

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
FRIDAY 9 JUNE 2023

16. Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species
- 16.3 Implementation of the recommendations of the Plants Committee by Madagascar on *Prunus africana* ..... PC26 Doc. 16.3
- 16.2 Ongoing cases selected between CoP11 and CoP17 ..... PC26 Doc. 16.2
- 16.4 Ongoing cases of species selected following CoP18 (*Pterocarpus erinaceus* as an exceptional case)..... PC26 Doc. 16.4
- and
- 16.5 Selection of new species/country combinations for review following CoP19 ..... PC26 Doc. 16.5

The Committee noted that the alternate representative for Asia (Mr. Chong), Australia, Cameroon, Ireland, Peru, Singapore, Switzerland and Togo had participated in the working group on the Review of Significant Trade and that the representative for Europe (Ms. Moser) participated in the working group as Switzerland.

The Committee agreed the recommendations in document PC26 Com. 6 amended as follows:

Democratic Republic of the Congo/*Pericopsis elata* (selected following CoP11)

The Committee recommended that the Secretariat takes into account the positive feedback received on the progress made by the Democratic Republic of the Congo/*Pericopsis elata*, in its reporting to SC77.

The Committee further recommended for the Secretariat to, in consultation with the Chair of the Plants Committee, publish the quota proposed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The Committee further recommended that the Secretariat consider the withdrawal of Democratic Republic of the Congo/*Pericopsis elata* from the Review of Significant Trade in its reporting to SC77 based on the progress made by the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the implementation of the Committee's recommendations.

Democratic Republic of the Congo/*Prunus africana* (selected following CoP16)

The Committee recommended that the Secretariat takes into account the positive feedback received on the progress made by the Democratic Republic of the Congo/*Prunus africana*, in its reporting to SC77.

The Committee further recommended that the Secretariat consider the withdrawal of Democratic Republic of the Congo/*Prunus africana* from the Review of Significant Trade in its reporting to SC77

due to the progress made by the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the implementation of the Committee's recommendations.

Panama/*Dalbergia retusa* (selected following CoP17)

The Committee recommended for the Secretariat to consider recommending the removal of Panama/*D. retusa* in its reporting to SC77. This is in light of the progress achieved in the implementation of the RST recommendations and Panama's intention to retain the zero export quota until export quotas higher than zero are deemed sustainable. Panama would need to submit their NDF to the Plants Committee for consideration prior to the resumption of trade.

Implementation of the recommendations of the Plants Committee by Madagascar on *Prunus africana*

The Committee acknowledged and commended the work and progress of Madagascar in meeting the recommendations of the PC. The Committee invited the Secretariat to publish the requested quota for 2024 (for the region Sofia II in Madagascar).

Benin/ *Pterocarpus erinaceus*

The Committee acknowledged the progress made by Benin in implementing the short-term recommendation (paragraph a) and recommended that the remaining recommendations be addressed as a case study at the NDF workshop.

Burkina Faso/ *Pterocarpus erinaceus*

The Committee acknowledged the progress made by Burkina Faso in implementing the short-term recommendation (paragraph a) and recommended the retention of the long-term recommendations.

Gambia (the)/ *Pterocarpus erinaceus*

The Committee noted that no progress has been made by the Gambia in the implementation of the recommendations contained in Annex 1 and recommended that the Secretariat reports to SC77 that the recommendations (short-term and long-term) have not been implemented. The Committee further noted that a recommendation to suspend trade is already in place under Article XIII.

Ghana/ *Pterocarpus erinaceus*

The Committee acknowledged the progress made by Ghana in implementing the short-term recommendation (paragraph a) and recommended the retention of the long-term recommendations.

Guinea Bissau/ *Pterocarpus erinaceus*

The Committee noted that no progress has been made by Guinea Bissau in the implementation of the recommendations contained in Annex 1 and recommended that the Secretariat reports to SC77 that the recommendations (short-term and long-term) have not been implemented. The Committee further noted that a recommendation to suspend trade is already in place under Article XIII.

Mali/ *Pterocarpus erinaceus*

The Committee acknowledged the significant progress made by Mali in implementing the long-term recommendations and accepted that the NDF presented by Mali supports the quota requested. The Committee further noted that a recommendation to suspend trade is already in place under Article XIII and that trade can only resume once this suspension is lifted. The Committee further recommended that the Secretariat publish any potential future quota proposed by Mali in round wood equivalent.

Nigeria/ *Pterocarpus erinaceus*

The Committee acknowledged the progress made by Nigeria in implementing the short-term recommendation (paragraph a) and recommended the retention of the long-term recommendations. The Committee further noted that a recommendation to suspend trade is already in place under Article XIII.

Sierra Leone/ *Pterocarpus erinaceus*

The Committee acknowledged the progress made by Sierra Leone in implementing the short-term recommendation (paragraph a) and the significant progress made in delivering the long-term recommendations.

Selection of new species/country combinations for review following CoP19

In accordance with paragraph 1 b) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18), the Committee recommended the following species/country combinations for inclusion in Stage 2 of the Review of Significant Trade. Cases where Parties are confirmed as non-range States and where discrepancies in the trade data is explained will be removed, and their removal will be reported to PC27.

<b>Species</b>	<b>Country selected</b>	<b>Justification</b>
<i>Euphorbia poissonii</i>	Ghana (GH)	Sharp increase (global); Sharp increase (Ghana)
<i>Dalbergia melanoxylon</i>	Mozambique (MZ); United Republic of Tanzania (TZ); Uganda (UG); Kenya (KE)	High volume (Globally Threatened); Sharp increase (Kenya)
<i>Dalbergia tucurensis</i>	Nicaragua (NI)	Endangered species; High volume (Globally Threatened)
<i>Guibourtia tessmannii</i>	Equatorial Guinea (GQ), Gabon (GA), Cameroon (CM)	Endangered species; High volume (Globally Threatened)
<i>Osyris lanceolata</i>	All Range States plus South Sudan*	High volume; Sharp increase (United Republic of Tanzania)
<i>Aquilaria crassna</i>	Viet Nam (VN), Thailand (TH), Malaysia (MY)*	Endangered species; Sharp increase (Viet Nam)
<i>Aquilaria malaccensis</i>	Indonesia (ID), Malaysia (MY), Singapore (SG), Thailand (TH), India (IN)	Endangered species; High volume (Globally Threatened)
<i>Gyrinops</i> spp.	Indonesia (ID), Papua New Guinea (PG)	Sharp increase (global); Sharp increase (Indonesia)

\* An asterisk denotes a non-range State.

*Echinocactus grusonii* (endemic to Mexico)

The Committee noted exports of this species from several non-range States, including the Netherlands, Iran and Thailand. The Committee recommended that the Secretariat follow up with these Parties on the origin of the parental stock and the use of source codes and report any issues arising to the Standing Committee.

*Mammillaria laui* (endemic to Mexico)

The Committee noted exports of this species from the Netherlands, which is not a range State. The Committee recommended that the Secretariat follow up with the Netherlands on the origin of the parental stock and the use of source codes and report any issues arising to the Standing Committee.

*Mammillaria* spp.

The Committee noted exports of *Mammillaria* spp., which is native to the Americas, from China, Iran and the Netherlands. The Committee recommended that the Secretariat follows up with these Parties on their use of source codes, confirm whether or not they are range States for species within this genus, on the origin of the parental stock and whether they are reported at the genus or species level and report any issues arising to the Standing Committee.

The Committee also noted concerns on the data presented in the tables found in the Annexes to document PC26 Doc. 16.5, specifically concerning re-exports and trade that was indicated as artificially propagated (source code 'A') by the exporting Party that was subsequently reported as wild (source code 'W') by the importing Party, and the importer data is used in the gross analysis. The Committee recommended inviting the Secretariat to liaise with UNEP-WCMC to see if there is a way that such errors could be addressed at an earlier stage in the RST process in future analyses.

33. Neotropical tree species..... PC26 Doc. 33

The Committee noted that the European Union and IPCI France Europe had participated in the working group.

The Committee agreed the recommendations in document PC26 Com. 7 as follows:

The Committee established an intersessional working group on neotropical tree species open to the range States of neotropical tree species with the mandate to consider the recommendations in document PC26 Com. 7 and to draft recommendations for the Plants Committee at its 27th meeting.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Belteton Chacon);

Parties: Belgium, Chile, Colombia, European Union, France, Germany, Netherlands, Panama, Peru, Portugal, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: International Tropical Timber Organization, Center for International Environmental Law, International Society of Violin and Bow Makers, IPCI France Europe, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC, World Wide Fund for Nature.

The Committee invited the Secretariat to publish a Notification to invite Parties to express an interest in joining the intersessional working group, noting that all range States of neotropical tree species are invited to be members of the working group. The Committee noted that the final membership of the joint intersessional working group would be published in a Notification to the Parties.

The Committee agreed to exclude from the prioritization process the species *Araucaria araucana*, *Fitzroya cupressoides*, *Pilgerodendron uviferum* and *Abies guatemalensis*, *Podocarpus parlatorei*, *Balmea stormiae*; and noted that these recommendations to establish priorities may be applied to other CITES-listed neotropical species that are priority species for Parties who are range States.

The Committee recommended that projects be designed and promoted for the targeted species in order to build capacities, including: research on population studies, management plans, identification of species and timber, non-detriment findings, legal acquisition findings, and traceability in the trade of the species concerned.

The Committee recommended that mechanisms for cooperation with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental institutions be established in order to obtain funding to enable implementation of prioritized activities, for which purpose, the Secretariat's support will be required.

The Committee invited the Secretariat to publish a Notification to the Parties requesting range States of neotropical tree species to:

- a) consider whether or not to confirm the prioritized list prepared by the working group at the 26th meeting of the Plants Committee; and
- b) invite Parties to submit information on priorities for strengthening implementation of the Convention with regard to neotropical tree species, based on the notification.

The Committee noted that implementation of projects funded by donors, and cooperation efforts involving other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, which already include species listed in the Annex to document PC26 Doc. 33, will continue. Further fundraising efforts will be geared towards new projects, based on the priorities established by the relevant Parties that are range States, in accordance with the results of the aforementioned Notification to the Parties.

13. CITES and forests ..... PC26 Doc. 13

The Committee agreed the recommendations in document PC26 Com. 8 amended as follows:

- a) The Committee agreed with the report on the 'CITES and forests compendium: CoP19-CoP20' as contained in Annex 1 to the present executive summary.
- b) The Committee invited the Secretariat to use the revised draft terms of reference contained in Annex 2 to the present executive summary in the process of commissioning the study called for in paragraph b) of Decision 19.32.
- c) The Committee invited the Secretariat to incorporate in its report to the Standing Committee the challenges and opportunities associated with any future initiative relating to CITES-listed forest species, with a particular focus on tree species, and to take into account the discussions at PC25, SC74, CoP19 and PC26.
- d) Concerning the scope of any new initiative on forests and the compendium on CITES and forests, the Committee agreed to continue focusing on CITES-listed tree species for this intersessional period recalling that during the CoP19, it was discussed that, although the scope could eventually necessitate consideration of all forest species, including both fauna and flora, the initial focus should be on tree species.

## 8. Plants Committee strategic planning for 2023-2025 (CoP19-CoP20)

### 8.2 Plants Committee workplan..... PC26 Doc. 8.2 (Rev. 1)

The Committee agreed the lead or co-leads identified for the relevant Resolution or Decision in the current work plan.

#### Adoption of executive summary PC26 Sum. 2

The Committee adopted executive summary PC26 Sum. 2 with the following amendments:

- under agenda item 18, the first part of the sentence should read: “The Committee noted the concerns raised regarding document PC26 Doc. 18...”;
- under agenda item 30, first paragraph a) should read: “clarify what would constitute a potential concern based on the analysis of the trade data;”;
- under agenda item 30, replace “alternate representative for Asia (Mr. Chong)” with “representative for Asia (Ms. Zeng)”;
- under agenda item 37, paragraph d) should read: “include an evaluation to assess if annotation #15 meets the guidance and principles contained in Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP19) on *Use of annotations in Appendices I and II*; and”;
- under agenda item 18 in French, the recommendation should read: “Le Comité prend note des préoccupations qui sont soulevées par le document PC26 Doc. 18 préparé par l’Union européenne et convient d’inviter le Secrétariat à émettre une notification afin de transmettre tout retour d’information à l’Union européenne.”; and
- under agenda item 32 in Spanish, delete “Permanente” in the first sentence.

#### Adoption of executive summary PC26 Sum. 3

The Committee adopted executive summary PC26 Sum. 3 with the following amendments:

- under agenda item 24, add at the end of the sentence: “and *A Guide to the application of CITES source codes*”; and
- under agenda item 43, add document PC26 Doc. 43.1 in the list of documents considered by the working group.

## Regional matters

### 44. Regional reports

- 44.1 Africa ..... *No document*
- 44.2 Asia ..... *No document*
- 44.3 Central and South America and the Caribbean ..... PC26 Doc. 44.3
- 44.4 Europe ..... PC26 Doc. 44.4
- 44.5 North America ..... PC26 Doc. 44.5
- 44.6 Oceania ..... PC26 Doc. 44.6

The Committee noted the oral reports and documents PC26 Doc. 44.3 to PC26 Doc. 44.6.

## Concluding items

45. Any other business ..... *No document*

There was no intervention.

46. Time and venue of the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee ..... *No document*

The Committee noted that the 27th meeting of the Plants Committee and the 33rd meeting of the Animals Committee should take place in Geneva from 8 to 19 July 2024.

47. Closing remarks ..... *No document*

The Secretary-General and the Chair thanked the Committee members, in particular those that chaired in-session working groups, as well as Party observers, intergovernmental organizations, and non-governmental organizations, the interpreters, the operators and the Secretariat; and the Chair closed the meeting.

THE 'CITES FOREST COMPENDIUM: COP19-COP20'  
REPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH A) OF DECISION 19.32

### Introduction

Decisions 19.32 and 19.33 request that any new initiative on CITES and forests focuses on or prioritizes CITES-listed tree species. In congruence, the compendium is focused at this stage on CITES provisions relevant to tree-species.

The compendium is structured in three sections, as follows:

- Section 1: Resolutions that may provide a technical (operational and scientific) or strategic policy framework for any new initiative on *CITES and forests* with a focus on tree-species.
- Section 2: Decisions relevant to tree-species with potential for implementation via a programmatic approach for any new initiative on *CITES and forests*.
- Section 3: Examples of cross-cutting processes of the Convention that contribute to global forest relevant mandates and forest policies and initiatives under a *CITES and forests* programmatic approach and a list of projects for the period between CoP19 (2022) and CoP20 (2025)

Section 1: Resolutions that may provide a technical (operational and scientific) or strategic policy framework for any new initiative on *CITES and forests* with a focus on tree-species

The approach for this section is adapted from the rationale contained in the Annex 1 to document [PC25 Doc. 12](#), and updated on the basis of the Resolutions in effect following CoP19.

<b>Resolution</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Technical (operational and scientific) and/or strategic</b>
Resolution Conf. 9.19 (Rev. CoP15)	Registration of nurseries that artificially propagate specimens of Appendix-I plant species for export purposes	Technical  Guidance on the process and requirements to register nurseries including the role of the commercial nursery, the Management Authority and the Secretariat.
Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP18)	Implementation of the Convention for tree species	Technical  Guidance on consultation with international organizations on amendment proposals; definitions to be applied with respect to annotations relating to tree species and 'artificially propagated'; the establishment of export quotas; identification and forensics for tree species; and improving public understanding of the role of the Convention in the conservation of tree species.
Resolution Conf. 11.11 (Rev. CoP18)	Regulation of trade in plants	Technical  Guidance on the definition of 'artificially propagated'; grafted plants; hybrids; cultivars; flaked seedlings of Appendix-I orchids; the definition of 'plant obtained through assisted production'; plant specimens in international trade under

		exemptions; enforcement for plants; trade in salvaged plant specimens; and education about plant conservation through CITES.
Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP19)	Standard nomenclature	<p>Technical</p> <p>Guidance on nomenclature matters including a list of standard references adopted by the Conference of the Parties. A common understanding of the scientific names of species is important to ensure a common body of knowledge is shared across CITES authorities to inform non-detriment findings, permitting processes and enforcement for CITES-listed tree species. Note that CITES standard references or checklists do not aim to keep pace with every new study or taxonomic treatment, except where it may impact CITES implementation.</p>
Resolution Conf. 14.4	Cooperation between CITES and ITTO regarding trade in tropical timber	<p>Strategic</p> <p>Guidance on consultation with ITTO on amendment proposals; and other matters relating to cooperation with ITTO related to tropical timber species threatened by international trade and sustainable management of tropical timber producing forests.</p>
Resolution Conf. 16.10	Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa	<p>Technical</p> <p>Guidance on artificially propagated specimens for agar-wood producing taxa, non-detriment findings and management and trade controls.</p>
Resolution Conf. 16.4	Cooperation of CITES with other biodiversity-related conventions	<p>Strategic</p> <p>Guidance on strengthening the cooperation, coordination and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions at all relevant levels.</p>
Resolution Conf. 16.5	Cooperation with the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of the Convention on Biological Diversity	<p>Strategic</p> <p>Guidance on the potential contribution of CITES to the objectives and targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020 through activities and products listed in an Annex to the Resolution.</p>
Resolution Conf. 16.6 (Rev. CoP18)	CITES and livelihoods	<p>Technical and/or strategic</p> <p>Guidance on livelihood issues, including empowerment of rural communities; enabling policies; engagement of rural communities in combatting illegal trade in wildlife; and potential shift from <i>in situ</i> to <i>ex situ</i> production due to the inclusion of species in the CITES Appendices.</p>



Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17)	Non-detriment findings	Technical  The Resolution includes guidance relating to the concepts and non-binding principles to be taken into account by Scientific Authorities in considering whether trade would be detrimental to the survival of a species.
Resolution Conf. 18.3	CITES Strategic Vision : 2021-2030	Strategic  The Resolution sets out the CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030, including the vision statement, purpose, the five strategic goals and objectives agreed under each goal.
Resolution Conf. 18.7 (Rev. CoP19)	Legal acquisition findings	Technical  The Resolution includes Guiding principles to be used by Parties for verifying the legal acquisition of specimens to be exported.
Resolution Conf. 19.4	Materials for the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species	Technical  The Resolution provides for the development of identification materials and the regular review and analysis of materials to ensure the needs of Parties in this regard are addressed. The ability of CITES Inspection officers and Customs officials to identify CITES-listed species and commodities in trade is critical to the implementation and enforcement of the protections afforded to CITES-listed species.

Section 2: Decisions relevant to tree-species with potential for implementation via a programmatic approach for any new initiative on *CITES and forests*

In addition to focusing the table below on CITES-listed tree species, special consideration was given to Decisions that call for the implementation of relevant projects or studies that are dependent on the availability of external financial resources. This is intended to give an idea of how any future CITES programme on forests could be tailored, and how future flagship initiatives under a *CITES and forests* 'label' could take shape.

Below are decisions directed to the Plants Committee that will inform work to improve implementation of CITES for regulated tree species. This breadth of activities demonstrates the wide-ranging role of the CITES Plants Committee in coordination with the Secretariat to provide technical expertise to improve sustainable use and conservation of CITES-listed tree species. The Plants Committee prioritizes efforts to address decisions as part of their workplan (PC26 Doc. 8.2 / PC26 SR) which is agreed following each meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

<b>Decision No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Baseline for implementation via a programmatic framework on <i>CITES and forests</i> (relevant documents including studies and projects)</b>
<b>Strategic matters</b>		
19.32 to 19.34	CITES and forests	PC26 Doc. 13 PC26 SR
<i>Capacity-building</i>		
19.49 and 19.50	CITES Tree Species Programme	PC26 Doc. 15 (see also section 3 of the Annex) PC26 SR
<b>Compliance</b>		
19.71 to 19.73	Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods ( <i>Dalbergia</i> spp.) and ebonies ( <i>Diospyros</i> spp.)	To be discussed by the Standing Committee at its 77th meeting (SC77).
<b>Regulation of trade</b>		
19.145 to 19.148	Identification of timber and other wood products	PC26 Doc. 20 (see also section 3 of the Annex) PC26 SR
<i>Exemptions and special trade provisions</i>		
19.182 to 19.183	Guidance on the term 'artificially propagated'	PC26 Doc. 24 PC26 SR
<b>Species conservation and trade</b>		
<i>Flora</i>		
19.239 to 19.240	Agarwood-producing taxa ( <i>Aquilaria</i> spp. and <i>Gyrinops</i> spp.)	PC26 Doc. 27 PC26 SR
19.241 and 19.242	Boswellia trees ( <i>Boswellia</i> spp.)	PC26 Doc. 28.1 PC26 Doc. 28.2 PC26 SR
19.243 to 19.245	Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]	PC26 Doc. 29 (see also section 3 of the Annex) PC26 SR
19.246 to 19.248	Products containing specimens of Appendix II orchids (Orchidaceae spp.)	PC26 Doc. 30 PC26 SR
19.249 to 19.253	Brazil wood ( <i>Paubrasilia echinata</i> )	PC26 Doc. 31 PC26 SR
19.254 to 19.256	African tree species	PC26 Doc. 32 PC26 SR
19.257 to 19.260	Neotropical tree species	PC26 Doc. 33 PC26 SR
19.261 to 19.264	Trade in medicinal and aromatic plant species	PC26 Doc. 34 PC26 SR
<b>Appendices of the Convention</b>		
<i>Annotations</i>		
18.321 (Rev. CoP19) to 18.322 (Rev. CoP19)	Annotation #15	PC26 Doc. 37 PC26 SR

18.317 (Rev. CoP19) and 19.265	Information system for trade in specimens of CITES-listed tree species	PC26 Doc. 38 PC26 SR
<i>Nomenclature matters</i>		
18.307 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.308 (Rev. CoP19)	Production of a CITES Checklist for rosewoods ( <i>Dalbergia</i> spp.)	PC26 Doc. 43.1 PC26 SR
19.281 and 19.282	Nomenclature for ebonies ( <i>Diospyros</i> spp.) (populations of Madagascar)	PC26 Doc. Doc. 43.4 PC26 SR
19.290 and 19.291	Nomenclature for yews ( <i>Taxus</i> spp.)	PC26 Doc. 43.9 PC26 SR

Section 3: Examples of cross-cutting processes of the Convention that contribute to global forest-relevant mandates and forest policies and initiatives under a potential *CITES and forests* programmatic approach and a list of projects for the period between CoP19 and CoP20

This section of the compendium is devoted to a list of projects relevant for tree species, including projects that relate to the implementation of cross-cutting provisions and processes of the Convention.

3.1. Article XIII and resolutions Res. Conf. 14.3 on *CITES compliance procedures* and Res. Conf. 18.7 (Rev. CoP19) on *Legal acquisition findings*

- a) Support in the implementation of applicable recommendations for *Pterocarpus erinaceus*/range States subject to a recommendation to suspend trade on the basis of compliance and enforcement (Article XIII) (see also <https://cites.org/eng/resources/ref/suspend.php>). This could include development of case studies on legal acquisition findings for *P. erinaceus* for range States subject to compliance recommendations under the Article XIII process (see [Notification to the Parties No. 2022/045](#)).
- b) Support in the implementation of applicable recommendations for *Dalbergia* spp. for the Lao People's Democratic Republic, as a follow up to the relevant outputs of the [CITES-FAO project on improved forest governance in the Lower Mekong Region](#).

3.2. Article IV and Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18) on *Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix II species* (RST)

- a) Support in the implementation of outstanding RST recommendations for selected current cases of tree species/country combinations (see document PC26 Doc. 16.2)
- b) Support in the implementation of recommendations of *Pterocarpus erinaceus*/country combinations selected as an exceptional case in stage 2 of the RST process (see also document PC26 Doc. 16.4).

3.3. Article IV and Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) on *Non-detriment findings* (NDF)

- a) Implementation of Decisions 19.243 to 19.245 on *Rosewood tree species [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)]* (see PC26 Doc. 29).
- b) Implementation of the CITES NDF project's workstream on high-value timbers, including any progress in the testing of any new NDF guidance in the field (see document PC26 Doc. 17).

3.4. Article XII and Resolution Conf. 19.4 on *Materials for the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species*

Implementation of Decisions 19.145 to 19.148 on *Identification of timber and other wood products* (see also document PC26 Doc. 20)

3.5. Resolution Conf. 19.2 on *Capacity-building*

Implementation of projects and programmes relevant to CITES-listed tree species, such as the *CITES tree species programme* (CTSP; Decisions 19.49 and 19.50), the [CITES-FAO project on improved forest governance in the Lower Mekong Region](#), and other upcoming capacity-building projects on tree species managed by the Secretariat during the period CoP19 to CoP20.

REVISED DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE  
INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDY ON CITES AND FORESTS

**Outcome 1: Interdisciplinary study**

Activity 1\*

\*Baseline: documents [PC25 Doc. 12](#) and its [Addendum](#); [SC74 Doc. 15](#); [CoP19 Doc. 19](#); the webpage on [CITES and forests](#); document [PC26 Doc. 13](#) and its report in Annex 1; the outcomes of PC26; and any other relevant information.

- 1.1. Map the intersections and complementarities between the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030* (Resolution Conf. 18.3) and that of the global forest commitments and develop recommendations to enhance the timely and effective implementation of the CITES forest compendium. As a starting point to this exercise, special consideration shall be given to the preamble to the background and global framework on forests described in the draft resolution contained in Annex 3 to document PC26 Doc 13, and in particular the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the *United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017-2030*, the *United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030)* and relevant multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs).
- 1.2. Assess the contribution of the Convention in the conservation and sustainable use of forests, with particular focus on tree species during the period from CoP16 to CoP20. In doing so, special consideration shall be given to:
  - a) Evaluating outcomes of the implementation of processes of the Convention such as non-detriment findings [Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17)], the Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species [Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18)], and CITES compliance procedures [Resolution Conf. 14.8 (Rev. CoP19)] as examples of the potential positive outcomes for CITES listed tree species.
  - b) The contributions of the inclusion of tree species in the Appendices to the conservation of forest ecosystems and livelihoods.
  - c) Materials and guidance developed to support the implementation of the Convention as it relates to forests, and in particular tree species.
  - d) Trade in forest species listed in the Appendices (changes in levels and trends in trade – select species to be included in consultation with the PC), with a particular focus on tree species.
  - e) Task Force processes and other enforcement related matters.
  - f) Resource mobilization for implementation of Decisions and Resolutions as well as support to Parties to implement the Convention where it relates to tree species.
  - g) Reports and documents of previous Plants Committee Working Groups on CITES Tree species implementation and specimen production systems.
- 1.3. Assess the contributions to the conservation and sustainable use of forests by projects managed by the Secretariat, using as a starting point a representative selection of projects under the *CITES Tree Species Programme*, and any available findings and outcomes of its external evaluation (see also document PC26 Doc. 15), and the [CITES-FAO project on improved forest governance in the Lower Mekong Region](#).

**Outcome 2: Report on the scope of a new initiative on CITES and forests**

Activity 2

- 2.1. Define the potential scope of an initiative on CITES and forests that will enhance the implementation of the Convention as it relates to forests (tree species) while contributing to the achievement of other international commitments.

2.2. In undertaking the above, give special consideration to:

- a) a possible programme on *CITES and forests* devoted to ensuring the timely implementation of current and future iterations of the 'CITES forest compendium', and to raising visibility to the outcomes of past current and future flagship initiatives on forests;
- b) a strategic approach to continue or expand partnerships with like-minded organizations in benefit of the implementation of the 'CITES forest compendium', including but not limited to member organizations of the [Collaborative Partnership on Forests](#) (CPF);
- c) enhancing resource mobilization strategies to secure the resources needed for the timely and effective implementation of the 'CITES forest compendium' to be published in the webpage on [CITES and forests](#);
- d) take into account the discussions at PC25, CoP19 and PC26 on the role of CITES in tree-species conservation; and
- e) the pertinence of the adoption of a resolution on CITES and forests, using as a starting point the text contained in Annex 3 to document PC26 Doc. 13.

**Outcome 3: Consolidated report for consideration of CITES Committees in preparation for CoP20**  
Activity 3

Develop an executive summary and extended report on the findings of Outcomes 1 and 2. This shall be written with a view to serve as a basis for the Secretariat's reporting to the Plants and Standing Committees, in accordance with Decisions 19.33 and 19.34.