amended at its 10th meeting (Harare, 1997), relating to the establishment of committees;

RECOGNIZING that Rules of Procedure common to all committees are an essential requirement for formal meetings;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

Regarding the establishment of committees

AGREES to formalize a system for the appointment of committees of the Conference of the Parties and to establish procedures to be followed when committees are created;

RESOLVES that:

- a) there shall be a permanent Standing Committee of the Conference of the Parties, which shall be the senior Committee, and shall report to the Conference of the Parties;
- b) there shall be an Animals Committee and a Plants Committee ~~a Nomenclature Committee~~, which shall report to the Conference of the Parties at its meetings and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee between meetings of the Conference of the Parties;
- c) the Conference of the Parties may appoint additional committees as the need arises;
- d) the Conference of the Parties or the Standing Committee may appoint working groups with specific terms of reference as required to address specific problems. These working groups shall have a defined life span which shall not exceed the period until the next meeting of the Conference of the Parties, at which time it may be renewed if necessary. They shall report to the Conference of the Parties and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee;
- e) the Rules of Procedure to be adopted by the Standing Committee shall apply to other committees as far as is practicable;
- f) regional representatives shall be elected by the Conference of the Parties as members of the Standing Committee;
- g) to the extent possible, the Secretariat shall make provision for the payment, if requested, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of members, including attendance at the relevant committee meetings, and other expenses of the chairmen of the Standing Committee, the Animals Committee and the Plants Committee ~~and Nomenclature Committee~~, for representatives from developing countries, countries with economies in transition and Small Island Developing States;
- h) all committees established by the Conference of the Parties shall be listed in annexes to this Resolution; and

* Amended at the 13th and 14th meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

- i) the Secretariat shall, upon request by a committee chairman, provide secretarial services when such services can be met within the approved budget of the Secretariat;

Regarding regional representation in the Standing Committee

RECOMMENDS that the following guidelines be implemented:

A. Selection of regional members and alternate regional members

- a) In the selection of regional members and alternate regional members, the following considerations should be taken into account:
 - i) for regions with one member and one alternate member, a rotation in the selection is recommended; and
 - ii) for regions with more than one member and one alternate member, the selection should try to achieve a balanced representation (geopolitical, cultural, ecological);
- b) The regional candidatures should be officially submitted by the interested Parties through a governmental channel, at least 120 days before a meeting of the Conference of the Parties. These candidatures should be communicated to all the Parties of the region through the Secretariat;
- c) If more candidatures are submitted than there are positions available for any region, a vote should take place in a session of the Parties of that region to be held during the meeting of the Conference of the Parties. To be elected, a candidate should obtain an absolute majority (i.e. more than half the votes). Only the delegations duly accredited by the Conference should have the right to vote. The election should take place during the second week of the meeting; and
- d) The election of a member and of the alternate should take place at the end of the term of office of their predecessors, in accordance with the above-mentioned procedure, through successive votes during a single process; and

B. Timing of replacement of members and alternate members

The terms of office of the regional members shall commence at the close of the regular meeting at which they are elected and shall expire at the close of the second regular meeting thereafter. The Resolution does not refer to alternate members but it may be assumed that the same rule applies. It is followed in the paragraphs below:

- a) for regions with one member and one alternate member, the selection may be conducted as it has been so far, taking into account however the recommendation made in paragraph A a) i); and
- b) for regions with more than one member and one alternate member, to guarantee some continuity, not all members and alternate members should be changed at the same meeting;

Regarding regional sessions at meetings of the Conference of the Parties

AGREES that:

- a) the regional sessions have an official character and should have an agenda. Proceedings should be prepared concerning the proposals and agreements dealt with;
- b) the chairman of each regional session should be the representative of a regional member of the Standing Committee; and
- c) each region has specific tasks to fulfil, as follows:
 - i) selection, if appropriate, of members and alternate members of the Standing Committee, which are Parties;

- ii) selection of the members and alternate members of the Animals and Plants Committees. In accordance with Annex 2 of this Resolution the members and alternate members of the Animals and Plants Committees are persons. The persons to be chosen should be experts in animals or plants in general and with regard to the region they are representing in particular;
- iii) the regions with more than one member should decide the way the representation should be exercised until the next meeting of the Conference. This should be reviewed at each meeting; and
- iv) other tasks depending to a large extent on the agenda of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The regional representatives, perhaps with the help of their alternates, should establish the agenda of the session before the session. This agenda should cover the points mentioned in subparagraphs i) and ii) and provide for discussion of the main items of the agenda of the meeting to be considered by the Conference of the Parties, at plenary sessions or at sessions of Committees I and II, in particular those of special interest to the region concerned; and

Regarding regional representation in the Animals and Plants Committees

RECOMMENDS that the following guidelines be implemented:

A. Election of the candidates

- a) ~~The proposals for Parties proposing candidates as representatives should confirm, at the time of nomination, that the candidate will be supported by the relevant Governments in order to ensure as far as possible and that they will obtain the necessary means to undertake their activities;~~
- b) The names of the proposed candidates, and their *curricula vitae*, should be circulated to the Parties of the region concerned at least 120 days before the meeting of the Conference of the Parties at which the representatives will be elected;
- c) Ideally the candidates should be associated with a Scientific Authority, have adequate knowledge of CITES and receive sufficient institutional support to carry out their duties. This information should also be included in the *curricula vitae*; and
- d) As long as the regional representatives are persons, a Party shall not be accepted as a proposed candidate subject to a later identification of the person concerned by the Party; and

B. Timing of replacement of members and alternate members

- a) If the same procedure as that for the Standing Committee is applied, the present members and alternate members should be replaced as follows:
 - i) for regions with one member and one alternate member, the selection should be conducted as it has been for the Standing Committee, taking into account however that a rotation in the selection is recommended; and
 - ii) for regions with two members and two alternate members, to guarantee some continuity, the two members should not be changed at the same meeting;
- b) As alternate members are alternates of specified members, they should be elected at the same time as the members; and
- c) If a region wishes to re-elect a member or alternate member, there is nothing to prevent it from doing so; and

REPEALS Resolution Conf. 9.1 (Rev.) (Fort Lauderdale, 1994, as amended at Harare, 1997) – Establishment of committees.

[No changes proposed in the context of the review of the scientific committees]

REALIZING the many problems faced by the Conference of the Parties and individual Parties concerning the lack of biological data and expert knowledge of animal and plant trade and management;

RECOGNIZING that an effective method of evaluating whether a species is appropriately listed in the CITES Appendices requires a periodic review of its biological and trade status;

RECOGNIZING the need to identify those Appendix-II species that are subject to levels of significant international trade and for which scientific information on the capacity of the species to withstand such levels of trade is insufficient to satisfy the requirements of Article IV, paragraph 3, of the Convention;

RECOGNIZING that the bulk of the world's biodiversity occurs in Africa, Asia, and Central and South America, and also that the majority of animal and plant species listed in the Appendices of the Convention are from these regions;

AWARE that there are only three Parties in the North American region, but more than 40 in Africa, more than 25 in South and Central America and the Caribbean, and more than 20 in Asia, which, in addition, stretches from Israel in the west to Japan in the east;

RECOGNIZING that biological nomenclature of species may differ from country to country;

NOTING that such biological nomenclature is not static;

RECOGNIZING that the nomenclature used in the Appendices to the Convention will be most useful to the Parties if standardized;

RECALLING that Recommendation Conf. S.S. 1.7, adopted at the special working session of the Conference of the Parties (Geneva, 1977), recognized the need for the standardization of the nomenclature used in the Appendices;

[Formerly in the preamble to Annex 3]

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

RESOLVES to re-establish the Animals and Plants Committees of the Conference of the Parties, with the following terms of reference:

within the policy agreed to by the Conference of the Parties, the Animals and Plants Committees shall:

- a) provide scientific advice and guidance to the Conference of the Parties, the other committees, working groups and the Secretariat, on all matters relevant to international trade in animal and plant species included in the Appendices, which may include proposals to amend the Appendices;
- b) ~~assist the Nomenclature Committee in the development and maintenance of a standardized list of species names;~~ deal with nomenclatural issues by carrying on the following tasks:

- i) cause standardized nomenclatural references for animal and plant taxa, to the level of subspecies or botanical variety and including synonyms, to be prepared, or propose for adoption existing nomenclatural references, as appropriate, for all species listed in the Appendices to the Convention;
- ii) upon its acceptance of a new or updated reference (or part thereof) for a given taxon, after following the procedure described below, present this to the Conference of the Parties for adoption as the standard reference for that taxon;
- iii) ensure that the highest priorities in developing the standard reference lists of animal and plant names and synonyms be:
 - A. species names of animals and plants listed at the species level in the Appendices;
 - B. generic names of animals and plants listed at the genus or family level in the Appendices; and
 - C. family names of animals and plants listed at the family level in the Appendices;
- iv) review the existing Appendices with regard to the correct use of zoological and botanical nomenclature;
- v) upon request from the Secretariat, review proposals to amend the Appendices to ensure that correct names for the species and other taxa in question are used;
- vi) ensure that changes in nomenclature recommended by a Party do not alter the scope of protection of the taxon concerned; and
- vii) make recommendations on nomenclature to the Conference of the Parties, other committees, working groups and the Secretariat;

[Formerly in Annex 3]

- c) assist the Secretariat with the implementation of the Resolution on the Identification Manual and Decisions related to it and, upon request of the Secretariat, review proposals to amend the Appendices with regard to possible identification problems;
- d) cooperate with the Secretariat on the implementation of its programme of work to assist Scientific Authorities;
- e) develop regional directories that list the botanists and zoologists in each region who are experts in CITES-listed species;
- ~~f) establish a list of those taxa included in Appendix II that are considered as being significantly affected by trade, and review and assess all available biological and trade information including comments by the range States on these taxa to:~~
 - ~~i) exclude all species for which there is adequate information to conclude that trade is not having a significant detrimental effect on their populations;~~
 - ~~ii) formulate recommendations for remedial measures for those species for which trade is believed to be having a detrimental effect; and~~
 - ~~iii) establish priorities for projects to collect information for those species for which there is insufficient information available on which to base a judgement as to whether the level of trade is detrimental; [contained in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)]~~
- ~~g) assess information on those species for which there is evidence of a change in the volume of trade or for which specific information is available to indicate the necessity for review; [contained in Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP13)]~~

- ~~h) undertake a periodic review of animal or plant species included in the CITES Appendices by:~~
- ~~i) establishing a schedule for reviewing the biological and trade status of these species;~~
- ~~ii) identifying problems or potential problems concerning the biological status of species being traded;~~
- ~~iii) consulting the Parties on the need to review specific species, working directly with the range States in the selection process, and seeking their assistance in such reviews; and~~
- ~~iv) preparing and submitting amendment proposals resulting from the review, through the Depository Government, for consideration at meetings of the Conference of the Parties; [included in a draft Resolution in document CoP14 Doc. 66]~~
- if) make available advice on management techniques and procedures for range States requesting such assistance;
- ig) draft resolutions on scientific matters related to animals or plants, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties, with a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding;
- kh) perform any other functions that may be entrusted to them by the Conference of the Parties or the Standing Committee; and
- lj) report to the Conference of the Parties and, if so requested, to the Standing Committee, on the activities they have carried out or supervised between meetings of the Conference;

~~RESOLVES further that the Animals Committee shall also deal with issues related to the transport of live animals; [contained in Resolution Conf. 10.21]~~

AGREES that in giving instructions to the Animals and Plants Committees, the Conference of the Parties should pay due attention to whether the nature of the work is within their mandate and whether the committees have the time and personnel to undertake such work.

DETERMINES that:

- a) the membership of the Animals and Plants Committees shall consist of:
 - i) a person chosen by each of the major geographic regions consisting of North America and Oceania; and
 - ii) two persons chosen by each of the major geographic regions consisting of Africa, Asia, Central and South America and the Caribbean, and Europe;
 - iii) a specialist on zoological nomenclature (Animals Committee) and a specialist on botanical nomenclature (Plants Committee) appointed by the Conference of the Parties;
- b) each person chosen as an alternate member for a member described in paragraph a) i) or ii), shall be represented at meetings as a regional member only in the absence of the member for whom he/she is the alternate;
- c) the membership of the Committees shall be reviewed at every regular meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The terms of office of the ~~regional~~ members shall commence at the close of the regular meeting at which they are elected and shall expire at the close of the second regular meeting thereafter;
- d) any Party shall be entitled to be represented at meetings of the Committees as an observer;
- e) a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman shall be elected by the Committee; and

- f) the Chairman may invite any person or representative of any other country or organization to participate in meetings of the Committee as an observer;

RESOLVES that the duties of regional members of the Animals and Plants Committees and their alternates are as follows:

- a) each member should collaborate with his/her alternate regarding the work to be done between the meetings of the Committee;
- b) each member should maintain regular communication with the Parties in his/her region;
- c) when a region has more than one representative, the representatives should also agree which Parties each represents. Contact persons should be identified in those countries. Contact should also be established with non-Parties in the region;
- d) each member should increase the awareness of the role and function of the Committee, its mandate and the issues of concern to his/her region through mechanisms such as participation in seminars or in related meetings organized by the Secretariat and by other organizations at regional or sub-regional level;
- e) before the meetings of the Committee, the members should inform and consult the Parties in their regions about the agenda and in particular on matters specifically relevant to the countries of the region;
- f) the members should submit a written report, covering the preceding period, to each meeting of the Committee;
- g) the members should inform the Parties in their regions of the results of each meeting of the Committee;
- h) the members must inform the alternates well in advance if they will not attend a forthcoming Committee meeting; and
- i) the members should provide to their successors all relevant information on the activities in the region;

FURTHER RESOLVES that the zoological and botanical nomenclature specialists of the Animals and Plants Committees shall coordinate, monitor and analyse the input needed from specialists in fulfilling the responsibilities assigned by the Parties; [Formerly in Annex 3]

DETERMINES further the following principles for the payment of travel expenses to ~~regional~~ members of the Plants or Animals Committee:

- a) the Secretariat shall make provisions in its budget for the payment, if requested, of reasonable and justifiable travel expenses of ~~regional~~ members, to attend no more than two meetings of the Committee concerned between meetings of the Conference of the Parties;
- b) the Secretariat shall also make provision for the participation of the Committees' chairmen at meetings of the Standing Committee and at other meetings that the chairmen are instructed to attend by the Conference of the Parties;
- ~~b~~c) members should make every effort to pay their own travel expenses; and
- ~~e~~d) travel arrangements for sponsored ~~regional~~ members will be made by the Secretariat in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the United Nations and, where applicable, claims for refunds must be supported by receipts, and be submitted to the Secretariat within 30 days from the completion of the travel; and

DIRECTS the Secretariat, to the extent possible, to provide funding from outside sources for the production costs of publications prepared by the Committees.

~~RECOGNIZING that biological nomenclature of species may differ from country to country;~~

~~NOTING that such biological nomenclature is not static;~~

~~RECOGNIZING that the nomenclature used in the Appendices to the Convention will be most useful to the Parties if standardized;~~

~~RECALLING that Recommendation Conf. S.S. 1.7, adopted at the special working session of the Conference of the Parties (Geneva, 1977), recognized the need for the standardization of the nomenclature used in the Appendices; [Preamble transferred to Annex 2]~~

~~THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION~~

~~RESOLVES:~~

~~a) to re-establish the Nomenclature Committee of the Conference of the Parties, with the following terms of reference: [Terms of reference transferred to Annex 2]~~

~~within the policy agreed to by the Conference of the Parties, the Nomenclature Committee shall:~~

~~i) cause standardized nomenclatural references for animal and plant taxa, to the level of subspecies or botanical variety and including synonyms, to be prepared, or propose for adoption existing nomenclatural references, as appropriate, for all species listed in the Appendices to the Convention;~~

~~ii) upon its acceptance of a new or updated reference (or part thereof) for a given taxon, after following the procedure described below, present this to the Conference of the Parties for adoption as the standard reference for that taxon;~~

~~iii) ensure that the highest priorities in developing the standard reference lists of animal and plant names and synonyms be:~~

~~A. species names of animals and plants listed at the species level in the Appendices;~~

~~B. generic names of animals and plants listed at the genus or family level in the Appendices; and~~

~~C. family names of animals and plants listed at the family level in the Appendices;~~

~~iv) review the existing Appendices with regard to the correct use of zoological and botanical nomenclature;~~

~~v) upon request from the Secretariat, review proposals to amend the Appendices to ensure that correct names for the species and other taxa in question are used;~~

~~vi) ensure that changes in nomenclature recommended by a Party do not alter the scope of protection of the taxon concerned; and~~

~~vii) make recommendations on nomenclature to the Conference of the Parties, other committees, working groups and the Secretariat;~~

~~b) that the Nomenclature Committee shall comprise two individuals appointed by the Conference of the Parties; one zoologist to address nomenclatural issues for animal taxa and one botanist for plant taxa; and~~

~~e) that the Co Chairman shall coordinate, monitor and analyse the input needed from specialists in fulfilling the responsibilities assigned by the Parties, communicate regularly with the Animals and Plants Committees in order to keep them informed about the progress made, and report well in time at each meeting of the Conference of the Parties; [Duties transferred to Annex 2]~~

~~RECOMMENDS the following procedure for updating current standard nomenclatural references and adoption of new ones: [Transferred to Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP14)]~~

~~a) the process for updating current standard nomenclatural references and adoption of new ones shall be initiated directly by the Nomenclature Committee on its own initiative or by the submission of a proposal to the Nomenclature Committee by:~~

~~i) one or more Parties;~~

~~ii) the Animals or Plants Committee, on their own initiative; and~~

~~iii) the Secretariat, on its own initiative or in response to information it has received from the Parties;~~

~~b) proposed changes shall be based on recognized taxonomic publications. In the case where a proposed amendment to the nomenclatural status of a taxon is still under discussion, the new taxonomy should not be adopted;~~

~~c) the Nomenclature Committee will discuss the proposals during its meetings and will present its recommendations to the Animals and Plants Committees for input before submitting them for adoption by the Conference of the Parties; and~~

~~d) final recommendations to update current or adopt new standard nomenclatural references should be made available 150 days prior to every meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and~~

~~DIRECTS the Secretariat, to the extent possible, to provide funding from outside sources to cover the production costs of publications prepared by the Committee. [Already in Annex 2]~~