

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



Eighteenth meeting of the Plants Committee
Buenos Aires (Argentina), 17-21 March 2009

CEDRELA ODORATA, DALBERGIA RETUSA, DALBERGIA GRANADILLO
AND DALBERGIA STEVENSONII
(PC18 Doc. 13.3 and PC18 Doc. 16.1.3)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Co-Chair: Canada and Peru.

Members: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera Luther) and the alternate representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms Rivera Brusatin).

Party observers: Brazil, Chile, Italy, Mexico, Peru, United Kingdom and the United States of America.

IGOs and NGOs: European Community, UNEP-WCMC, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC and WWF.

Mandate

1. Analyse the responses received further to the action plan and the information contained in the proposals submitted at CoP14;
2. Assess whether the criteria for inclusion in the Appendices have been applied; and
3. Make recommendations relevant to the species concerned, including on the relevance of submitting proposals to include them in the Appendices at CoP15.

Recommendations

Working Group (WG7) has considered documents PC17 Doc. 16.1.3, proposals CoP14 Prop. 31, Prop. 32 and Prop. 33 submitted at CoP14, and document PC18 Doc. 13.3, which contains data received in relation to Decision 14.146 (*Action Plan For Cedrela odorata, Dalbergia retusa, Dalbergia granadillo and Dalbergia stevensonii*). WG7 notes that responses to PC18 Doc. 13.3 were received by 18 range States, and that range States for the species have been working actively to generate and report information relative to Part 1, a), b), c) and d) of Decision 146.

On consideration, WG7 is unable to conclude whether the criteria for inclusion in the CITES Appendices are met.

WG7 believes that the above-mentioned documents do not include all current knowledge concerning the population status of the species in question. It would appear from those documents that while many

range States have legislation and management plans in place for the species, accurate information concerning their population status is lacking.

However, WG7 notes that many range States are currently working to develop additional information on species population status, in some cases with the assistance of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO). In discussions of the working group, Brazil, Mexico and Peru highlighted their ongoing development of population studies. Peru presented preliminary results concerning population status of *Cedrela odorata* that indicated stable populations with good potential for natural regeneration.

WG7 makes the following recommendations:

1. That Decision 14.146 should continue as the primary source of direction regarding collection and analysis of information on *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia retusa*, *Dalbergia granadillo* and *Dalbergia stevensonii*.
2. That the Plants Committee encourage any range Countries that have not yet responded to Decision 14.146 to immediately do so.
3. That the Plants Committee urge range States of *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia retusa*, *Dalbergia granadillo* and *Dalbergia stevensonii* to include all the populations within the ranges of these species in Appendix III with the adequate annotation and ensure the implementation and enforcement of CITES with regard to those species in that Appendix.
4. That the Plants Committee consider recommending to the Conference of the Parties that Dec 14.146 be renewed and updated as appropriate, including an amendment to paragraph (f) of the Decision as follows (new or modified text in bold):

include all the populations in the ranges of Cedrela odorata, Dalbergia retusa, Dalbergia granadillo and Dalbergia stevensonii in Appendix III with the adequate annotation and ensure the implementation and enforcement of CITES with regard to those species in that Appendix.

5. That the Plants Committee request the Bigleaf Mahogany Working Group (BLMWG) to incorporate as a part of its activities an analysis in the context of Decision 14.146 of information received on the species indicated in that Decision.
6. That the President of the BLMWG ensure that the analysis of the information described in Recommendation 5 is completed by September 1, 2009 and provided to the Plants Committee for presentation on the CITES web-page.
7. That the BLMWG facilitate communication and information exchange amongst range States of the species indicated in Decision 14.146, including knowledge and experience gained as a result of the Appendix III listing of *Cedrela odorata*.
8. That the Plants Committee consider extension of the mandate of the BLMWG, to accommodate actions that may be required for the species indicated in Decision 14.146.
9. Recognizing the extremely positive outcomes that are resulting from co-operation between range Countries and ITTO on projects involving the species indicated in Decision 14.146 (as described in Doc. PC18 Doc. 5.3, Regional Report of Central and South America and the Caribbean), that the Plants Committee encourage Parties to continue and enhance such co-operation.
10. That range Countries consider requesting technical and financial support from the ITTO in the framework of Resolution Conf. 14.4 *Cooperation between CITES and ITTO regarding trade in tropical timber*.
11. That range Countries of the species indicated in Decision 14.146 facilitate generation of information required for identification and differentiation of these species and of similar species within the genera *Cedrela* and *Dalbergia*, through communication and cooperation with expert organizations such as the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, that are conducting taxonomic research relevant to these genera.
12. That the costs of applying these recommendations should be assessed by the CITES Secretariat.