



**SUMMARY OF ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED AT  
THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF  
THE CITES PLANTS COMMITTEE  
DUBLIN, IRELAND • 26-30 MARCH 2012**

PC = Plants Committee • AC = Animals Committee • SC = Standing Committee • RC = Resolution Conf. • CoP = Conference of the Parties  
All meeting documents prepared by the CITES Secretariat unless otherwise indicated.

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
1. Opening of the Meeting <b>No Document</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No comment.</li> </ul>
2. Rules of Procedure <b>PC20 Doc. 2</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contains the Rules of Procedure adopted at PC19.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No comment.</li> </ul>
3. Adoption of the agenda and working programme			
3.1	3.1 Agenda <b>PC20 Doc. 3.1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisional agenda for the meeting is presented for consideration and adoption.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No comment.</li> </ul>
3.2	3.2 Working Programme <b>PC20 Doc. 3.2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provisional working programme for the meeting is presented for consideration and adoption.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No comment.</li> </ul>
4. Admission of observers <b>No document</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No comment.</li> </ul>
5. Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (Decision 15.12) <b>AC26/PC20 Doc. 5</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decision 15.12 directs AC, PC and the Secretariat to participate, subject to external funding, in discussions concerning a possible Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), to provide input into the process and ensure that the role of CITES receives due recognition. The Chairs of AC and PC and the Secretariat shall report to the SC to seek additional guidance.</li> <li>Reports that participants in the first plenary session of IPBES agreed that the platform should respond "to requests from Governments, including those conveyed to it by multilateral environmental agreements related to biodiversity and ecosystem services as determined by their respective governing bodies."</li> <li>States that the latest version of draft elements of the IPBES work program (which will be discussed at the second session of the plenary meeting of IPBES in April 2012) will be distributed as an Annex at</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>urges</u> AC and PC to ensure that, as scientific bodies, they continue to have a formal role in CITES participation in the development and implementation of IPBES.</li> <li>SSN <u>notes</u> that CITES participation in IPBES should be aimed at enhancing its core function of protecting wild species from overexploitation by international trade.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>6. Climate change (Decision 15.15) – Report of the joint working group</b></p> <p><b>AC26/PC20 Doc. 6</b></p>	<p>AC26 as soon as it is available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invites AC and PC to make suggestions for the further input of the Chairs and the Secretariat into the process for creating an IPBES.</li> <li>• Invites AC and PC to consider the Climate Change Working Group's findings, to advise on further actions needed to comply with Dec. 15.15, and to report to SC62.</li> <li>• Provides the findings of the Working Group which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The magnitude and extent of climate change impacts are expected to be highly variable.</li> <li>■ Impacts can be direct, indirect, or human-mediated.</li> <li>■ Species may be positively or negatively impacted.</li> <li>■ Range states may change with climate-related changes in species distributions.</li> <li>■ Impacts may exacerbate current stressors or modify ecological or physiological processes.</li> <li>■ Impacts may affect CITES, such as by reducing the number of range States.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Provides recommendations of the Working Group including that Parties employ the best science available, share expertise, and keep informed through workshops, the CITES website, and inclusion of climate change in CITES training materials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>congratulates</u> the Working Group on its findings and <u>agrees</u> that many CITES decision-making processes are flexible enough to allow consideration of climate change.</li> <li>• SSN <u>urges</u> the Working Group to meet during the joint meeting to consider the need for further guidance, potentially in the form of a Resolution on incorporating climate change into CITES decision-making.</li> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that such guidance include recommendations on the need for Parties to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Use a precautionary approach when considering climate change impacts;</li> <li>■ Use the best available science;</li> <li>■ Develop and use tools to assist in their understanding and consideration of climate change;</li> <li>■ Understand that climate change science projects changes over the next 50 or 100 years or more, and incorporate this time scale into decisions;</li> <li>■ Incorporate climate change into non-detriment findings; and,</li> <li>■ Evaluate the add-on impact of trade to species imperiled by climate change.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade [Decision 13.67 (Rev. CoP14)]</b></p> <p><b>AC26/PC20 Doc. 7</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides the terms of reference for an evaluation of the Review of Significant Trade (Annex 1) adopted at CoP13 and the <i>modus operandi</i> for conducting the evaluation (Annex 2), and notes the composition of the Advisory Working Group which will meet in June 2012.</li> <li>• Provides case studies of the species selected prepared by TRAFFIC (Annexes 3, 4, 5) and notes that the case study of the country-based Review of Significant Trade in Madagascar has not been undertaken.</li> <li>• Invites AC and PC to: a) examine the case studies; b) provide an agenda and instructions for the meeting of the Advisory Working Group; and c) prepare a roadmap for the preparation of the final report.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>urges</u> AC and PC to establish a Working Group to consider the actions directed to them and invite observers to participate.</li> </ul>

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<b>8. Non-detriment findings</b>			
8.1	<p>Implementation of Decision 15.23 on Non-detriment findings: background and links with Decisions 15.24, 15.26 and 15.27</p> <p><b>AC26/PC20 Doc.8.1</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared by AC and PC Chairs on behalf of the Intersessional Working Group on Non-Detriment Findings.</li> <li>• Decisions 15.23 to 15.27 on non-detriment findings (NDFs) provide, <i>inter alia</i>, a collaborative process to have AC and PC draft non-binding guidelines for the making of NDFs for submission to CoP16. This process allows Parties to participate and communicate their experiences to the Committees through various means including through feedback on the outcomes of the International Expert Workshop on NDFs or the organization of workshops at the national level to better understand what NDFs are and how to enhance the ways to formulate them.</li> <li>• Reports that the Joint Intersessional Working Group on this issue was formed after AC25.</li> <li>• Reports on the activities led intersessionally to implement Decisions 15.23 to 15.27 including, <i>inter alia</i>, the submission of responses to CITES Notifications for consultations and the organization of regional workshops.</li> <li>• Invites AC and PC to note the document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC note the document.</li> </ul>
8.2	<p>Summary report based on the responses to Notifications to the Parties [No. 2009/023, paragraph 1. f) of No. 2010/027 and No. 2011/004]</p> <p><b>AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.2</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared by AC and PC Chairs on behalf of the Intersessional Working Group on Non-Detriment Findings.</li> <li>• See description of Decisions 15.23 to 15.27 under <i>Proposed actions</i> for AC26 Doc. 8.1.</li> <li>• Provides the Working Group's report on the responses received from Parties on their experience with NDFs or from workshops organized on NDFs. This report concludes, <i>inter alia</i>, that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The "Evaluation of the effects of harvest and subsequent adaptation of the non-detriment finding" and "Assessing the level of risk associated with the NDF" are the most problematic challenges while making NDFs;</li> <li>■ There are more difficulties with some biological groups than others for the making of NDFs;</li> <li>■ The outputs of the International Expert Workshop on NDFs and the IUCN's NDF guidelines were considered helpful;</li> <li>■ Further workshops and materials for capacity building are necessary; and,</li> <li>■ The AC and PC should make recommendations to the Secretariat to make the NDF section on the CITES website more prominent and to include information from the NDF workshop, experiences of Parties in making NDFs, other NDF workshop results; and other materials</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC recommend that the Intersessional Working Group meet during the session to propose recommendations and to draft possible Decisions for submission to CoP16, and that observers be invited to participate.</li> <li>• SSN <u>notes</u> that Decision 15.22 calls on the Secretariat to seek funding to convene a capacity-building workshop and regional meeting for the Africa region before SC62, in order to improve regional implementation of the Convention. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the Committees mandate the Secretariat to use this workshop and regional meeting as an opportunity to seek further regional input from CITES Parties on this issue based on the priority needs of countries in that region, and to report on this consultation at SC62.</li> </ul>

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		<p>relevant to NDFs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invites AC and PC to consider ways to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spread the best practices and experiences from the Parties on making NDFs;</li> <li>Facilitate the Parties' capacity building efforts and opportunities to share experiences at regional/subregional levels; and,</li> <li>Formulate draft Decisions, as necessary, to be sent for consideration in the CoP16.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
8.3	<p>Progress reports from Parties (Decision 15.23)</p> <p><b>AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.3</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decision 15.23 directs the Parties to, <i>inter alia</i>, report their findings regarding outputs of the NDF workshop and ways to enhance the making of NDFs.</li> <li>Notes that the results of the NDF workshop and the responses of the Parties to Notifications on these issues are found in CoP15 Doc. 16.2.2, Annexes A and B and the Annex to document PC19 Doc. 10.2 (Rev. 1).</li> <li>Provides responses from Australia, Canada, the EU, India, Japan and the USA to a request for additional information (CITES Notification No. 2011/049) (Annex).</li> <li>Invites AC and PC to use the responses and other available feedback submitted by Parties when preparing their draft guidance as a tool for making NDFs, for submission at CoP16.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mandate the Joint Intersessional Working Group to meet during the session to propose recommendations and possible Decisions for submission to CoP16 by the Committees; and,</li> <li>invite observers to participate in the Working Group.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
8.4	<p>Draft guidance on the making of non-detriment findings</p> <p><b>AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.4</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepared by AC and PC Chairs on behalf of the Intersessional Working Group on Non-Detriment Findings.</li> <li>Notes that, "Parties need support and guidance in making NDFs; however a diversity of methodologies for NDFs exists, including the outputs of the Cancun [NDF] workshop and the experience of the Parties". Presents options that have been developed either as exercises of making NDFs, or as deeper research on ways to make NDFs for different taxa of CITES animals and plants (Annex).</li> <li>Recommends that AC and PC consider ways to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invite Parties to explore these options to decide which is adequate for their needs;</li> <li>Share best practices and lessons learned from the Parties;</li> <li>Keep the information on NDFs updated and available to the Parties; and,</li> <li>Formulate the draft Decisions, as necessary, to be considered at CoP16.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>mandate the Joint Intersessional Working Group to meet during the session to propose recommendations and possible Decisions for submission to CoP16 by the Committees; and</li> <li>invite observers to participate in the working group.</li> </ul> </li> <li>SSN <u>notes</u> that Decision 15.22 calls on the Secretariat to seek funding to convene a capacity-building workshop and regional meeting for the Africa region before the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee, in order to improve regional implementation of the Convention. SSN <u>recommends</u> that the Committees mandate the Secretariat to use this workshop and regional meetings as an opportunity to seek further regional input from CITES Parties on this issue based on the priority needs of countries in that region, and to report on this consultation at SC62.</li> </ul>
8.5	<p>Discussion paper on non-detriment findings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepared by AC and PC Chairs on behalf of the Intersessional Working Group on Non-Detriment Findings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>is concerned</u> that the draft Resolution proposed does not include reference to the Precautionary Principle or to the need for Scientific Authorities to use a</li> </ul>

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<p><b>AC26/PC20 Doc. 8.5</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notes that PC18 agreed on the text of a draft resolution on NDFs but AC 24 decided that it was too early to prepare such a Resolution.</li> <li>Provides the text of a draft resolution on NDFs as proposed by the intersessional working group (Annex).</li> <li>Invites AC and PC to decide whether the draft Resolution is suitable to be submitted for approval to CoP16.</li> </ul>	<p>precautionary approach when making NDFs in cases of uncertainty as to the impact of trade on a species. SSN <u>believes</u> that the use of the Precautionary Principle is of the utmost importance when providing guidance to Scientific Authorities in the issuance of NDFs and should be referenced in the draft Resolution, possibly under paragraph a).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that the draft Resolution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide explicit guidance to Parties on what constitutes reliable population data and on the need to use a precautionary approach when such data are missing;</li> <li>Be revised to recommend that NDFs must be based on sound scientific information as follows (deletions <del>struck through</del> and additions <u>underlined</u>): “RECOMMENDS that: a) v) The NDF is based on <del>resource assessment methodologies</del> <u>the best scientific information available (...)</u>”; and,</li> <li>Include reference to the need for Scientific Authorities to take into account the potential impact of climate change when making an NDF.</li> </ul> </li> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mandate the Joint Intersessional Working Group to meet during the session to propose recommendations and possible Decisions for submission to CoP16 by the Committees; and,</li> <li>Invite observers to participate.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>9. Capacity-building programme for science-based establishment and implementation of voluntary national export quotas for Appendix-II species (Decision 12.91) – Report of the joint working group</b></p> <p><b>AC26 Doc. 9</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepared by Co-chairs of the Working Group on Capacity-Building Programme for Science-Based Establishment and Implementation of Voluntary National Export Quotas for Appendix-II Species.</li> <li>Decision 12.91 directs the Secretariat to consult AC and PC on the resources that may be used within its capacity-building programme relating to voluntary national export quotas for Appendix II species.</li> <li>Decision 15.24 paragraph c) directs AC and PC to review the NDF training materials used by the CITES Secretariat when conducting regional capacity-building workshops and provide advice for their improvement.</li> <li>Provides the report of the Joint AC/PC Intersessional Working Group created to implement Decisions 12.91 and 15.24 paragraph c).</li> </ul> <p><u>With respect to Decision 12.91:</u></p>	<p><u>With respect to Decision 12.91:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC adopt the recommendations of the Working Group.</li> <li>SSN <u>recommends further</u> that AC and PC mandate the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties requesting materials or information that may assist Parties in setting export quotas or making NDFs, including case studies that may be used by the Secretariat in its training and capacity building work.</li> </ul> <p><u>With respect to Decision 15.24 paragraph c):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC adopt the recommendations of the Working Group.</li> <li>SSN <u>supports</u> the creation of a standalone NDF course</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicates that, at the time of drafting, no comments or case studies had been presented.</li> <li>Recommends that AC and PC request each Committee member to seek further examples/case studies from their region to provide to the Secretariat, in particular focusing attention on those countries with existing quotas.</li> </ul> <p>With respect to Decision 15.24 paragraph c):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presents the recommendations of Working Group regarding the Secretariat's NDF training materials (Annex) and recommends their adoption.</li> <li>Recommends that AC and PC discuss the possibility of a standalone NDF course within the Virtual College, and request that the Secretariat make available the Virtual College in CD form for those without easy access to the Internet.</li> </ul>	<p>within the Virtual College and recommends that such course include a section devoted to guiding Scientific Authorities on the use of the precautionary principle in cases of uncertainty as to the impact of trade on a species. This section could provide information about the significance of the precautionary principle within CITES, and concrete examples showing its use. Guidance on the precautionary approach for this section could also be added based on the work emanating from the NDF workshop.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>notes</u> that Decision 15.22 calls on the Secretariat to seek funding to convene a capacity-building workshop and regional meeting for the Africa region before the SC62, in order to improve regional implementation of the Convention. SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC ask the Secretariat to use this workshop and regional meeting as an opportunity to seek further regional input from CITES Parties on ways to improve its training material based on the priority needs of countries in that region.</li> </ul>
<p><b>10. Revision of Resolution Conf. 14.8 on Periodic Review of the Appendices</b></p> <p><b>AC26 Doc. 10</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RC 14.8 on <i>Periodic Review of the Appendices</i> defines a process for AC and PC to conduct periodic reviews.</li> <li>Both committees have raised concerns about the slow progress and the backlog of species to be voluntarily reviewed; AC25 explored ways to improve performance of the review and decided to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider options to improve the pace of reviews such as, <i>inter alia</i>, collaborating with graduate students or seeking financial support; and,</li> <li>Decide, in conjunction with PC, on amendments to improve RC 14.8.</li> </ul> </li> <li>SC61 agreed that there is a need to accelerate the reviews and that the matter should be considered again at SC62.</li> <li>Invites AC and PC to identify amendments to RC14.8, to be submitted to SC62, and notes the Secretariat's desire to contribute.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC establish a Working Group during the joint meeting to develop proposed amendments to RC14.8, and invite observers to participate.</li> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC propose the following amendments to RC 14.8: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invite collaboration with and input from observer organizations with expertise in the species under review; and,</li> <li>Eliminate from the list of taxa selected for review those taxa for which no one has volunteered to complete the review within three AC or PC meetings after their inclusion in the review.</li> </ul> </li> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC ensure that financial support for reviews does not impact the Secretariat's budget, and is limited to external funding.</li> </ul>
<p><b>11. Transport of live specimens (Decision 15.59) – Report of the joint working group</b></p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 11</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepared by Co-chairs of the Joint Transport Working Group, in consultation with AC and PC Chairs and the Secretariat.</li> <li>Decision 15.59 directs AC and PC to a) proceed with replacing the CITES Guidelines for transport and preparation for shipment of wild animals and plants (1981) with new guidelines for non-air-transport of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC take note of the report and adopt the recommendations contained in this document.</li> <li>SSN <u>notes</u> that no information is provided in this document about the implementation of Decision 15.60</li> </ul>

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	<p>live animals and plants for consideration at CoP16; b) consult with experts and stakeholders, <i>inter alia</i>, to gather information related to non-air-transport; c) propose revisions to RC 10.21 (Rev. CoP14) on <i>Transport of live specimens</i> and RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Permits and certificates</i> for consideration at CoP16; and d) report on the implementation of this decision at CoP16.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports that the Working Group will report on a draft addendum to the IATA Live Animals Regulations (IATA/LAR) that includes modifications for certain taxa and, that the group agrees that the IATA Perishable Cargo Regulations (PCR) seem to cover all transport requirements for living plants.</li> <li>• Recommends that AC and PC reach agreement on: the proposed IATA/LAR which contain guidance on non-air transport of live specimens of identified taxa; any proposed revisions to RC 10.21 (Rev CoP14) and RC 12.3 (Rev. CoP15); and, any draft decisions or working documents for CoP16.</li> <li>• Recommends that AC and PC request the Working Group Co-chairs and the Secretariat to liaise with the IATA Secretariat on the possibility of having the addendum on non-air transport adopted by the appropriate IATA body.</li> <li>• Request the Secretariat to explore the best way in which the CITES and IATA Secretariats might facilitate use of the IATA/LAR and the IATA/PCR by CITES Parties.</li> </ul>	<p>paragraph b) on the incorporation of transport-related guidance in the CITES National Legislation Project, and that little information is provided on the implementation of Decision 15.60 paragraph a) on the establishment of enhanced cooperation between CITES and organizations that deal with transport. SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC and PC request an update from the CITES Secretariat on the implementation of these provisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>also notes</u> that the introduction of new guidelines for non-air-transport of live animals and plants at CoP16 is likely to represent a challenge to implementation in developing countries, and <u>recommends</u> that, in addition to the revisions of RC10.21 and RC12.3 introducing these guidelines, the Committees propose the adoption of a Decision at CoP16 mandating the Secretariat to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Explore priorities for capacity-building on this issue in developing countries;</li> <li>■ Liaise with relevant transport organizations to provide training and equipment as necessary; and,</li> <li>■ Present a report to CoP17 indicating progress made and making recommendations for further action on capacity-building as necessary.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• SSN <u>also recommends</u> that AC and PC urge the SC to request that the Secretariat report on individual Parties' progress in adopting transport requirements under the National Legislation Project.</li> </ul>
<p><b>12. Strategic planning: Progress report on the work programme of the Plants Committee</b></p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 12</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared by PC Chair.</li> <li>• Provides PC work programme for 2011-2013.</li> <li>• Invites PC to review the programme and to report on progress made.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC note the document and reported progress.</li> </ul>
<p><b>13. Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Decision 15.19) – Report of the working group</b></p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 13</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared by Chair of PC Intersessional Working Group on Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (GSPC), in collaboration with Mexico.</li> <li>• Decision 15.19 directs PC to collaborate with the CBD on the GSPC, provided it is related to CITES.</li> <li>• Provides a draft Resolution on Cooperation with the GSPC that, <i>inter alia</i>, directs Parties to promote and enhance collaboration between their GSPC focal point and their CITES Authorities; directs the Secretariat to encourage the exchange of information related to the GSPC and other plant conservation and sustainable use initiatives;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC submit the draft Resolution to CoP16 with the following change to the text in the third column of the table of potential CITES activities (Annex): "Efforts by CITES Parties to ensure <u>sustainable</u> use of CITES-listed species <u>is not detrimental to their survival</u>".</li> </ul>

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		<p>and, directs PC and the Secretariat to promote CITES collaboration with CBD on the implementation of the GSPC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invites PC to consider submitting the draft Resolution to CoP16.</li> </ul>	
<b>14. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</b>			
<b>14.1</b>	<p>Overview of the species-based Review of Significant Trade</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 14.1</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RC 12.8 (Rev. CoP13) on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species</i> (hereafter Review) directs the Secretariat to report at each meeting of PC on the implementation by the range States concerned of the recommendations made by PC.</li> <li>Presents a list of species that were selected for review after CoPs 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 and for which the Review is ongoing, including an indication of the current status of the Review (Annex).</li> <li>Invites PC to note the document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC note this document.</li> <li>SSN <u>urges</u> PC to request the Secretariat to provide an oral report on the development of the Significant Trade Online Management System, which is not addressed in documents for this meeting. SSN <u>urges</u> PC to request that this database be made accessible to the public as the information is essential for selection of species for inclusion in the Review.</li> </ul>
<b>14.2</b>	<p>Species selected following CoP15</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 14.2</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reports that the following species were selected at PC19 for review: <i>Pachypodium namaquanum</i>, <i>Dendrobium eriiflorum</i>, <i>Euphorbia itremensi</i>, <i>Alluaudiopsis fiherenensis</i>, <i>Alluaudia ascendens</i>.</li> <li>Provides a table identifying whether or not affected range States responded to the request from the Secretariat regarding possible problems with the implementation of CITES Article IV for these species.</li> <li>Invites PC to review responses from range States (not provided) and eliminate the species from the Review if it is satisfied that CITES Article IV, paragraph 2 (a), 3 or 6 (a), is correctly implemented.</li> <li>States that the Secretariat will proceed with compiling information on species not eliminated from the Review.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC maintain all of the species in the Review, subject to consideration of the responses from range States.</li> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC request the Secretariat to make range States' responses available sufficiently in advance of the meeting so that participants can study them and consult relevant experts.</li> </ul>
<b>14.3</b>	<p>Review of Significant Trade in <i>Cistanche deserticola</i>, <i>Dioscorea deltoidea</i>, <i>Nardostachys grandiflora</i>, <i>Picrorhiza kurrooa</i>, <i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i>, <i>Rauvolfia serpentina</i> and <i>Taxus wallichiana</i></p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 14.3</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decision 15.36 directs the range States of these species and PC regional representatives for Asia to ensure implementation of regionally coordinated actions to improve management and ensure that trade therein is legal, sustainable and traceable.</li> <li>Decision 15.37 directs the Secretariat to organize regional capacity-building workshops regarding these species and report to PC20.</li> <li>Notes that PC19 received an oral report on a January 2011 workshop in Nepal on "Non-detriment Findings and Review of Significant Trade in Plant Species."</li> <li>Reports that Bhutan is willing to host a follow-up workshop in May 2012, for ensuring that CITES trade in these species (as well as agarwood) is legal, sustainable and traceable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC note the report.</li> </ul>

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invites PC to note this report and provide suggestions for the workshop in Bhutan.</li> </ul>	
<b>15. Non-detriment findings</b>			
15.1	<p>Timber species, medicinal plants and agarwood-producing species (Decisions 15.26 and 15.27) – Report of the working group</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 15.1</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepared by Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Timber Species, Medicinal Plants and Agarwood-Producing Species.</li> <li>Decision 15.27 directs the Secretariat to, <i>inter alia</i>, include practical elements for making non-detriment findings (NDF) for timber, medicinal plants and agarwood in its capacity-building workshops in order refine guidelines on making NDFs included in document CoP15 Doc. 16.3.</li> <li>Provides the outcome of the Workshop on Implementation of CITES for agarwood-producing species (Kuwait, October 2011) regarding NDF Guidelines on Agarwood Producing Species (Annex).</li> <li>Invites PC to consider recommendations of the Group including, <i>inter alia</i>, to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Separate the timber and <i>Prunus africana</i> NDF guidance in Doc. 16.3 from that for medicinal and agarwood, and to present the guidelines separately in a technical brochure or handbook;</li> <li>Encourage the organization of regional and national workshops on NDFs; and,</li> <li>Obtain feedback from countries that have used the guidelines.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC adopt the Working Group's recommendations.</li> <li>SSN <u>notes</u> that the Annex states that, "Only Indonesia, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea were identified as currently exporting from the wild and hence requiring an NDF for wild harvested agarwood" yet Lao PDR is also reported in the document to export agarwood products from the wild. SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC encourage Lao PDR to make NDFs for its exports.</li> </ul>
15.2	<p><i>Aniba rosaeodora</i> [Decision 15.90, par. e]] – Report of Brazil</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 15.2</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepared by Brazil.</li> <li>Decision 15.90, <i>inter alia</i>, directs trading range States of <i>Aniba rosaeodora</i> (Brazilian rosewood) to explore mechanisms for making non-detriment findings for this species.</li> <li>Reports that a Scientific and Technical Committee has been established in Brazil with two government and two industry representatives for authorizing Sustainable Forest Management Plans that include <i>A. rosaeodora</i>.</li> <li>Provides requirements for those who harvest the species. These include, <i>inter alia</i>, a forest inventory of trees over 10 cm Diameter at Breast Height; a Minimum Cutting Diameter of 25 cm; maximum harvest intensity at 66% of inventoried trees with DBH equal to or greater than 25 cm; if the whole tree is cut, leaving a stump at least 50 cm tall to allow regrowth; and, replanting of trees.</li> <li>Reports that a national system to trace the origin of forest products will be integrated with a system to confirm the validity of CITES permits.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>notes</u> that <i>Aniba roseaodora</i>, last assessed by IUCN in 1998, is classified as Endangered (IUCN 2011).</li> <li>SSN <u>is concerned</u> that Brazil does not provide the scientific basis for its management plan nor does it provide biological information on the status of its populations of this species.</li> <li>SSN <u>urges</u> PC to encourage Brazil to include independent conservationists and researchers on its Scientific and Technical Committee.</li> </ul>

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
<b>16. Periodic review of plant species included in the CITES Appendices</b>			
<b>16.1.1</b>	Overview: Report of the working group  <b>PC20 Doc. 16.1.1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepared by Mexico.</li> <li>RC 14.8 on <i>Periodic Review of the Appendices</i> defines a process for AC and PC to conduct periodic reviews.</li> <li>Provides a list of those species that were selected for review between CoP13 and CoP15 and reviews still in progress.</li> <li>Reports that responses were received from the following countries (species): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brazil provided a report on <i>Tillandsia kautskyi</i>, <i>T. sprengeliana</i> and <i>T. sucrei</i>, which are included in Appendix II, recommending that the three species be delisted (Annex 1).</li> <li>Costa Rica's response states that there is no trade in <i>Balmea stormiae</i>; that Costa Rica and Guatemala have no information on the species; and that it could be considered for deletion from the Appendices. Regarding <i>Platymiscium pleiostachyum</i> and <i>Peristeria elata</i>, more information is required.</li> <li>Namibia provided a report on <i>Welwitschia mirabilis</i> which is included in Appendix II, concluding that available information on wild population status and trends is not enough to fully assess threats.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Invites PC to take note of the progress made and to consider the responses provided by Brazil, Costa Rica, and Namibia.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> PC note progress made.</li> <li>Regarding <i>Tillandsia</i> spp. from Brazil, SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC reject the recommendation to delist the species because there is evidence of trade, including illegal trade, and the species are sought by collectors as ornamental plants for its small size and coloration. <i>T. sprengeliana</i> is offered on the internet in the USA; and although Brazil indicates that there have been no legal exports, <i>T. kautskyi</i> is held by a collector in New Zealand and <i>T. sucrei</i> is held by collectors in USA and is offered on the internet.</li> <li>Regarding <i>Balmea stormiae</i>, SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC request more detailed information on the species in order to evaluate it in the context of RC 9.24 (Rev. CoP15). Range States may also include El Salvador, Honduras, and Mexico.</li> <li>Regarding <i>Welwitschia mirabilis</i>, SSN <u>notes</u> that plants are offered for sale in the USA and UK; seeds are offered in France and Germany.</li> </ul>
<b>16.1.2</b>	Overview: Report of the Secretariat  <b>PC20 Doc. 16.1.2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RC 14.8 on Periodic review of the Appendices, <i>inter alia</i>, directs the Secretariat to maintain a list of species previously reviewed by PC, including dates of the review and links to the appropriate documents.</li> <li>Provides the list of plant species selected for review between CoP13 and CoP15 (Annex 1), and CoP15 and CoP17 (Annex 2).</li> <li>Invites PC to note the information presented.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC note this information.</li> </ul>
<b>16.2</b>	Report of the Working Group  <b>PC20 Doc. 16.2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepared by the Chair of the Working Group on Periodic Review of plant species included in the CITES Appendices.</li> <li>Provides an update on the activities of the Group.</li> <li>Provides a review from the Netherlands of <i>Cycas beddomei</i> for the consideration of PC20 (Annex 1), which recommends that it be retained in Appendix I, and the members of the Working Group (Annex 2).</li> <li>Notes that the USA will present to PC20 the review of the genus <i>Sclerocactus</i>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC adopt the list of species to be included in the Review.</li> <li>SSN <u>recommends</u> that AC agree with the recommendation that <i>Cycas beddomei</i> be maintained in Appendix I. This Endangered species (IUCN 2011) continues to meet the listing requirements for Appendix I as it has a restricted area of distribution, occurs at very few locations, and there is a decline in the number of individuals due to the level of exploitation.</li> </ul>

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invites PC to adopt the list of species to be examined under the periodic review between CoP15 and CoP17 and to submit it to SC62, including: <i>Pachypodium brevicaule</i>, <i>Dudleya stolonifera</i>, <i>Lewisia serrata</i>, <i>Tillandsia kammii</i>, <i>Tillandsia mauryana</i>, <i>Dioscorea deltoidea</i>, <i>Hedychium philippinense</i>, <i>Cycas beddomei</i>.</li> <li>Recommends that PC consider the report submitted by the Netherlands regarding the periodic review of <i>Cycas beddomei</i>, and the Party's recommendation to retain the species in Appendix I.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>16.3</b></p> <p>Assessment of trade in epiphytic cacti and review of listing of Cactaceae spp. in Appendix II (Decision 15.89)</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 16.3</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decision 15.89 directs PC to assess trade in epiphytic cacti, focusing on the genera <i>Disocactus</i>, <i>Epiphyllum</i>, <i>Hatiora</i>, <i>Lepismium</i>, <i>Pseudorhipsalis</i>, <i>Rhipsalis</i> and <i>Schlumbergera</i>, and if appropriate, encourage range States to submit to CoP16, proposals to exempt certain taxa from Appendix II.</li> <li>Provides a report from the Working Group on the Periodic Review of plant species included in the CITES Appendices (Annex 1) and, a report from a consultant under contract with the Secretariat on this issue (Annex 2).</li> <li>The report from the consultant states that the analysis indicates that epiphytic cacti do not meet the criteria of RC 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) for inclusion in Appendix II because the vast majority of trade involves artificially propagated specimens originating outside of range nations and recommends that the species should be considered for deletion.</li> <li>Notes that there were no responses to Notification 2011/038 which invited range States to provide information about the conservation status and possible look-alike concerns for 66 species of epiphytic cacti.</li> <li>Invites PC to review the information and to decide how to implement Decision 15.89.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While SSN notes that there is little trade in wild-collected specimens, we oppose deletion of epiphytic cacti from the Appendices for precautionary reasons.</li> <li>The existing treatment of <i>Hatiora</i> and <i>Schlumbergera</i> spp., exempting artificially propagated specimens from CITES control while retaining control over wild-collected specimens, is more precautionary; the remaining genera could be treated in the same way if appropriate.</li> </ul>
<p><b>16.4</b></p> <p><i>Euphorbia</i> spp. [Decision 14.131 (Rev. CoP15)]</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 16.4</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decision 14.131 (Rev. CoP15) directs PC to: a) analyze trade data and conservation status of succulent <i>Euphorbia</i> species; b) prepare a revised list of succulent <i>Euphorbia</i> species that meet the criteria of RC 9.24 (Rev. CoP15) for inclusion in Appendix II; c) prepare proposals for consideration at CoP16 that provide for the deletion of <i>Euphorbia</i> species from Appendix II that do not meet the criteria of RC 9.24 (Rev. CoP15), are frequently traded and can be clearly identified by non-specialists; and, d) determine the need for identification material for species retained in Appendix II.</li> <li>Provides a report on this issue from the Working Group on the Periodic Review of Plant Species included in the CITES Appendices (Annex 1) and, a report from a consultant under contract with the Secretariat on</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SSN recommends that PC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt the recommendation of the consultant that downlisting proposals for <i>Euphorbia</i> species not be presented at CoP16; and,</li> <li>Recommend to CoP16 that paragraph d) of Decision 14.131 (Rev. CoP15) be retained so the continued need for identification materials for <i>Euphorbia</i> species in Appendix II is identified.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
	<p>this issue (Annex 2).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The report in Annex 2 states, <i>inter alia</i>, that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The IUCN Red List information is incomplete and inadequate; threat levels for many species, especially those with highly restricted natural ranges, are likely understated or unidentified;</li> <li>■ Considering the many look-alike taxa and diversity of the succulent <i>Euphorbia</i>, the look-alike provision is relevant to the 509 (or 496) species indicated for de-listing based solely on trade data; and,</li> <li>■ The consultant cannot recommend deletion of non-wild-collected species from Appendix II until: a) conservation status is better described and understood for the majority of succulent species; and b) identification materials are available enabling non-experts to clearly distinguish species threatened by international trade from those that are not.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Notes that no responses were received to Notification 2011/049 which invited range States to provide information about the conservation status and possible look-alike concerns for 144 species of <i>Aloe</i> and <i>Euphorbia</i> species; and,</li> <li>• Invites PC to review the information and to decide how to implement Decision 14.131 (Rev. CoP15).</li> </ul>	
<b>17. Proposals for possible consideration at CoP16</b>		
<b>17.1</b>	Proposals to amend the Appendices	
17.1.1 Madagascar (Decision 15.97)  <b>PC20 Doc. 17.1.1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared by PC Nomenclature Specialist in consultation with Madagascar.</li> <li>• Decision 15.97 directs Madagascar and PC to: a) gather information on succulent taxa proposed for listing at the CoP15 but not adopted; b) gather further information on species (including tree species) which would benefit from CITES listing; c) identify mechanisms to help build capacity to make NDFs; and, d) report to CoP16 and, if necessary, prepare proposals to amend the Appendices for CoP16.</li> <li>• Reports that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A trade review of the relevant succulent species has been carried out;</li> <li>■ A range of <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. and <i>Diospyros</i> spp. have been listed on Appendix III;</li> <li>■ Madagascar is considering proposals for submission to CoP16; and,</li> <li>■ The Secretariat will report on a February mission regarding potential Appendix II listing of tree species.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Requests PC to convene a Working Group to:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC convene the Working Group, and invite observers to participate.</li> </ul>

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Prepare a work plan to facilitate the submission of proposals to CoP16;</li> <li>■ Identify issues relating to the identification of species to ensure listings can be implemented and enforced;</li> <li>■ Identify sources of funds to support the preparation of proposals; and,</li> <li>■ Consider any other relevant issues.</li> </ul>	
17.1.2 Annotations		
<p>17.1.2.1 Overview [Decisions 15.31, 15.34, 14.133, 14.134 (Rev. CoP15), 14.149, 15.35 and 14.148 (Rev. CoP15)] – Report of the working group</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 17.1.2.1</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prepared by PC Vice-Chair, in collaboration with Canada, the European Union, and Mexico.</li> <li>● Provides a description of all Decisions related to plant annotations including those related to <i>Aniba rosaeodora</i> and <i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i>.</li> <li>● Provides an update of work undertaken intersessionally regarding plant annotations.</li> <li>● Invites PC to take note of this work and consider related documents, including: PC20 Docs. 17.1.2.2, 17.1.2.4, 17.1.2.5 and 17.1.2.6; and, adopt relevant recommendations, as appropriate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC note this report and consider the related documents.</li> </ul>
<p>17.1.2.2 Preparation of clarification of and guidance on the meaning of "packaged and ready for retail trade" and other terms used in the Annotations – Report of the working group</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 17.1.2.2</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prepared by the Coordinator of the Intersessional Working Group on Annotations.</li> <li>● Decision 15.31 directs PC to prepare clarification and guidance on the meaning of "packaged and ready for retail trade" (i.e. a glossary or an illustrated brochure); report to CoP16; and, if necessary, prepare additional amendment proposals for CoP16.</li> <li>● Notes that the Group combined work on clarification of the meaning of "packaged and ready for retail trade"; annotations to <i>Aniba rosaeodora</i> and <i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i>; and, annotations for tree species included in Appendices II and III.</li> <li>● Notes that USA and Canada continue to discuss the need for a definition of the term "parts of roots" with regard to annotation #3 as applied to <i>Panax quinquefolius</i>.</li> <li>● Recommends that PC adopt definitions provided for: "essential oil", "extract", "finished product packaged and ready for retail trade", "powder" (powdered), "root", and "wood chips".</li> <li>● States that PC may also wish to submit to SC or CoP16, any of these definitions for inclusion in the CITES glossary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC adopt the proposed definitions and submit them to CoP16 for approval.</li> </ul>
17.1.2.3 Cactaceae and Orchidaceae: review of annotations (Decision 15.34)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No comment.</li> </ul>

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>17.1.2.4 Tree species: annotations for species included in Appendices II and III [Decisions 14.149, 15.35 and 14.148 (Rev. CoP15)] – Report of the working group</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 17.1.2.4</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prepared by the Co-Chair of the Intersessional Working Group on Annotations.</li> <li>● Decision 14.148 (Rev. CoP15) directs PC to, <i>inter alia</i>, to review the annotations for tree species listed in Appendices II and III and, if appropriate, draft amendments to the annotations and prepare clear definitions for the terms used in those annotations for CoP16.</li> <li>● Reports that the Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Noted the complexity inherent in attempting to apply general annotations developed to correspond to broad product types that are not directly linked to a listing proposal;</li> <li>■ Concluded that the inclusion of multiple commodity types in single annotations and the use of ambiguous language has produced annotations that are often difficult to interpret; and,</li> <li>■ Reaffirmed the recommendation of PC19 that there is a need to amend current annotations relating to tree species.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Requests PC to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Consider the conclusions of the Intersessional Working Group with respect to the need to amend annotations for tree species;</li> <li>■ Consider whether Annotations #2, #11 and #12 require specific clarification given the apparent range of interpretations of “finished products packaged and ready for retail trade,” “powder”, and “extracts”;</li> <li>■ Identify the conclusions of this Working Group and of previous Timber Annotation Working Groups as potentially useful guidance for amending tree species annotations; and,</li> <li>■ Encourage participation of PC, enforcement officers and other regulatory experts in the evaluation of any new listings and annotations for timber species.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC convene the Working Group at the present meeting to develop recommendations for further work on these issues.</li> <li>● SSN <u>notes</u> that proposed definitions of “powders”, “extracts”, and “finished products packaged and ready for retail trade” are provided in PC20 Doc. 17.1.2.2</li> </ul>
<p>17.1.2.5 <i>Aniba rosaeodora</i> (Decision 15.90) – Report of Brazil</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 17.1.2.5</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Prepared by Brazil.</li> <li>● Provides Brazil’s response to Decision 15.90 regarding <i>Aniba rosaeodora</i>, including that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The most suitable method for identifying essential oil is gas chromatography;</li> <li>■ Brazil is preparing identification material and guidance which should be ready by the end of 2012;</li> <li>■ Annotation #12 is appropriate to complement the proposed identification methods;</li> <li>■ Brazil recommends the inclusion of <i>Aniba fragans</i> and <i>Aniba parviflora</i> to support effective identification and regulation of wood and oil; and,</li> <li>■ On 25 August 2011, Normative Instruction No. 09 was published,</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Note the report from Brazil.</li> <li>■ Communicate to importing countries that the most suitable method for identifying essential oil is gas chromatography.</li> <li>■ Encourage Brazil to submit proposals to CoP16 include <i>Aniba fragans</i> and <i>Aniba parviflora</i> in Appendix II.</li> </ul>

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>17.1.2.6 <i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i> (Decision 15.96) – Report of Argentina</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 17.1.2.6</b></p>	<p>establishing specific procedures for making non-detriment findings for the species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared by Argentina.</li> <li>• Provides Argentina's response to Decision 15.96 regarding <i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i>, including that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The most suitable method for identifying essential oil is gas chromatography; regarding wood, the species has a distinctive odor when it is scraped or cut;</li> <li>■ Further knowledge is required on quick identification methods, which could then be used by inspection bodies;</li> <li>■ Argentina has prepared an identification sheet on various cuts of wood (Annex);</li> <li>■ Argentina believes that essential oil is covered under annotation #11 as it corresponds to the definition given for the term "extracts"; and,</li> <li>■ Argentina is currently assessing similarities between <i>Caesalpinia paraguariensis</i> and some species of the <i>Tabebuia</i> genus to explore whether additional species need to be listed for identification purposes and for the regulation of wood and oil.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN recommends that PC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Note the report from Argentina;</li> <li>■ Encourage importing countries to familiarize themselves with identification methods, including gas chromatography for essential oils, the identification sheet and distinctive odor for wood; and,</li> <li>■ Encourage Argentina to submit proposals for similar species to CoP16.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>17.1.3 Draft proposals from Parties to amend the Appendices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No comment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>17.2</b></p> <p>Other proposals</p> <p>17.2.1 Agarwood-producing taxa (Decision 15.94)</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 17.2.1</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared by Kuwait.</li> <li>• Decisions direct the Parties to: a) produce identification materials for all forms of traded agarwood products (14.137); b) agree on which agarwood products and quantities that should be exempted from CITES controls (14.138 (Rev. CoP15)); c) prepare a glossary with related definitions that illustrate the annotations (14.140); and, d) seek ways to share information through workshops, capacity building programs, etc. (14.141).</li> <li>• Decisions direct PC to: a) report to CoP16 on how current definitions of artificially propagated plants apply to trees in mixed species plantations (15.94); and, b) in cooperation with the Secretariat and range States, organize a workshop to discuss management of wild and plantation-source agarwood (15.95).</li> <li>• Reports that a workshop on Implementation of CITES for Agarwood-producing species was held October 2011 in Kuwait (PC20 Inf. 1) and an Asian Regional Workshop on Agarwood: Management of Wild and Plantation-Grown Agarwood was held November 2011 in Indonesia.</li> <li>• Provides recommendations of the scientific (Annex 1) and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC establish a Working Group to discuss these issues, and invite observers to participate.</li> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC reject the recommendation that NDFs can be made for species at genus level rather than the species level. There is little or no gene flow among populations of different species.</li> </ul>

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
		<p>administrative working groups (Annex 2) from these workshops, that include, <i>inter alia</i>,:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Proposed changes to the definition of “under controlled conditions” in RC 11.11 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Regulation of trade in plants</i>;</li> <li>■ Expanding the definition of “artificially propagated” in RC 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) on <i>Implementation of the Convention for timber species</i> to include mixed plantations;</li> <li>■ Revising Decision 15.95 and adding the text, “Identify and agree on strategies that balance the conservation and use of the wild populations, while relieving the pressure on these by using the planted material;”</li> <li>■ A list of those specimens controlled and not controlled by CITES, including personal exemptions; and,</li> <li>■ Making NDFs for the species at genus level rather than the species level.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides a glossary of agarwood products (Annex 3).</li> <li>• Invites PC to consider: the recommendations from the workshops; the definitions of agarwood products provided; and, that there was no consensus on whether traditional medicine containing agarwood should be excluded from CITES control.</li> </ul>	
18. Reporting on trade in artificially propagated plants [Decisions 14.39 (Rev. CoP15) and 14.40 (Rev. CoP15)]		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No comment.</li> </ul>
<b>19. Timber issues</b>			
19.1	<p>Progress report of the Working Group on the Bigleaf Mahogany and Other Neotropical Timber Species [Decisions 15.91, 15.92 and 14.146 (Rev. CoP15)] (including Annex 1)</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 19.1</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared by the Chair of the Working Group on Bigleaf Mahogany and Other Neotropical Timber Species based on the conclusions of the 4th meeting of the Working Group held November 2011 in Guatemala.</li> <li>• Provides a list of Members of the Group and participants in the meeting (Annex 1); the agenda and work program of the meeting (Annex 2); and, a matrix of results of the "Action plan for <i>Cedrela odorata</i>, <i>Dalbergia retusa</i>, <i>Dalbergia granadillo</i> and <i>Dalbergia stevensonii</i>" (Annex 3).</li> <li>• Provides the results of the meeting, including recommendations regarding population assessment, timber codes, timber traceability systems, use of scientific names, reference timber samples, identification issues, annotations, and semi-finished products.</li> <li>• The Group expresses its concern about the lack of participation of some of its members in the activities arising from the terms of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC consider the proposed changes to current Decisions.</li> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC instruct the Group to meet at the present meeting, inviting observers to participate, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Incorporate the results of the meeting into proposed actions for PC and/or Decisions to present to CoP16; and,</li> <li>■ Consider options for encouraging Members to participate in activities in the terms of reference.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

ISSUE		PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
		<p>reference adopted at CoP15.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports on information received on <i>Cedrela odorata</i>, <i>Dalbergia retusa</i>, <i>Dalbergia granadillo</i>, <i>Dalbergia stevensonii</i>, and <i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>.</li> <li>• Provides proposed changes to the current Decisions.</li> </ul>	
19.2	<p>Progress report on the joint CITES-ITTO timber programme</p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 19.2</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides an overview of the Proposed Second Phase of the ITTO-CITES Programme for which funds will be sought (Annex).</li> <li>• Reports that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The meeting of the Working Group on the Bigleaf Mahogany and Other Neotropical Timber Species and the 47<sup>th</sup> meeting of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) Council were held November 2011 in Guatemala; and,</li> <li>■ At the former meeting, the ITTO Secretariat reported that assistance was being offered to Madagascar under the ITTO-CITES capacity building program to implement the new listings and to decide which (if any) species might be proposed for inclusion in Appendix II at CoP16.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Provides a list of decisions, agreed to by the Council of ITTO, that are relevant to the joint work under the ITTO-CITES program.</li> <li>• Invites PC to note the report.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC note the report.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>20. Nomenclatural matters</b></p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 20</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared by the PC Nomenclature Specialist.</li> <li>• Reports that a revision of Volume 1 of the CITES Orchid Checklist is near now completion, a third edition of the CITES Cactus Checklist is being prepared, and an amended checklist of cycad species will be prepared to complement the production of a training manual on CITES and Cycads.</li> <li>• Reports that, in response to Decision 15.63, an initial review of the flora listings in the Appendices did not immediately reveal any cases where listed taxa can be included under the name of a higher taxon without altering the scope of the listing.</li> <li>• Requests PC to convene a Nomenclature Working Group to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Consider funding sources that may be available to support the completion outstanding revisions of key plant checklists;</li> <li>■ Consider whether it is useful to bring together all available information on the taxonomy/nomenclature of <i>Dalbergia</i> and <i>Diospyros</i>, as some Parties have sought guidance on such issues as synonymy; and,</li> <li>■ Formulate a view on the status and use of the name "<i>Aloe capensis</i>" (and trade in "Aloe bitters" or "living bitters") in response to a concern expressed by a Party.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC establish a Nomenclature Working Group, and invite observers to participate.</li> </ul>

ISSUE	PROPOSED ACTIONS	SSN RECOMMENDATIONS
<p><b>21. Progress report on the Identification Manual</b></p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 21</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides an update on the use of the CITES Wiki Identification Manual.</li> <li>• Reports that the Secretariat is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Seeking partners to make improvements to the Manual, including providing links from keys to species pages; and having separate sections for products, parts and derivatives; and,</li> <li>■ Planning to provide direct links to trade data from pages of the manual, the species database, and other on-line identification resources.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Invites Parties, organizations and experts to contribute.</li> <li>• Invites PC to note this report.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC note this report.</li> <li>• SSN <u>is concerned</u> that use of the Manual remains difficult for non-experts, that searches by range State and higher taxa are not possible, and that there is no option to print pages or save them as documents or PDF files. SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC direct the Secretariat to explore ways to make these improvements to the Manual, and report to SC62.</li> <li>• SSN <u>remains concerned</u> that many Parties may not have regular, reliable access to the Internet and urges PC to recommend that the Secretariat ensure that paper copies of the identification manual are available and distributed in sufficient number in developing countries where availability of computers and the Internet is problematic.</li> </ul>
<p><b>22. Preparation of the Chair's report for CoP16</b></p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 22</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepared by PC Chair.</li> <li>• Provides an initial draft of the Chair's report to be submitted to CoP16.</li> <li>• Invites PC to review the draft, confirm the people who are in charge of the various topics and prepare the texts that will make up the report during the meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC confirm the people who are in charge of the various topics and prepare the texts that will make up the report during the meeting, as recommended by PC Chair.</li> </ul>
<p><b>23. Regional reports</b></p> <p><b>PC20 Doc. 23.1-23.6</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The regional reports for Asia, Central and South America and the Caribbean, Europe, North America, and Oceania were available at the time this document was prepared.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN <u>recommends</u> that PC note these reports.</li> </ul>
<p><b>24. Time and venue of the 20th meeting of the Plants Committee</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No comment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>25. Any other business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No comment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>26. Closing remarks</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No document.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No comment.</li> </ul>



## SPECIES SURVIVAL NETWORK

2100 L Street NW, Washington DC 20037 USA Tel: +1-301-548-7769 Fax: +1-202-318-0891  
*info@ssn.org • www.ssn.org*