

In mei 2025 nam de Wereldgezondheidsorganisatie, de WHO, haar nieuwe 'Strategy Traditional Medicines 2025-2034' aan. Als SPOTS hebben wij de nodige lobby gevoerd om in de oorspronkelijke versie/draft, veranderingen te krijgen. Zodat er een duidelijke uitspraak is vanuit de WHO, tegen het gebruik van bedreigde dieren in een deel van traditionele medicijnen.

We schreven hiertoe een brief naar de WHO in samenwerking met IUCN Nederland en Environmental Investigation Agency. We zijn blij te zien dat een flink aantal van onze suggesties zijn overgenomen.

Het had van ons nog een tandje sterker gekund. Maar we zijn dankbaar dat in de nieuwe versie van de Strategy, nu uitspraken staan waarbij het duidelijk is dat de WHO dit gebruik van bedreigde dieren, niet goedkeurt. En het geeft ons handvaten om te zorgen dat dit nageleefd wordt.

Hieronder zijn de belangrijkste aanpassingen te vinden;

In oude draft Strategy

https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB156/B156_16-en.pdf

Guiding principles (page 4)

Sustainability and One Health.

Healthcare should consciously support environmental sustainability. TCIM is rooted in natural resources, traditional medical knowledge, culture and history. It can contribute to safeguarding biodiversity by promoting sustainable TCIM practices and a One Health approach to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

In uiteindelijke versie

https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA78/A78_4Add1-en.pdf

Guiding principles (page 2)

Sustainability and biodiversity

Healthcare should consciously support environmental sustainability and biodiversity. TCIM is rooted in natural resources, traditional medical knowledge, culture and history. It should contribute to safeguarding biodiversity by promoting sustainable TCIM practices and aligning with One Health principles.

Text under 'Guiding Principles' the text on '**evidence based**' has been greatly modified in the new Strategy with much focus on 'evidence based' TCIM.

Direction 2.1. Provide appropriate regulatory mechanisms for TCIM products that are sustainably produced and supplied (page 9)

2.1 Actions for member States

In old draft;

Enforce relevant restrictions on the use of endangered species for medicinal products, subject to stringent regulatory oversight, in line with applicable international conventions and national legislation.

In new draft

2.1 Actions for member States (page 7)

Enforce relevant restrictions on the use of endangered species and wider biodiversity for medicinal products, subject to stringent regulatory oversight, in line with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and other applicable international conventions and national legislation, including, as appropriate, timebound plans to phase out current usage and to research and implement sustainable alternatives.

Actions for partners and stakeholders

In old draft;

Industry must comply with biodiversity and conservation requirements in the production and supply of TCIM products

In new draft

Stakeholders should comply with biodiversity and conservation requirements in the production and supply of TCIM products.

Added in new Strategy;

Direction 4.1. Include TCIM in cross-sector policies and action plans for health, well-being societies, One Health and Sustainable Development Goals (page 13)

Action for Member States

Raise awareness on the importance of and need for the preservation of biodiversity.