



Convention on the Conservation
of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

Standing Committee

Recommendation No. 30 (1991) on conservation of species in Appendix I to the convention

(Adopted by the Standing Committee on 6 December 1991)

The Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 of the convention,

Having regard to the aims of the convention to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats ;

Recalling that Article 5, paragraph 1, of the convention requires that Contracting Parties take appropriate and necessary legislative and administrative measures to ensure the special protection of the wild flora species specified in Appendix I ;

Recalling that Article 1, paragraph 2, of the convention requires that Contracting Parties give particular emphasis to the conservation of endangered and vulnerable species ;

Considering that most of the species listed in the appendix are endangered or vulnerable species;

Referring to Recommendation N° R (84) 14 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe concerning the introduction of non-native species ;

Referring to Recommendation N° R (85) 15 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the reintroduction of wildlife species ;

Referring to the World Conservation Union (IUCN) position statement on the translocation of living organisms, approved at the 22nd meeting of the IUCN Council in 1987 ;

Having regard to Article 4 of the convention, to Resolution N° 1 (1989) on the provisions relating to the conservation of habitats, and to Recommendation N° 16 (1989) of the Standing Committee on areas of special conservation interest ;

Referring, in particular, to Resolution (77) 6 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the conservation of rare and threatened plants in Europe ;

Noting that the list of plant species of Appendix I was substantially amended in 1991 ;

Desirous that Contracting Parties carry out and promote more conservation action on species listed in Appendix I to the convention,

Recommends that the Contracting Parties :

1. adopt an integrated conservation approach with respect to species listed in Appendix I, meaning by this that the most appropriate conservation action is to be taken to counteract the particular threat a species may be subject to ;
2. carry out detailed geographical surveys of the species listed in Appendix I, encouraging research on them and gathering relevant information on the demography, reproductive behaviour and ecology of their populations ;
3. establish national and, in the case of the European Economic Community, Community priorities for conservation of the species listed in Appendix I ;
4. as a matter of urgency, formulate and implement conservation or recovery plans for endangered and, if necessary, vulnerable species listed in Appendix I, giving priority to *in situ* conservation action ;
5. promote the development and application of conservation guidelines on how to undertake effective recovery or conservation plans for the listed species ;
6. publicise the need to protect threatened plants and their natural habitats.

In situ conservation

Recommends that the Contracting Parties :

7. protect species, wherever possible, in their natural habitats ;
8. create or reinforce adequate networks of suitably protected areas and areas of special conservation interest, with the object of improving the conservation status of the species listed in Appendix I ;
9. ensure that, as far as practicable, these networks are designed to take into account the biological requirements of the species targeted for conservation (by making them connect, for instance, through ecological corridors) and the possible future effects on those areas of demographic pressure, pollution or climatic change ;
10. consider habitat rehabilitation as a potential means to enhance conservation of the species listed in Appendix I ;
11. avoid the introduction of non-native species into natural habitats and the use of inappropriate stocks of native species when planting amenity areas ;
12. promote land use practices which are beneficial to the survival of some species listed in Appendix I ; co-operate with land users for this objective, including where appropriate the payment of subsidies to promote these practices.

Ex situ conservation

Recommends that the Contracting Parties :

13. favour activities of *ex situ* conservation for some species under particular threat, carried out by institutions having specialised knowledge, resources and long-term involvement, such as botanical gardens, gene banks or other appropriate agencies or bodies ;
14. ensure that the status of endangered populations is not further threatened through over-sampling for research purposes or through making *ex situ* collections ;
15. encourage the use of living material from *ex situ* conservation collections when samples of a threatened species are needed for research, thus avoiding endangering further natural populations.

Reintroduction and restocking

Recommends that the Contracting Parties :

16. consider carrying out reintroduction and/or restocking projects for those populations of the species listed in Appendix I that may require them ;
17. monitor those populations on which conservation programmes have been or are being carried out ;
monitor endangered populations.