

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



Twenty-sixth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 5 – 9 June 2023

Species conservation and trade

Flora

ROSEWOOD TREE SPECIES [LEGUMINOSAE (FABACEAE)]

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 19th meeting (CoP19, Panama City, 2022) the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 19.243 to 19.245 on *Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]* as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

19.243 *Subject to external resources, the Secretariat shall:*

- a) *compile and submit for consideration of the Plants Committee an overview and status of work completed, underway, or to be undertaken as a result of CoP19 to improve CITES implementation for rosewood tree species;*
- b) *in consultation with the Plants Committee, develop the terms of reference for a study of rosewood tree species, taking into account findings and recommendations contained in documents PC25 Doc. 26.1, PC25 Doc. 26.2 and PC25 Doc. 26.3 and any planned CITES workshops on non-detriment findings;*
- c) *commission the study on the conservation and trade rosewood-tree species;*
- d) *organize an international workshop, inviting relevant range States, trading countries, relevant organizations, industry representatives and other experts to present the results of the study and develop recommendations aimed at improving the implementation of the Convention for rosewood tree species; and*
- e) *submit the final study for consideration by the Plants Committee, as well as the outcomes of the workshop.*

Directed to the Plants Committee

19.244 *The Plants Committee shall collaborate with the Secretariat in the implementation of Decision 19.243 and make recommendations aimed at improving the implementation of the Convention for rosewood tree species to the Standing Committee and/or the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.245 *The Standing Committee shall consider any report from the Plants Committee under Decision 19.244 and make recommendations aimed at improving the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of the Convention for rosewood tree species to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.*

Progress in the implementation of Decision 19.243

3. The Secretariat estimated the cost of the implementation of Decision 19.243 at USD 300,000 (see [Notification to the Parties No. 2023/024](#)), but now considers this likely to be an over-estimation, as activities such as the international workshop in paragraph d) of the Decision could be merged with the ongoing implementation of Decision 19.132 on *Non-detriment findings*. Therefore, while at the time of writing, the Secretariat has secured partial funding for the implementation of Decision 19.243, the Secretariat is also in the process of revising this estimate to ensure the timely and effective implementation of Decision 19.243 and will provide an update on this at the present meeting.
4. Paragraph c) of Decision 19.243 calls for commissioning a study on the conservation and trade of rosewood-tree species. As a starting point for this, the Secretariat has developed draft terms of reference for consideration by the Plants Committee at the present meeting. The draft terms of reference are available in Annex 1 to the present document.
5. The draft terms of reference take into consideration PC25 Doc. 26.1, PC25 Doc. 26.2 and PC25 Doc. 26.3 in accordance with paragraph b) of Decision 19.243, and these have been included in Annexes 2 to 4 to the present document for ease of reference at the present meeting.
6. Document PC25 Doc. 26.1 included a preliminary list of CITES-listed taxa that had been identified as traded under the common commercial name 'rosewood'. At CoP19, the Conference of the Parties adopted new listings of tree species, some of which could also be traded under this name (see also [Notification to the Parties No. 2023/006](#)). The Secretariat therefore notes the need to update the preliminary list mentioned above and has included this as part of the activities of the draft terms of reference in Annex 1 to the present document.
7. Paragraph d) of Decision 19.243 requires the organization of an international workshop to present the results of the study referred to in paragraphs b) and c). The Secretariat notes that, as a first step, this can be merged with the international expert workshop on non-detriment findings (NDF) to be undertaken in the framework of the implementation of Decision 19.133. Further updates on this are available in document PC26 Doc. 17 / AC32 Doc. 16.
8. Mindful of this, the draft terms of reference included in Annex 1 anticipate reporting preliminary findings and recommendations at the international expert workshop on NDF, and specifically to workstream 9 of the NDF project which relates to high-value timber tree species.
9. The final phase of the study should take into consideration any feedback from the international expert workshop on NDF (see document PC26 Doc. 17 / AC32 Doc. 16) and the final study on Decision 19.243 is expected to be submitted for consideration of the Plants Committee at its 27th meeting in 2024, if full funding is received in time.

Recommendations

10. The Plants Committee is invited to:
 - a) review and, if appropriate, revise the draft terms of reference contained in Annex 1 to the present document; and
 - b) make recommendations for consideration of the Standing Committee or the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

STUDY ON THE CONSERVATION AND TRADE OF ROSEWOOD TREE SPECIES
[LEGUMINOSAE (FABACEAE)]

Output 1: Report on the conservation and trade of CITES-listed rosewood tree species listed in the Appendices

Activities

- 1.1 Update the questionnaire of the [Annex](#) to the Notification to the Parties No. 2020/032, and tailor it to the information requested in paragraph a) of Decision 19.243.
- 1.2 Based on the responses received and relevant CoP19 amendments to the Appendices, update the list of CITES tree species for which their specimens are or could be traded under the name “rosewood” (see also, Annex 2 to document PC26 Doc. 29). The development of this list must consider the applicable standard nomenclature references as contained Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Standard nomenclature* and the [CITES Checklist database](#).
- 1.3 Review literature and data relating to trade in tree species traded as ‘rosewood’, with particular focus on those listed in the Appendices, including by:
 - a) establishing a methodology for, and undertaking a review of scientific and grey literature relevant to the conservation and trade of rosewood tree species;
 - b) reviewing the progress made reflected in document PC26 Doc. 29 and its Annexes 2 to 4;
 - c) undertaking a comprehensive assessment of outputs relevant to rosewood tree species available in the CITES website, with a particular focus on those relevant to the implementation of Article IV of the Convention, such as non-detriment findings (NDF). As a guiding framework, special consideration should be given to Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on *Non-detriment findings* and to undertaking consultations with the Secretariat and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
 - d) characterizing the range of harvest and production schemes for CITES-listed rosewood tree species, using as a guiding framework the Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP19) on *Regulation of trade in plants* and the [Preliminary guidance on terms related to the artificial propagation of CITES regulated plants](#).
 - e) establishing a methodology for undertaking a trade review of the trade in rosewood tree species listed in the Appendices over the last 10 years, using as a starting point the information contained in the CITES trade database and trade information from range States, as available.
 - f) undertaking the review based on the methodology established under e) above.
- 1.4 Summarize the main findings and draft recommendations of the above in a consolidated report.

Output 2: Report on the challenges and opportunities to improve the conservation and sustainable trade of rosewood tree species listed in the Appendices

Activities

- 2.1 Assess the cases of rosewood tree species undergoing compliance processes due to challenges in the implementation of Article IV of the Convention. Examples of this could be:
 - a) ongoing cases for rosewood tree species in the Review of Significant Trade process (see PC26 Doc. 16.1);
 - b) the *Pterocarpus erinaceus*/country combinations in Stage 2 of the Review of Significant Trade process as an exceptional case (see PC26 Doc. 16.4); and

- c) rosewood tree species under a recommendation to suspend trade under on the basis of Article XIII of the Convention (see <https://cites.org/eng/resources/ref/suspend.php>).

2.2 On the basis of the above, develop a diagnosis of the main challenges in the implementation of Article IV, and draft recommendations and requirements to address them.

Output 3: Report on best practices for the implementation of the Convention for rosewood tree species, with emphasis on Article IV and non-detriment findings.

- 3.1 Identify and select a set of regionally balanced combinations of CITES-listed rosewood tree species/range States that have proven successful in the timely and effective implementation of the Convention for rosewood tree species, particularly where it relates to Article IV.
- 3.2 Develop in the form of case studies a compendium of best practices in the conservation and trade of rosewood tree species listed in the Appendices, with particular focus on the implementation of Article IV of the Convention.

Output 4: Consolidated report on Outputs 1 to 3 for consideration by the Plants Committee at PC27

Activities

- 4.1 Summarize the main findings and recommendations of outputs 1 to 3 for consideration and discussion at the international NDF workshop scheduled to take place in December 2023.
- 4.2 Based on the outcomes of the international workshop, finalise a report on the outputs 1 to 3 of the present study for consideration by the Plants Committee at its next meeting.

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 17 and 20-23 July 2020

Species specific matters

Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 18.234 to 18.237 on *Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]*, as follows:

18.234 Directed to the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall:

- a) *subject to external resources, undertake the following study:*
 - i) *provide or confirm, with the nomenclature specialist of the Plants Committee, a reference list of genera that are commonly referred to as “rosewood tree species”, noting that at present the species from the following CITES and non-CITES listed genera have been assumed as such by the CITES community: Caesalpinia, Cassia, Dalbergia, Dicorynia, Guibourtia, Machaerium, Millettia, Pterocarpus and Swartzia;*
 - ii) *taking into consideration the existing information (including that developed under the ongoing CITES Tree Species Programme), and based on the available lists of species in trade, compile available data and information to address information gaps on the biology, population status, management, use and trade for CITES-listed rosewood tree species as a first priority; and as a second priority, non-CITES listed rosewood tree species, in particular those that are highly sought after for the timber trade;*
 - iii) *assess the effects of international trade on wild populations of the species concerned; and*
 - iv) *take into account the relevant work on timber identification to be carried out under Decisions 18.140 to 18.143 on Identification of timber and other wood products;*
- b) *issue a Notification seeking input from Parties, in particular exporting, re-exporting and importing countries, and relevant stakeholders to provide information to the Secretariat to share with the consultant for the purposes of completing the study outlined under paragraph a) above;*

- c) *report on progress regarding the study to the Plants Committee;*
- d) *taking into consideration the advice of the Plants Committee, and subject to external funding, organize an international workshop, inviting relevant range States, trading countries, relevant organizations, industry representatives and other experts, with a view to presenting and discussing the results, and develop recommendations;*
- e) *submit the final study for consideration by the Plants Committee, as well as the outcomes of the workshop if held; and*
- f) *seek external resources to support the study, and the workshop as appropriate.*

18.235 Directed to Parties

Parties are encouraged to:

- a) *respond to the Notification described in paragraph b) of Decision 18.234 in close collaboration with relevant stakeholders; and*
- b) *support the work of the consultancy, and the workshop as appropriate, including seeking external resources from relevant stakeholders.*

18.236 Directed to the Plants Committee

The Plants Committee shall:

- a) *consider the progress reported by the Secretariat and make recommendations regarding the study and the need for the international workshop referred to under Decision 18.234;*
- b) *consider the final study, and outcomes of the workshop if held, and make recommendations on how to enhance implementation for CITES-listed rosewood tree species with a particular focus on non-detriment findings including with respect to capacity building; and make further recommendations regarding non-CITES listed rosewood tree species; and*
- c) *make recommendations to the Standing Committee and the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties as appropriate.*

18.237 Directed to the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee shall consider any report prepared in response to Decision 18.236 and identify any implementation and enforcement issues associated with the international trade in rosewood tree species, particularly those already listed in the Appendices, and develop recommendations for more effective implementation of the Convention for rosewood tree species. The Standing Committee shall furthermore take into account considerations related to revisions to annotations, and identification of terms in annotations that require further clarification and convey them for consideration by the working group on annotations.

Progress in the implementation of Decision 18.234 and 18.235

3. The Secretariat estimates the cost of the implementation of Decision 18.234 is USD 550,000, to be allocated as follows: USD 350,000 for the study in paragraph a) of the Decision; and USD 200,000 for the international workshop in paragraph d) of the Decision. At the time of writing, these external funds remained to be identified (see [Notification to the Parties No. 2020/032](#) on *Status of funding for the implementation of valid Decisions after CoP18*). The Secretariat will continue its efforts to mobilize the necessary resources to undertake the study and the international workshop.
4. Regarding paragraph a) ii) of Decision 18.234, the CITES Tree Species Programme allocated funding to build capacities for implementing the Convention for trade in rosewood species listed in the Appendices. This is accomplished through nine projects in 13 rosewood range States in: Africa (six range States); Asia (three range States); and Central and South America (four range States). For further information on these, please refer to document PC25 Doc. 8 and its Annex 6.

5. In compliance with paragraph b) of Decision 18.234, the Secretariat published [Notification to the Parties No. 2020/023](#) of 11 March 2020 with a *Questionnaire on rosewood tree species* in the [Annex](#). In line with Decision 18.235, the Notification also encouraged Parties to support the Secretariat as appropriate in undertaking the study and organizing the international workshop, including by seeking external resources from relevant stakeholders.
6. The following Parties provided responses to Notification No. 2020/023: Australia, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Denmark, El Salvador, Germany, Mexico, New Zealand, Singapore, Slovakia, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America. Regarding other relevant stakeholders, *Wood Geographic* also responded to the questionnaire.
7. In the following section, the Secretariat has summarized the main findings of the responses received, as per the elements of paragraph a) of Decision 18.234, and Decision 18-235. The full responses to the questionnaire, in the language and format as received, are in an information document.

Compilation and analysis of responses to Notification No. 2020/023

8. The main findings relevant to Decision 18.234, subparagraph a) i) are summarized below.
 - a) The following CITES-listed taxa were identified as traded (exported, re-exported or imported) under the common commercial name “rosewood”:

<i>Family</i>	<i>Appendix I</i>	<i>Appendix II</i>
LAURACEAE Laurels		<i>Aniba rosaeodora</i> . The species is listed with Annotation #12 .
LEGUMINOSAE (Fabaceae) Afromosia, cristobal, palisander, rosewood, sandalwood		<i>Dalbergia</i> spp. (except for the species listed in Appendix I). The taxa is listed with Annotation #15 .
	<i>Dalbergia nigra</i>	
		<i>Guibourtia demeusei</i> . The species is listed with Annotation #15 .
		<i>Guibourtia pellegriniana</i> . The species is listed with Annotation #15 .
		<i>Guibourtia tessmannii</i> . The species is listed with Annotation #15 .
		<i>Paubrasilia echinata</i> . The species is listed with Annotation #10 .
		<i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i>
		<i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i> . The species is listed with Annotation #7 .

- b) Regarding the genus-level listing of *Dalbergia* spp. in Appendix II, 33 species were identified that are traded under the name “rosewood”:

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) <i>Dalbergia abbreviata</i> | 12) <i>Dalbergia decipularis</i> |
| 2) <i>Dalbergia abrahamii</i> | 13) <i>Dalbergia frutascens</i> |
| 3) <i>Dalbergia arbutifolia</i> | 14) <i>Dalbergia glomerata</i> |
| 4) <i>Dalbergia assamica</i> | 15) <i>Dalbergia granadillo</i> |
| 5) <i>Dalbergia bariensis</i> | 16) <i>Dalbergia greveana</i> |
| 6) <i>Dalbergia baronii</i> | 17) <i>Dalbergia kingiana</i> |
| 7) <i>Dalbergia calderonii</i> | 18) <i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> |
| 8) <i>Dalbergia cearensis</i> | 19) <i>Dalbergia louvelii</i> |
| 9) <i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i> | 20) <i>Dalbergia madagascariensis</i> |
| 10) <i>Dalbergia congestiflora</i> | 21) <i>Dalbergia maritima</i> |
| 11) <i>Dalbergia cubilquitzensis</i> | 22) <i>Dalbergia melanoxydon</i> |

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 23) <i>Dalbergia odorifera</i> | 29) <i>Dalbergia sericea</i> |
| 24) <i>Dalbergia oliveri</i> | 30) <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> |
| 25) <i>Dalbergia palo-escrito</i> | 31) <i>Dalbergia spruceana</i> |
| 26) <i>Dalbergia pinnata</i> | 32) <i>Dalbergia stevensonii</i> |
| 27) <i>Dalbergia retusa</i> | 33) <i>Dalbergia tucurensis</i> |
| 28) <i>Dalbergia rimosa</i> | |

c) Regarding non-CITES listed species that are traded under the name “rosewood”, a total of 17 taxa were mentioned:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1) <i>Acosmium</i> spp. | 9) <i>Lonchocarpum</i> spp. |
| 2) <i>Albizia odoratissima</i> | 10) <i>Machaerium scleroxylon</i> |
| 3) <i>Anadenanthera colubrina</i> | 11) <i>Millettia laurentii</i> |
| 4) <i>Guibourtia coleosperma</i> | 12) <i>Myroxylon balsamum</i> |
| 5) <i>Guibourtia conjugata</i> | 13) <i>Pterocarpus chrysothrix</i> |
| 6) <i>Guibourtia ehie</i> | 14) <i>Pterocarpus macrocarpus</i> |
| 7) <i>Guibourtia</i> spp. (species not listed in Appendix II) | 15) <i>Swartzia benthamiana</i> |
| 8) <i>Jacaranda</i> spp. | 16) <i>Tabebuia rosae</i> |
| | 17) <i>Terminalia alta</i> |

d) Regarding the specimens that are traded under the common name “rosewood”, the overwhelming majority are related to wood products: carvings; furniture; jewellery; logs; musical instruments and accessories thereof (guitar, pianos, bagpipes, flute and flute parts, drums, etc., mostly for species of *Dalbergia* and *Guibourtia*); sawn wood; transformed wood; veneer sheets; and woodchips.

e) Only for two species that are traded under the common name “rosewood” (*Dalbergia nigra* and *Pterocarpus santalinus*), non-timber specimens were also reported in trade, respectively seeds and (non-specified) medicinal specimens.

9. The main findings relevant to Decision 18.234, subparagraph a) ii) are summarized below.

a) Regarding the conservation status of the “rosewood” species mentioned in their replies, the majority of the responding Parties pointed to the assessments in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) *Red List of Threatened Species*. With very few exceptions (e.g. *Dalbergia rimosa*), the species mentioned in the responses fall under the definition of “tree species” (FAO, 2018)¹. In this sense, the outcomes of the ongoing Global Tree Assessment (GTA; an initiative coordinated by Botanical Gardens Conservation International and IUCN) could prove important in conducting the study called for under Decision 18.234. For further updates on the progress of the GTA initiative, please refer to: <https://www.bgci.org/our-work/projects-and-case-studies/global-tree-assessment/>.

b) In addition to the IUCN *Red List* and the GTA mentioned above, Parties provided updated sets of references and information on non-detriment findings (NDF) guidance and protocols, scientific articles and national red list assessments, which will also provide a complementary starting point for the study. The responses and information provided also touched upon compliance issues related to illegal trade. Likewise, reports and resources available from the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), such as the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), were often quoted as relevant resources for the purposes of the study.

10. The main findings relevant to Decision 18.234, subparagraph a) iii) are summarized below.

a) Regarding the effects of international trade on wild populations of CITES-listed rosewood species, the following species (all listed in Appendix II) were consistently reported as **highly to moderately** affected

¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). 2018. *Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020. Terms and Definitions*. FRA 2020. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/3/i8661en/i8661en.pdf>

by international trade, mostly due to suspected unsustainable levels of trade, or possible indications of illegal trade:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1) <i>Dalbergia bariensis</i> | 11) <i>Dalbergia retusa</i> |
| 2) <i>Dalbergia baronii</i> | 12) <i>Dalbergia sericea</i> |
| 3) <i>Dalbergia calderonii</i> | 13) <i>Dalbergia spruceana</i> |
| 4) <i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i> | 14) <i>Dalbergia stevensonii</i> |
| 5) <i>Dalbergia congestiflora</i> | 15) <i>Dalbergia tucurensis</i> |
| 6) <i>Dalbergia glomerata</i> | 16) <i>Guibourtia demeusei</i> |
| 7) <i>Dalbergia granadillo</i> | 17) <i>Guibourtia pellegriniana</i> |
| 8) <i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> | 18) <i>Guibourtia tessmannii</i> |
| 9) <i>Dalbergia malanoxylon</i> | 19) <i>Paubrasilia echinata</i> |
| 10) <i>Dalbergia oliveri</i> | 20) <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> |

The Secretariat notes that the CITES-listed rosewoods above could be considered amongst the first-priority candidates to address information gaps as per Decision 18.234, subparagraph a) ii).

- b) The effects of international trade on wild populations of the following CITES-listed rosewood species were reported as **unknown** (all of them listed in Appendix II):

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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1) <i>Dalbergia assamica</i> | 4) <i>Dalbergia decipularis</i> |
| 2) <i>Dalbergia cearensis</i> | 5) <i>Dalbergia maritima</i> |
| 3) <i>Dalbergia cubilquitzensis</i> | |

In line with a precautionary approach, the Secretariat notes that these CITES-listed rosewoods could also be considered amongst the first-priority candidates to address information gaps as per Decision 18.234, subparagraph a) ii).

- c) The following non-CITES listed rosewoods taxa were reported as **highly to moderately** affected by international trade:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1) <i>Guibourtia coleosperma</i> | 6) <i>Millettia laurentii</i> |
| 2) <i>Guibourtia conjugata</i> | 7) <i>Myroxilon balsamum</i> |
| 3) <i>Guibourtia ehie</i> | 8) <i>Pterocarpus macrocarpus</i> |
| 4) <i>Guibourtia</i> spp. (species not-listed in Appendix II) | 9) <i>Swartzia benthamiana</i> |
| 5) <i>Machaerium scleroxylon</i> | 10) <i>Tabebuia rosae</i> |

The Secretariat notes that the non-CITES listed rosewoods above could be considered amongst the second-priority candidates to address information gaps as per Decision 18.234, subparagraph a) ii).

- d) The effects of international trade on wild populations of the following CITES-listed rosewood species were mostly reported as **low**. With the exception of *Dalbergia nigra* (listed in Appendix I), all the following species are listed in Appendix II:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1) <i>Aniba roseodora</i> | 5) <i>Dalbergia pinnata</i> |
| 2) <i>Dalbergia louvelii</i> | 6) <i>Dalbergia rimosa</i> |
| 3) <i>Dalbergia nigra</i> | 7) <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> |
| 4) <i>Dalbergia odorifera</i> | 8) <i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i> |

Regarding the list above, the effects of international trade on wild populations of *Dalbergia nigra* (Appendix I) were mostly reported as “low”, since the majority of the trade reported seems to be for pre-convention specimens. Regarding *Pterocarpus santalinus*, the “low risk” classification was mostly

justified by the occurrence of artificial propagation plantations (mostly in India). Regarding *Dalbergia sissoo*, the risks posed by international trade were reported as low, considering *inter alia*, that it is known to be artificially propagated in Bhutan and India, and has been classified as an invasive species in some countries (e.g. United States of America). For the remaining species identified as “low risk”, this classification was justified by responding Parties given the low to no records of international trade.

11. The main findings relevant to Decision 18.235 were as follows:

- a) Parties mentioned the value of a *CITES Checklist for Dalbergia spp.* (Decision 18.307), which should also be a useful basis for undertaking the study envisaged in Decision 18.234 (see also document PC25 Doc. 34).
- b) Additionally, responding Parties noted that the workshop called for in paragraph d) of Decision 18.234 could be held in conjunction with the proposed 2nd international expert workshop on guidance for making non-detriment findings (as per Decision 18.134, and further reported in document AC31 Doc. 14.1/PC25 Doc. 17 on *Non-detriment findings*).

Recommendations

12. The Plants Committee is invited to establish an intersessional working group on rosewood tree species to:

- a) consider the progress reported in document PC25 Doc. 26.1, including the responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2020/032 in an information document, and the compilation and analysis of responses in paragraphs 8 to 11 above;
- b) provide recommendations in preparation for the study and the international workshop referred to under Decision 18.234, including merging the latter as a component of the *2nd international workshop on guidance for making NDFs*, as per Decision 18.134 on *Non-detriment findings*;
- c) should external resources become available for undertaking the study and organizing the international workshop, consider the final study and outcomes of the workshop as they become available, and draft recommendations as per paragraph b) of Decision 18.236; and
- d) report the outcomes of its work to the Plants Committee at its 26th meeting, including draft recommendations to the Standing Committee and the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 17 and 20-23 July 2020

Species specific matters

Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]

INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN THE AFRICAN *PTEROCARPUS* ROSEWOOD SPECIES

1. This document has been submitted by the European Union and developed in consultation with its Member States.*
2. The purpose of this document is to contribute to the implementation of the following Decisions:
 - a) Decision 17.302 f) on *African tree species* addressed to the Plants Committee, and the establishment of an intersessional working group as recommended in document PC25 Doc. 28;
 - b) Decision 18.92, paragraph b), and the assessment under agenda item PC25 Doc. 15.5 on *Inclusion of Pterocarpus erinaceus from all range States in the Review of Significant Trade*; and
 - c) Decision 18.236, the intersessional working group as recommended in document *Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]*.

Background

3. This document provides background information for consideration of possible inclusion of all African species of the genus *Pterocarpus*² in Appendix II of CITES.
4. Globally, legal and illegal trade in precious timber has been increasing during the last decades, which led to the inclusion of several taxa in CITES Appendix II (Lavorgna et al., 2018). An emblematic example are the rosewood species. Rosewood is a commercial term encompassing hardwood species, including the genus *Pterocarpus*, harvested to produce the traditional “Hongmu furniture” in Asia. Rosewood trade is characterized by a shifting supply between different countries and species (Winfield et al., 2016). The stock depletion of Asia’s Hongmu species as well as stricter conservation measures and enforcement of logging regulations has resulted in a shift towards alternative species of the Fabaceae family in Latin America and Africa sharing similar characteristics particularly within the *Pterocarpus* genus (Treanor, 2015; EIA, 2016). In the meantime African rosewood comprises nearly half of the Hongmu production (Treanor, 2015).

* The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.

² With the exception of *P. erinaceus* and *P. tinctorius* which have already been included in CITES Appendix II at COP17 resp. CoP18.

5. African *Pterocarpus* species produce rosewood (e.g. *P. erinaceus* and *P. tinctorius*) or other precious hardwoods (e.g. *P. angolensis*).
6. As Document CoP17 Inf. 48 on the “Global status of *Dalbergia* and *Pterocarpus* rosewood producing species in trade (submitted by Senegal)” had been drafted four years ago in 2016, excellent information is available which may warrant some update of the current global status of African *Pterocarpus* populations.
7. There is limited information about the current range and distribution of many *Pterocarpus* species, and there do not appear to be many taxonomic references or studies of *Pterocarpus* in Africa. Most of the species in Africa were assessed by the IUCN Red List almost 20 years ago, and these assessments need to be updated. The next CITES RST-document would already include an updated account of the conservation status of *P. erinaceus* throughout all range States. Regarding the remaining species of the genus, assessments that are expected to be finalized by 2020 under the GTA of IUCN can be read at the following the webpage <https://www.bgci.org/our-work/projects-and-case-studies/global-tree-assessment/>.
8. It is clear that tree species that produce precious woods in Africa are threatened by a variety of activities, including domestic and international trade, related illegal logging, deforestation, climate change induced aridification, and encroachment of peri-urbanization. While the majority of range States in Africa do appear to have legislation in place requiring good management of forests, all range States have been losing substantial levels of forest cover over the last 15-25 years. In some countries, this rate of deforestation has rapidly increased over the last few years, which is alarming (Doc. CoP17 Inf. 48, p 178).
9. African *Pterocarpus* are a taxonomically complex group and there is much uncertainty surrounding their identification. Reliable identification of species within groups such as these remains one of the most difficult challenges in ensuring the sustainability of international timber trade. Furthermore, multiple African *Pterocarpus* species are traditionally traded under the same trade names.
10. *P. erinaceus*, and possibly *P. tinctorius*, are still subject to illegal logging and trade, notably because existing exports are mislabelled as other non-CITES species of the genus. It is considered that this vulnerability could be more efficiently addressed by listing all African species of the genus *Pterocarpus* in the CITES Appendices.
11. When specimens of a species, in the form in which they are traded, resemble specimens of a species included in Appendix II or I, there are existing provisions to include that species in Appendix II within Annex 2b of Res. Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP17) on the criteria for inclusion of species in Appendix II.

Conclusion

12. Currently, two African *Pterocarpus* species (*P. erinaceus* and *P. tinctorius*) are listed in CITES Appendix II. However, to maximize the conservation benefit of CITES and to avoid timber laundering through mislabeling, it is important to ensure that all measures applicable to those two species are also applied to their look-alike species of the genus *Pterocarpus* spp. (Some of these look-alike species may also meet the listing criteria under Article II, paragraph 2 (a) of the Convention). Rather than monitoring log exports for a single species, log/sawn wood export monitoring should be carried out for all look-alike species, with customs authorities having a good understanding of which species occur naturally in their countries. Until suitable timber identification measures that allow differentiation between species become available, the only feasible way to mitigate misidentification risks is to collectively manage those species. This is precautionary and commensurate with the risks posed by serial depletion and deliberate misreporting.
13. The listing will help customs authorities, in exporting as well as in importing countries, to enforce CITES regulation. This enforcement will target the former listed CITES rosewood species as well as these newly proposed taxa for listing.

Recommendations to the Plants Committee

14. In the application of Decision 17.302, the Plants Committee is invited to:
 - a) consider the information provided in this document;
 - b) should an intersessional working group on African tree species be established as per document PC25 Doc. 28, agree for it to include within its priorities the assessment of available scientific, technical and

more specifically taxonomic aspects regarding the African species in the genus *Pterocarpus* that are affected by the international commercial pressure on rosewood timber under Appendix II;

- c) should an intersessional working group on *Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]* be established as per document PC25 Doc. 26.1, agree for it to consider, as appropriate, the findings of the present document in preparation for the study and the international workshop called for, under paragraphs a) and b) of Decision 18.234;
- d) invite the Nomenclature specialist to assess the nomenclatural issues regarding those African species in the genus *Pterocarpus*.

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Plants Committee
Online, 2-4, 21 and 23 June 2021

Species specific matters

Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP

1. This document has been submitted by César Augusto Beltetón Chacón (representative for **Central and South America and the Caribbean**), Ursula Moser (representative for Europe) and Yan Zeng (representative for Asia), as Co-Chairs of the working group on Rosewood tree species.*
2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 18.236 on *Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]*, in which it requested the Plants Committee to: a) consider the progress reported by the Secretariat and make recommendations regarding the study and the need for the international workshop referred to under Decision 18.234; b) consider the final study, and outcomes of the workshop, if held, and make recommendations on how to enhance implementation for CITES-listed rosewood tree species with a particular focus on non-detriment findings, including with respect to capacity building; and make further recommendations regarding non-CITES-listed rosewood tree species; and c) make recommendations to the Standing Committee and the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.
3. In order to facilitate submission of the report on progress to the Plants Committee, membership of the working group was established, in coordination with the CITES Secretariat, and a questionnaire was prepared for members to report on matters inherent to the working group's mandate.
4. On 19th February 2021, the Co-Chairs of the working group sent out requests for information. Requests and relevant documentation were sent to all members of the working group in English and Spanish, and the closing date for receiving all input was established as 12th March 2021.

Acknowledgements

5. We thank the following members of the working group for their timely submission of the requested information: Canada, Germany, Mexico, the United States of America, and WWF.

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

Progress reported in document PC25 Doc. 26.1, responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2020/023 in information document PC25 Inf. 6, and compilation and analysis thereof in paragraphs 8–11 of document PC25 Doc. 26.1

6. Germany reported that it agrees with most of the recommendations. Nonetheless, with regard to 10 d), it considers that the impact of trade on wild populations of *Pterocarpus santalinus* (endemic to southeast India) remains a major concern. Ongoing illegal harvesting and trade are documented through continued seizures and subsequent auction of seized material (e.g., <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/chinese-buy-up-red-sanders-at-e-auction/articlehow/67445800.cms>). Although source code “W” is no longer used for this trade, wild populations are directly affected by it.
7. Germany noted that on page 5, point 9), the species is referred to as *Dalbergia malanoxylon* instead of *D. melanoxylon*, and requested that this be duly corrected; Germany also noted that on page 4, subparagraph 8. c) regarding non-CITES-listed species that are traded under the name “rosewood”, point 13) refers to *P. Chrysothrix*, which is a synonym for *P. tinctorius* and, therefore, should be included under 8. a) CITES-listed species that are traded under the commercial name “rosewood”. Accordingly, a correction is also requested here.
8. Mexico agreed with most of the conclusions drawn from the Secretariat’s analysis. Nonetheless, it made the following observations: subparagraph 8. b) includes the species *Dalbergia palo-escrito*, which is endemic to Mexico and was not reported by Mexico because it had no trade records for this species. However, given that Germany has reported the species in trade, Mexico considers that it would be important to identify the source of the wood reported by importing countries. In this regard, Mexico recommends that the Secretariat and the working group request this information so that the group has better elements to develop its work on point 9.
9. Mexico reported that it has now provided the CITES Secretariat with a manual for NDF formulation for *Dalbergia* spp.: https://www.biodiversidad.gob.mx/media/1/planeta/cites/files/CONABIO_NDF_dalbergia.pdf. Mexico also recommended that any other tools developed by Parties, and which include these species, should be taken into consideration, e.g., identification guides.
10. The United States of America agreed that the information shown in column C of the Questionnaire (Excel document) on Appendix II rosewood species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)] be taken into consideration in the scope of the study and organization of the proposed international workshop. With regard to Decision 18.234, it suggested that the recommendations of the PC25 Working Group on Neotropical Tree Species regarding CITES-listed rosewood tree species should also be considered appropriate.
11. The United States of America noted that only 16 Parties, including range States and non-range States (importing/re-exporting countries), replied to Notification No. 2020/023 on Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)] (PC25 Inf. Doc. 6.), and expressed its concern about the lack of response, particularly from range States, which might be due to the technological and accessibility difficulties caused by the worldwide pandemic (e.g. Internet access, data access, availability of staff/species experts). In this regard, it believes that additional opportunities are needed to ensure full participation and a broader debate on this matter, e.g., compilation of further information at the 25th meeting of the Plants Committee and/or by means of a Notification to the Parties following the Plants Committee Meeting.
12. Regarding the Appendix II taxa listed under 10. a) for consideration as first-priority candidates, including *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, the United States of America suggested that *Pterocarpus tinctorius* be included in this group. It further agreed to including two (2) of the five (5) *Dalbergia* spp. from Appendix II listed under 10. b) to be considered among the first-priority taxa included in (10. a), namely: *D. maritima*, endemic to Madagascar (IUCN EN, assessment 1998); and *D. cubilquitzensis* as a synonym for *D. tucurensis* (listed in 10. a). Reference: Cervantes, A., J. Linares, and E. Quintero; 2019. An updated checklist of the Mexican species of *Dalbergia* (Leguminosae) to aid in its conservation efforts; Conabio; Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad.
13. Regarding 8. c) non-CITES-listed species that are traded under the name “rosewood”, the United States of America noted that some of the species mentioned do not belong to the family Leguminosae (Fabaceae), namely, *Jacaranda* spp. and *Tabebuia rosea*, which belong to the family Bignoniaceae; and *Terminalia elliptica*, which belongs to the family Myrtales. It also noted that the compliance and enforcement issues raised concerning the trade of seized specimens of *Pterocarpus santalinus* (included in 10.d)) should be referred to the Standing Committee for discussion.

14. The United States of America requested that the following observations be taken into consideration with regard to the taxa listed in column C:
15. Regarding the 33 *Dalbergia* species reportedly traded under the name “rosewood” (8. b), *D. kingiana* (#17) is not a tree, but a shrub, and *Dalbergia rimosa* is classified as a woody liana or, in some cases, as an erect shrub or treelet, height 4–6 (-10) metres (see: Flora of China Vol. 10 (http://www.efloras.org/florataxon.aspx?flora_id=2&taxon_id=109237)). Nonetheless, timber products of these species are found in international trade.
16. Regarding 8. b) and 10. a), a number of *Dalbergia* species are accepted synonyms, based on other recognized references; however, they are not included as such in CITES Species +.
 - D. abbreviata* is a synonym for *D. velutina* Benth. (see <https://indiabiodiversity.org/species/show/245305>; POTW).
 - D. bariensis* is a synonym for *D. oliveri* (POTW).
 - D. cubilquitzensis* is a synonym for *D. tucurensis* (POTW).
 Further, *D. frutescens* is misspelled (*D. frutascens*), as is *D. melanoxyton* (misspelled as *D. 16elanoxyton*).
17. With regard to 8. C), *Lonchocarpus* spp. (misspelled as *Lonchocarpum*); *Myroxylon balsamum* (misspelled as *Myroxilon balsamum*); *Pterocarpus chrysothrix* is an accepted synonym for *P. tinctorius* (see POTW; CoP17 Inf. 48); *Tabebuia rosea* (misspelled as *T. rosae*); and *Terminalia alta* is an accepted synonym for *T. elliptica* (POTW); in 8. D) *Aniba rosodora* (misspelled as *Aniba roseodora*).

Consideration of the conclusions and recommendations shown in document PC25 Doc. 26.2 on International trade in African *Pterocarpus* rosewood species

18. Germany reported that it would welcome the inclusion of the two CITES-listed species of *Pterocarpus*, i.e., *P. tinctorius* and *P. erinaceus*, and also the remaining African species of *Pterocarpus*, in the scope of the study and the workshop mentioned in Decision 18.234 a) and b).
19. Germany reported that *P. erinaceus* is already included for consideration, pursuant to document PC 25 Doc. 26.1 No.10 a), and Decision 18.234 a) ii), to consider all CITES-listed “rosewood tree species” that are highly to moderately affected by trade as the first priority for compiling available data and information on the biology, population status, management, use and trade in order to address information gaps. Germany further noted that in document PC 25 Doc. 26.1, page 4, *P. tinctorius* is not referred to as such, but by the synonym *P. chrysothrix*.
20. The United States of America disagrees with “the entire *Pterocarpus* genus” being included in the preparation of the study and the international workshop. Decision 18.234 a) ii) establishes “as a second priority, non CITES-listed rosewood tree species, in particular those that are highly sought after for the timber trade”. The genus *Pterocarpus* includes 5–9 African species (depending on the reference used), including *P. erinaceus* and *P. tinctorius*, commonly known as African rosewood; five species from Asia Pacific, including *P. santalinus* from Appendix II; and two native species from the Western Hemisphere. Based on a cursory review, there does not seem to be any overlap between the ranges of the Asia-Pacific species and those of the African species. The United States of America noted that there is not enough information to support the entire genus being included in the scope of the study, particularly given the lack of response from range States that export timber products of *Pterocarpus* species.
21. The United States of America noted that it supports the inclusion of Appendix II African rosewood species *Pterocarpus erinaceus* and *P. tinctorius* as first-priority species, according to Decision 18.234 a) ii). It further noted that it would prefer efforts to be focused on CITES-listed species traded under the name “rosewood” in order to enhance CITES implementation for these species. Nonetheless, it would not be opposed to including non-CITES-listed species of African *Pterocarpus* that are highly sought after for the timber trade for them to be considered second-priority species pursuant to Decision 18.234 a) ii).

Providing recommendations in preparation for the study and international workshop referred to in Decision 18.234, including recommendations for it to be organized within the framework of the second international workshop on guidance to formulating NDFs, pursuant to Decision 18.134 on Non-detriment findings.

Management initiatives or financial mechanisms identified for funding the study and international workshop referred to in Decision 18.234

22. Canada indicated the need to initiate cooperation with companies and manufacturers involved in the international trade of semi-finished and finished rosewood products, in order to:
 - a) obtain financial support for the proposed study and international workshop; and
 - b) enable, in cooperation with range States, the establishment of facilities for the propagation of priority rosewood species and the production of management plantations to guarantee that populations of priority species remain accessible and secure in the long term.
23. The United States of America reported that, with regard to paragraph c) of the working group's mandate, it agrees with the findings shown under 11 b), namely, to consider holding the international workshop called for in Decision 18.234 in conjunction with the proposed second international expert workshop on guidance for making NDFs as per Decision 18.134, particularly in view of the fact that there is some overlap in the scope of the two proposed workshops, and that both depend on external funding.
24. The United States of America pointed out that, in view of the current worldwide health and travel restrictions, which will probably remain in force throughout 2021 and possibly until 2022, the Working Group might consider recommending that the Plants Committee prolong the Decisions on rosewood species at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP19, 2022).

Availability of external funding for implementation of the study and organization of the international workshop, consideration of the final study and outcome of the workshop as they become available, and drafting of recommendations, as indicated in paragraph b) of Decision 18.236

Topics and content considered relevant or priority to be addressed in the framework of the international workshop referred to in Decision 18.234

25. Germany noted that the data and information that facilitate implementation of current listings are linked to:
 - raising awareness of the sustainability aspect of CITES;
 - strengthening the management of CITES-listed tree species;
 - raising awareness of the importance of management plans (including their monitoring) and reliable, representative inventories, including the potential regeneration and growth rates of the respective species;
 - recommending the implementation of projects to study annual diameter growth rates and regenerative potential of the species, and to provide guidelines and recommendations;
 - exploring the synergies between certification bodies (FSC, PEFC) and CITES; and
 - strengthening international cooperation among CITES Scientific Authorities.
26. Mexico recommended: 1) tackling information gaps (e.g., importing countries to report the origin of traded species), and establishing priorities for attention (e.g., define key information to be included, ideally, in management plans); 2) creating synergies among range States in terms of species conservation and CITES implementation; 3) fostering cooperation between importing and exporting countries to improve the traceability of "rosewood" species in trade by creating strategies to guarantee sustainability, strengthening coordination among the three CITES Authorities with regard to information sharing, identifying further materials and tools to be developed in order to enhance CITES implementation for rosewood species.
27. Canada suggested taking into consideration: 1) the current classification of rosewood species and identification of synonyms and misidentified species; 2) long-term projected or planned supply of priority species; 3) propagation and silvicultural techniques to produce plantations of priority species; 4) market trends and projected demand of CITES-listed species; 5) indications or projections of market demand or trends toward non-Cites-listed rosewood species; and 6) security trends and legal acquisition of priority species.

28. The United States of America noted that further opportunities are needed to ensure a greater participation of the Parties, particularly from the range States, and more in-depth discussion and debate on this important matter. With regard to the data and information currently used to report on the implementation of CITES listings of “rosewood” tree species, and in order to identify relevant information and information gaps, or the needs of candidate “rosewood” species, the United States of America further suggested that the following be considered:
- the list of CITES-listed “rosewood” tree species (first-priority category, with current nomenclature references);
 - distribution and range of “rosewood” tree species;
 - conservation status of the species, including threats;
 - population structure and trends;
 - reproductive biology, regeneration rate, and recruitment rates of the species;
 - inventory / population monitoring;
 - population management practices/stands/concessions and ownership (local/community, regional, national, etc.);
 - minimum/maximum diameter measurements;
 - methodology and application of timber conversion factor;
 - trade, traceability and monitoring information/protocols;
 - species grown in plantations and other types of production systems;
 - timber identification methods (e.g., anatomical, chemical and genetic analyses), materials, including proof of origin/georeferenced samples, identification tools, equipment and technologies;
 - Customs and enforcement capacity needs for identification of CITES-listed timber species;
 - identifying needs for capacity-building, identification materials and tools; and
 - the need for voucher specimens from range States for identification.
29. WWF believes that the workshop should produce a list of candidate taxa for inclusion, where possible, at genus level.

Structure of the agenda for the international workshop referred to in Decision 18.234 in order to achieve the proposed objectives

30. Germany noted that there is some overlap between the scope of the proposed international workshop on rosewood tree species and the scope of the second international workshop on guidance on the preparation of NDFs referred to in Decision 18.134 on Non-detriment findings. Germany considers that the recommendations relating to non-CITES-listed species obviously are not the subject of the workshop on NDFs (unless the impacts on ecosystems are analyzed). That said, Germany believes that, depending on the final structure of the second international workshop on guidance for making NDFs, and provided that the appropriate aspects are covered, relevant recommendations will be forthcoming to address Decisions 18.234 to 18.237.
31. Mexico considers it appropriate to hold the workshop on rosewood species within the framework of the 2nd International Workshop on NDFs (Decision 18.134), and considers that the agenda should be drawn up based on the priorities identified by the Parties as per previous paragraph.
32. Canada suggested organizing a committee (“working group”), composed of Parties from the range States, importing Parties, Scientific Authorities, and stakeholders in international trade, in order to identify contributors and draw up a comprehensive workshop agenda that reflects the priorities of each of the stakeholder groups previously identified.
33. The United States of America noted that agrees with the international workshop referred to in Decision 18.234 being held as part of the second international expert workshop on non-detriment findings (NDFs) mentioned in Decisions 18.132–18.134, particularly considering the cost of the proposed workshops. Taking into account the current worldwide health and travel restrictions, perhaps it would be better for many countries if it were held in 2022. If the international workshop on rosewood is held separately, the United States of America suggests that it be held online, or in the form of regional workshops, e.g., in East Asia, Africa and Madagascar, and Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean.
34. Regarding suggestions for the second international expert workshop on non-detriment findings (NDFs) requested in Decisions 18.132–18.134, in response to CITES Notification to the Parties No. 2021/007 on Non-detriment findings (NDF), the United States of America:

- Supports the recommendations submitted by the representatives of the North American Region to the Animals and Plants Committee;
- Firmly supports the recommendation of the North American Region to establish a technical advisory committee (TAC); and
- Suggests that all members of the Animals/Plants Committee form part of the TAC, as has happened in the past when the Committees implemented similar tasks and determined which stakeholders should be included. This would be particularly important when updating guidance materials and planning the workshop on NDFs.

The United States of America also recommended that the following information be taken into consideration:

- gaps and needs when making non-detriment findings when harvesting and trade are ongoing, while the needs for scientific research on the species are being addressed;
- findings that determine that the export of specimens is not detrimental under certain conditions such as the harvest period, and/or age restrictions, and/or sex restrictions, and/or class and age restrictions, and/or limitations on harvesting gear, and/or size limitations, and/or harvest/catch quotas, and harvest monitoring for adaptive management. This approach allows for some exports to take place while research data is being collected for an informed NDF. Case studies in which this approach was adopted for formulating NDFs would be illustrative. The first Workshop on NDFs in Cancun, Mexico, focused on a risk approach that was explored in plenary sessions and case studies. The United States of America believes that it would be useful to consider the formulation of NDFs with conditions; and
- another gap/need related to the formulation of NDFs, and which it might be useful to discuss at a workshop on NDFs, would be the practice of formulating national and/or regional NDFs for species that are managed at a national or regional level. A regional approach might prove particularly useful for shared species, transboundary species, marine fishes and migratory species. A national-level NDF for a species, rather than individual applications, could provide a holistic framework for formulating NDFs for the species and would contribute to guaranteeing standard management practices for the populations in that country. It would also provide opportunities for establishing sanctuaries/protected areas in a country.

35. WWF reported that it would be pleased to participate in any calls for proposals or other processes aimed at finalizing the agenda.

Recommendations

36. The Plants Committee is invited to based on the progress achieved in the implementation of Decisions 18.234 to 18.237, give consideration to the pertinence of the following draft Decisions for consideration of the Conference of the Parties:

19.AA Directed to the Secretariat

Subject to external resources, the Secretariat shall:

- a) commission a study on the conservation and trade rosewood-tree species identified, taking into account the priorities, findings and recommendations contained in documents PC25 Doc. 26.1, PC25 Doc. 26.2 and PC25 Doc. 26.3;
- b) report on the progress of the study to the Plants Committee;
- c) taking into account the above, organize an international workshop, inviting relevant range States, trading countries, relevant organizations, industry representatives and other experts, with a view to presenting and discussing the results, and develop recommendations; and
- d) submit the final study for consideration by the Plants Committee, as well as the outcomes of the workshop, if held.

19.BB *Directed to the Plants Committee*

The Plants Committee shall consider any progress reported by the Secretariat in relation to the implementation of Decision 19.AA and make recommendations to the Secretariat, the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

19.CC *Directed to the Parties*

Parties are invited to collaborate with the Secretariat and the Plants Committee in the implementation of Decisions 19.AA and 19.BB, and support the work of the study and the international workshop, including seeking external resources from relevant organizations and stakeholders.

19.DD *Directed to the Standing Committee*

The Standing Committee shall:

- a) consider any report relating to the implementation of Decision 19.AA to 19.CC;
- b) identify any implementation and enforcement issues associated with the international trade in rosewood tree species, particularly those identified as a priority by the Plants Committee; and
- c) make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.