

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



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

UPDATED VERSION OF THE CITES WOOD ID APP

1. This document has been submitted by Germany in relation to TOP 19 and to decisions 19.142 to 19.144 on Materials for the identification of specimens of CITES-listed species; as well as to TOP 20 and to decisions 19.145 to 19.148 on Identification of timber and other wood products.*
2. Global trade in timber and timber products is increasing. Consequently, during the last COP19 a significant number of timber-producing tree species has been newly listed on the CITES Appendices. Due to visual resemblance of many wood specimens enforcement of timber-listings can be very challenging. Proper control can only be granted if tools are available which enable enforcement personnel to verify whether the species names given on the transport documents and the presented timber or timber product are congruent.
3. To support implementation and enforcement of CITES listings of timber producing tree species the Scientific Authority of Germany at the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) in collaboration with the Johann Heinrich von Thuenen-Institut (TI) of Wood Research have updated the CITESwoodID App with the newly listed species. A multi-entry key, combined with guidance, explanation and illustration helps customs and other enforcement personnel to verify the given species information and to take a decision on whether timber identification specialists should be involved. Timber identification specialists find all characteristics of the timber species allowing for their identification. The app runs on the operation systems Android, iOS and can be downloaded from the respective app stores under the following links:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=de.bfn.CITESwoodID>

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/citeswoodid/id1534768227>

4. The version running under Windows Universal will also be shortly available.
5. Parties are welcome to make use of the tool. Feedback on experiences in applying CITESwoodID is very welcome and can be addressed to silke.lichtenberg@bfm.de

* *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.*