AMENDMENTS TO APPENDICES I AND II OF THE CONVENTION

Ten-Year-Review proposals

A. PROPOSAL

Removal of *Alocasia sanderiana* from Appendix II.

B. PROPONENT

Swiss Confederation

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1. Taxonomy

11. Class: Liliopsida (Monocotyledoneae)

12. Order: Arales

13. Family: Araceae

14. Species: *Alocasia sanderiana Bull (1884)*

15. Synonym: *Schizocasia sanderiana*

15. Common Names:

16. Code Numbers:

2. Biological Data

21. Distribution: This species grows in the Philippines, where it is endemic to Mindanao island in the following regions: Misamis, Agusan River (Butuan subprovince), Pautar (Merrill, 1925, Burnett, 1984).

22. Population: No data available.

23. Habitat: The species grows in damp primary forests at low altitudes (300-600 m) (Merrill, 1925).

3. Trade Data

31. National Utilization: No data. J B Alvarez, Jr (Philippine Forest Development Bureau) states that "only cultivated specimens" are sold in trade [letter to the Scientific Authority for the United States (R McManus, 25.7.77)].

32. Legal International Trade: According to the Philippines' delegation to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, "there is no international trade in this species" (CITES, 1994). D Nicholson [Smithsonian Institution, Threatened Plant Unit (TPU), 1980] states that "the plant is in demand, but is probably not marketed extensively outside tropical regions. It is not hardy enough for use as a house plant and is apparently relatively difficult to propagate commercially". Nonetheless, "this plant is relatively common in collections" (Burnett, TPU,

1980). It is also relatively common in collections in the United States (Burnett, 1984). In addition, *Alocasia sanderiana* is sold in the United States; it is artificially propagated in 40 nurseries in southern Florida, for example. This type of propagation is believed to be rapid enough to meet the current demand without the need for wild plants (D Burch, TPU, 1980). The most recent information (1981-1992) available from the WCMC database (Cambridge, UK) indicates that numerous *Alocasia sanderiana* are marketed in Europe, but that all are artificially propagated and virtually all from the Netherlands, with only a few from Denmark. No exports of wild or artificially propagated plants have been reported by the Philippines.

Net Exports (all plants are reported as artificially propagated)

Exporting Country	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
Netherlands	5303	21,543	14,680	1297	5359	14,495	19,509	2709
Denmark	--	--	--	--	--	2	57	--
Dominican Republic	18	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

These exports involve a number of importing countries.

33. Illegal Trade: No data. If such trade were in fact occurring from the Philippines, cuttings from rhizomes and corms (underground portion of the stem, vegetative reproductive organ) would be difficult to detect.

34. Potential Trade Threats: No data. Burnett (1984) mentions the need for some input from wild stock, since he believes "that after several decades of vegetative reproduction, the quality of the horticultural stock is apparently in decline". However, the species rarely flowers (Burnett, 1984).

4. Protection Status

41. National: Unknown. The Philippines have laws which would protect the species if necessary (Davis et al, 1986), but it is unclear whether the species is specifically covered by Law No. 3983 and Presidential Decrees No. 1152 and 1586. In addition, we do not know whether these laws are in fact applied.

42. International: The species is listed in Appendix II. *Alocasia sanderiana* has been in great demand as an ornamental plant since its appearance in trade around 1884. At the present time, it appears to be well established in cultivation (Burnett, 1984, Leedy et al, 1984, Bailey, 1976). Bailey has described the species as "one of the best recent introductions. Comes in different forms and includes numerous cultivated hybrids" (see point 5 below).

43. Additional Protection Needs: Unknown. Myers (1988) deals with the general ecological problems in the region.

5. Information on Similar Species

Walters et al (1984) give a key for the related cultivated genera (flowering and non-flowering). The genus includes fewer than 70 species in the Indo-Malaysian region. Gutiérrez reports 10 species of *Alocasia* endemic to the Philippines; *A. zebrina* was

initially included in Appendix I, but was removed at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Leedy et al (1984) list 14 species of Alocasia under cultivation and describe 11. Bailey (1976) covers several species and hybrids of *Alocasia*. Burnett (1984) illustrates and discusses *Alocasia*, noting that *A. sanderiana* is not particularly distinctive. He mentions three non-hybrid cultivars of *A. sanderiana*. Bailey (1976) indicates that a number of fine cultivars of *Alocasia* have been obtained by hybridization; some plants in trade may be of mixed hybrid origin and thus difficult to identify. According to Birdsey (1951), there are a number of hybrid specimens in Florida's Miami region having *A. sanderiana* as one of the parents.

6. Comments from Countries of Origin

Endemic species.

7. Additional Remarks

8. References

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CITES, 1994. Proceedings of the Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties. CITES Secretariat, Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland. 1000 pp.

Davis, S D et al, 1986. *Plants in danger: What do we know?* Threatened Plant Unit, IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland & Cambridge, UK. 461 pp.

Leedy, D J, T B Croat & P F Yeo, 1984. *Alocasia Necker*, pp 101-103 in S M Walters et al (eds), *The European Garden Flora*, Vol 2. Cambridge Univ Press, UK. 318 pp.

Merrill, E D, 1925. *An Enumeration of Philippine Flowering Plants*, Vol 1. Bureau of Printing, Manila, Philippines.

Myers, N, 1988. Environmental degradation and some economic consequences in the Philippines. *Environm. Conserv.* 15:205-214.

Walters, S M et al, 1984. *The European Garden Flora*, Vol 2. Cambridge Univ Press, UK. 318 pp.

WCMC (Conservation Monitoring Center), Cambridge, UK.

BVA Comments (not included in official proposal)

In addition, since these parts of the plant are not "readily recognizable" [Art I, b) iii) of the Convention], they are not covered by the Convention.

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