

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Doha (Qatar), 13-25 March 2010

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Compliance and enforcement

STANDARD UNITS OF REPORTING FOR AGARWOOD-PRODUCING TAXA

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. The Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 14.139 at its 14th meeting (The Hague, 2007), directed to Parties involved in agarwood trade and to the Secretariat, stating:

Draft standardized units of reporting shall be considered at the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

3. The Secretariat requested from the UNEP World Conservation Centre a listing of the units of measurement used to date, in the CITES trade database, in relation to each type of specimen traded of species in the genera *Aquilaria* and *Gyrinops*.
4. The following descriptions have been used for specimens of these species in trade: carvings, chips, derivatives, extract, leaves, live, logs, oil, powder, roots, sawn wood, seeds, stems, timber and timber pieces. The measurement of the quantity of trade in these specimens was for the most part by weight (kg), although trade in oil was also traded by volume (litres), wood chips and sawn wood were traded by both weight and by volume (m³), and derivatives, extract and powder were traded as cartons, bottles and flasks.
5. The *Guidelines for the preparation and submission of CITES annual reports* (see Notification to the Parties No. 2006/030 of 2 May 2006), as approved by the Standing Committee, currently recommends the use of the following units of measurement for the specified types of specimens:

Description (Type of specimen)	Preferred unit	Alternative unit
carvings	kg	m ³
chips	kg	
derivatives	kg / litres	
extracts	kg	litres
leaves	kg	number
logs	m ³	
oil	kg	litres

Description (Type of specimen)	Preferred unit	Alternative unit
powder	kg	
roots	number	kg
sawn wood	m ³	
seeds	kg	
stems	number	kg
timber	m ³	kg

Recommendation

- The Secretariat believes that the current advice contained in the Guidelines is, for the most part, sufficient for the recording of trade in agarwood-producing taxa. However, from the point of view of measuring the ecological impact of the trade, it suggests that the unit "number" should not be used if it can be avoided, and that "number" should be, in each case, the alternative unit.