

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



Twenty-seventh meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 8 – 13 July 2024

Compliance

Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SPECIES SELECTED FOLLOWING COP17

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. In document [PC27 Doc. 15.1](#), the Secretariat presents an overview of the Review of Significant Trade (RST) for flora species and, in Annex 2 to that document, provides a summary table of the species/country combinations in RST as of May 2024.
3. The present document provides an update on those cases for which the Secretariat has received updated information since it last reported on implementation and recommended action to the Standing Committee at its 77th meeting (SC77; Geneva, November 2023) in document [SC77 Doc. 35.3](#). The recommended action to SC77 was based on in-session (see summary record [PC26 SR](#)) and intersessional consultations with the Plants Committee in accordance with paragraph 1 k) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18).
4. Amongst the species/country combinations listed in Annex 2 to document PC26 Doc. 15.1, the Secretariat has updates to report on the following cases considered by SC77 (see summary record [SC77 SR](#)):
 - Congo/*Pericopsis elata* (selected following CoP17)
 - Nicaragua/*Dalbergia retusa* (selected following CoP17)
5. The Annex to the present document provides updates on the implementation of RST recommendations for both of these cases. This includes an overview of the ongoing RST recommendations, the outcomes of SC77 for each of them and a summary update including any responses or progress achieved by the Congo and Nicaragua.
6. At the time of writing, the Secretariat has no further updates to report on the remaining cases listed in Annex 2 to document [PC27 Doc. 15.1](#).
7. The Secretariat reminds the Plants Committee that updates on the current eight cases selected following CoP18 are reported on in document PC27 Doc. 15.3 on *Ongoing cases of species selected following CoP18 (Pterocarpus erinaceus as an exceptional case)*.
8. The Secretariat also reminds the Plants Committee that, as indicated in paragraph 6 of document [PC27 Doc. 15.1](#), the eight taxa (and associated country combinations) recommended for inclusion in Stage 2 of the RST following CoP19 are the focus of document [PC27 Doc. 15.4](#).
9. The outcomes of the present meeting will serve as a basis for upcoming intersessional consultations the Secretariat will undertake with Members of the Plants Committee through its Chair, in accordance with paragraph 1 k) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18). Following post-PC27 intersessional consultations, the Secretariat will report to the Standing Committee at its 78th meeting (SC78; Geneva, February 2025) on

the determination of the implementation of RST recommendations, in accordance with paragraph 1 l) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18).

Recommendations

10. The Plants Committee is invited to:

- a) consider the present document and the progress made by the Congo and Nicaragua with the implementation of the relevant RST recommendations as contained in the Annex to the present document;
- b) on the basis of the above, support the Secretariat in monitoring and facilitating the implementation of the RST recommendations for the two species/country combinations covered in the present document, by providing specific inputs on the progress achieved thus far; and
- c) make any additional recommendations for the Secretariat to consider in preparation for the intersessional consultations that will take place ahead of its reporting to the Standing Committee at SC78, in accordance with paragraph 1 k) of Resolution Conf. 12.8 (Rev. CoP18).

UPDATES ON CURRENT CASES FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE PLANTS COMMITTEE
IN PREPARATION FOR THE SECRETARIAT'S REPORTING TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE AT SC78

A. Country/species combination	B. Recommendations of the PC and of the SC where they exist	C. Update of implementation of recommendations (including range State responses)
<p>Congo/<i>Pericopsis elata</i></p>	<p><u>Outcome of PC24</u></p> <p><u>Short-term Action (by 13 December 2018)</u></p> <p>a) Establish a conservative export quota in consultation with the CITES Secretariat and the Chair of the Plants Committee and inform the CITES Secretariat of this quota so that it can be included in the national export quota section on the CITES website.</p> <p>b) Before making any increases to this quota, the planned changes should be communicated by the range State to the Secretariat and Chair of the Plants Committee along with a justification of how the change is conservative, based on estimates of sustainable off-take that make use of available scientific information, for their agreement.</p> <p><u>Long-term Action (by 13 December 2020)</u></p> <p>c) Develop and implement coordinated national and/or local management plans (that include harvest management considerations) with clear monitoring requirements: management is adaptive (regular review of harvest records, of impact of harvesting, adjustment of harvesting instructions as necessary), harvest restrictions based on monitoring results.</p> <p>d) Overall, the review should aim to ensure an effective NDF process with clearly defined harvest management measures (e.g., minimum rotation periods, minimum DBH, good harvesting techniques, impact of harvest) with a locally- appropriate and effective monitoring system.</p> <p>e) Undertake monitoring of the impact of harvest and implement harvest and export restrictions based on monitoring results.</p> <p><u>Outcome of SC77</u></p> <p>f) The Standing Committee urged Congo to continue to make progress on outstanding recommendations, in close collaboration with the Secretariat,</p>	<p>In document SC77 Doc. 35.3, the Secretariat reported to the Standing Committee on the progress achieved by the Congo in the implementation of RST recommendations, noting that recommendations a) and b) had been implemented, whilst the remainder of the recommendations remained outstanding.</p> <p>On 19 December 2023, the Secretariat communicated to the Congo the recommendations of the Standing Committee at SC77 for this case [see paragraph f), column B of the present table].</p> <p>While the Secretariat has not received a response to the letter, it has received a set of quota requests from the Congo for different tree species for the year 2024, including one for <i>Pericopsis elata</i> for 14,812.918 m³ of logs for a specific forest concession [<i>Société Yuan Dong</i> (SEFYD)].</p> <p>The request is not accompanied by an NDF study, nor is it clear if the quota associated to that forest concession is also to be interpreted as the national-volume quota for the year 2024, or if other requests from other concessions will be allocated throughout the year.</p> <p>At the time of writing, the Secretariat has not published any quotas for the Congo/<i>Pericopsis elata</i> for the years 2023 and 2024. As soon as an NDF associated with the quotas is submitted to the Secretariat, it will be shared with the Chair of the Plants Committee as required in terms of the recommendations adopted by PC24 (see paragraph a) in column B of the present table).</p> <p>Ahead of PC27 (July 2024), the Secretariat is liaising with the Congo to go through any outstanding quota requests for <i>Pericopsis elata</i>, and to have a better understanding of the status of any NDFs associated with them. The Secretariat will provide an oral update on any additional information relevant to this case, for consideration of the Plants Committee at the present meeting.</p>

A. Country/species combination	B. Recommendations of the PC and of the SC where they exist	C. Update of implementation of recommendations (including range State responses)
	and requested Congo to provide an update in time for the matter to be considered at SC78.	
Nicaragua/ <i>Dalbergia retusa</i>	<p><u>Outcome of PC24</u></p> <p><u>Short term action (by 20 December 2018)</u></p> <p>a) Provide information on the location and extent of the areas under harvest management for export.</p> <p>b) Submit management plans including any available information on inventories and monitoring systems currently in place.</p> <p><u>Long term actions (by 20 November 2020)</u></p> <p>c) Develop an analysis of the status of the population at the national level, based on existing national forest inventories and forest inventories under development and plans for a monitoring process.</p> <p>d) Upon completion of other recommendations, provide the scientific basis by which it has established that exports are not detrimental to the survival of the species and are compliant with Article IV, paragraphs 2(a), 3 and 6(a) of the Convention. Particular focus should be given to how the actions the range State has taken, or will take, address the concerns/problems identified in the Review of Significant Trade process.</p> <p><u>Outcome of SC74</u></p> <p>e) <u>commended</u> Nicaragua in its timely implementation of the Plants Committee's recommendations a) and b);</p> <p>f) <u>requested</u> Nicaragua to clarify how the NDFs thus far produced will translate into the establishment of sustainable annual quotas; and,</p> <p>g) <u>requested</u> Nicaragua to finalise implementation of recommendations c) and d) of the Plants Committee by three months before the documentation deadline for SC77.</p> <p><u>Outcome of SC77</u></p> <p>h) The Standing Committee:</p> <p>i. noted that the Secretariat is exploring avenues to support Nicaragua's request for financial support, as part of the field-testing phase of the NDF-project (as per Decision 19.132);</p> <p>ii. requested the Secretariat to issue a Notification inviting Parties and relevant stakeholders to contribute financial resources in support of Nicaragua's implementation of outstanding RST recommendations; and,</p>	<p>In document SC77 Doc. 35.3, the Secretariat reported to the Standing Committee on the progress achieved by Nicaragua in the implementation of RST recommendations. In the document, the Secretariat noted that recommendations a) and b) had been implemented, whilst the reminder of the recommendations remained outstanding.</p> <p>In January 2024, the Secretariat communicated to Nicaragua the recommendations of the Standing Committee at SC77 for this case [see paragraph h), column B of the present table].</p> <p>On April 2024, Nicaragua shared with the Secretariat the terms of reference for a study which is expected to allow Nicaragua to make substantial progress in the implementation of outstanding RST recommendations for this case, in time for the Secretariat's reporting on this case to the Standing Committee at SC78.</p> <p>The Secretariat has identified external resources to support Nicaragua in the implementation of the proposed study and thanks Germany for the support provided. To this end, since April 2024 to the date, the Secretariat and Nicaragua's Management Authority (Ministerio del Ambiente y Recursos Naturales) have been in close communication to finalise the terms of a small-scale funding agreement.</p> <p>The Secretariat will share any updates on the formalization of the agreement with Nicaragua's Management Authority at the present meeting.</p>

A. Country/species combination	B. Recommendations of the PC and of the SC where they exist	C. Update of implementation of recommendations (including range State responses)
	iii. urged Nicaragua to make significant progress in the implementation of outstanding recommendations c) and d) of the Plants Committee in time for the matter to be considered at SC78.	