

Amend the annotation to the listings of *Panax ginseng* and *Panax quinquefolius* included in Appendix II

Amend Annotation #3 with the underlined text:

“Designates whole and sliced roots and parts of roots, excluding manufactured parts or derivatives such as powders, pills, extracts, tonics, teas and confectionery.”

Proponent: United States of America

Summary: *Panax ginseng* and *Panax quinquefolius* are herbaceous plants whose roots yield ginseng, a very widely used herbal medicine or tonic. *P. quinquefolius* is native to Canada and United States of America; *P. ginseng* is native to China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea, and Russian Federation.

P. quinquefolius was included in Appendix II when the Convention came into effect in 1975 with an annotation indicating the listing was for roots only. Various modifications to this annotation were made at subsequent CoPs. In 2000 the Russian Federation population of *Panax ginseng* was included in Appendix II with an annotation indicating “whole and sliced roots and parts of roots, excluding manufactured parts or derivatives such as powders, pills, extracts, tonics, teas and confectionery.” At the same CoP this annotation was also applied to *P. quinquefolius*.

At CoP14, at the request of the Plants Committee, Switzerland as the Depositary Government submitted a proposal to amend the annotations for Appendix-II listed medicinal plant species including *Panax ginseng* and *Panax quinquefolius* (CoP14 Prop. 27). The amendment to annotation #3 as adopted removed the exclusionary language “excluding manufactured parts or derivatives such as powders, pills, extracts, tonics, teas and confectionery” and now reads merely “whole and sliced roots and parts of roots.” Current annotation #3 only applies to these two species.

Since this amendment, there has reportedly been confusion regarding whether manufactured products are subject to the provisions of the Convention. It is considered that much of this confusion is a result of the removal of the exclusionary language from the annotation adopted at CoP14.

The proponents propose reinstating the exclusionary language deleted at CoP14 in order to clarify what specimens of *Panax ginseng* and *Panax quinquefolius* are regulated under CITES, and to avoid potential seizures of shipments of parts and derivatives not intended to be covered by the annotation.

Analyses: Adoption of this proposal to reinstate the wording “excluding manufactured parts or derivatives such as powders, pills, extracts, tonics, teas and confectionery” to the annotation for *Panax ginseng* and *Panax quinquefolius* should simplify the implementation of the Convention by clarifying what is and what is not included under the listings of these species, ensuring that the former is in line with the original intent of the listings. It should have no other effect.