

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

Species conservation and trade

AFRICAN TREE SPECIES

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 19.254 to 19.256 on *African tree species* as follows:

Directed to the Plants Committee

19.254 *The Plants Committee shall:*

- a) *update the list of African tree species and associated CITES processes contained in the Annex to document PC25 Doc. 28;*
- b) *based on documents PC25 Doc. 27, PC25 Doc. 28 and PC25 Doc. 28 Add., and other relevant information, establish priorities to strengthen the implementation of the Convention for African tree species, including priorities and recommendations for the sustainable management and future work on *Prunus africana*;*
- c) *liaise with Parties in advancing the priorities identified above; and*
- d) *report the outcomes of this work to the Standing Committee and the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.*

Directed to the Secretariat

19.255 *The Secretariat shall, upon request of the Plants Committee, assist in the implementation of Decision 19.254.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

19.256 *The Standing Committee shall consider the report from the Plants Committee regarding Decision 19.254 and develop recommendations for consideration of the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.*

3. At its 26th meeting (PC26; Geneva, June 2023), the Plants Committee considered document [PC26 Doc. 32](#), including its Annexes, on *African tree species*, and agreed on recommendations relating to general priorities for African tree species, capacity-building and the sustainable management of *Prunus africana* (see summary record [PC26 SR](#)).
4. Based on these recommendations, the Secretariat revised the *Preliminary overview of African tree species listed in the Appendices* (Annex 1 to document PC26 Doc. 32). The revised table is contained in the Annex to the present document. The Secretariat proposes that the table, once agreed by PC27, be published on the webpage on CITES and forests on the CITES website.

5. Regarding African sandalwood (*Osyris lanceolata*), the Plants Committee selected the species for all range States for inclusion in Stage 2 of the Review of Significant Trade (RST) process. Updates on the selection of the case *Osyris lanceolata*/all range States under the RST process will be reported at the present meeting in document PC27 Doc. 15.4 on *Species selected following CoP19*.
6. With regards to *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, updates relating to the regional capacity-building workshop will be reported at the present meeting under the agenda item on the Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species, in document PC27 Doc. 15.3 on *Ongoing cases of species selected following CoP18 (Pterocarpus erinaceus as an exceptional case)*.
7. With reference to the recommendation on *Prunus africana*, a case study submitted by Cameroon was considered at the international expert workshop on non-detriment findings (NDFs) that took place in December 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya. Relevant updates on this are available under document PC27 Doc. 16 / AC33 Doc. 16 on *Non-detriment findings*.
8. Regarding the recommendation to prioritize certain tree taxa for making NDFs (*Azelia* spp.), the Secretariat notes that the [CITES NDF guidance for tree species](#) agreed at the international expert workshop on NDFs is tailored to assist Parties in making NDFs for tree species.

Recommendations

9. The Committee is invited to:
 - a) review and agree the updated list of African tree species and associated CITES processes contained in the Annex to the present document;
 - b) request the Secretariat to publish the updated list of African tree species and associated CITES processes contained in the Annex to the present document on the *CITES and forests* webpage;
 - c) encourage range States to advance the priorities identified and reflected in the updated list of African tree species and associated CITES processes contained in the Annex to the present document; and
 - d) agree that Decisions 19.254 and 19.255 have been implemented and can be proposed for deletion at the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

PRELIMINARY OVERVIEW OF AFRICAN TREE SPECIES LISTED IN THE APPENDICES*

**Revised by the Secretariat using as a basis the Annex to document PC25 Doc. 28*

1. For the purpose of this overview, the following definitions for “tree” have been used as reference:

- Tree (FAO, 2018):

“A woody perennial with a single main stem, or in the case of coppice with several stems, having a more or less definite crown.

Explanatory note

1. Includes bamboos, palms, and other woody plants meeting the above criteria.”

- Tree (IUCN GTSG, 2020):

“Woody plant with usually a single stem growing to a height of at least two metres, or if multi-stemmed, then at least one vertical stem five centimetres in diameter at breast height.

Some plant species have variable lifeforms, but all species that are recorded as naturally growing as a tree somewhere have been included, with the reference cited.”

2. On the basis of these definitions, the Secretariat has identified within the Appendices those listings that represent or cover African tree species (table below). African tree species listings adopted or revised at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP19; Panama City, 2022) are highlighted in green; and further aspects relevant to the implementation of the Convention for these taxa are summarized in column D.

A. Family	B. Appendix II* *There are no listings of African tree species in Appendices I or III	C. Ongoing CITES processes	D. PC26, SC77 and/or PC27 updates
CUPRESSACEAE Alerce, cyresses	Widdringtonia whytei	Tree species endemic to Malawi, listed at CoP18 (Geneva, 2019).	N/A
EBENACEAE Ebonies	Diospyros spp. #5 (Populations of Madagascar)	<p>The higher taxonomic listing only applies to species of the genus <i>Diospyros</i> native to Madagascar. According to the adopted standard nomenclature reference for <i>Diospyros</i> spp., of the 250 estimated species of <i>Diospyros</i> from Madagascar, 88 are regarded as large trees, defined as those documented to grow to either: 1) a height of 20 m or more, or 2) a DBH of 20 cm or more of a single trunk (DBH = "Diameter at Breast Height", i.e. at a height of 1.3 - 1.5 m from the ground).</p> <p>Madagascar is currently under a recommendation to suspend trade for this genus (see Notification No. 2022/031). For further updates, see document CoP19 Doc. 29.3 on <i>Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods (Dalbergia spp.) and ebonies (Diospyros spp.)</i> and document SC77 Doc. 33.12 on <i>Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods (Dalbergia spp.) and ebonies (Diospyros spp.)</i>: <i>Report of Madagascar</i>.</p>	PC27 Doc. 41.4 on <i>Nomenclature for ebonies (Diospyros spp.) (populations of Madagascar)</i>
LEGUMINOSAE (Fabaceae) Afromosia, cristobal, palisander, rosewood, sandalwood	Afzelia spp. #17 (Only the African populations; no other population is included in the Appendices)	At PC26, the Plants Committee recommended to prioritize the genus for non-detriment findings (NDFs) (PC26 SR).	N/A
	Dalbergia spp. #15 (except for the species listed in Appendix I)	<p>A standard nomenclature reference for <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. is available in all CITES languages.</p> <p>Several projects in the CITES Tree Species Project addressed matters related to <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. (see document PC26 Doc. 15).</p> <p>At CoP18, annotation #15 was amended to exclude from CITES' controls all musical instruments and other small handicrafts. Decisions 18.321 to 18.322 on <i>Annotation #15</i> aim to assess the effects of these new exemptions and conservation implications thereof. The revised annotation #15 has also introduced new terms to the Appendices (e.g. on instruments and shipments), which are now included in the Interpretation section of the Appendices.</p>	<p>PC26 Doc. 43.1 on <i>Overview of flora nomenclature matters for the period CoP19–CoP20</i></p> <p>PC26 Doc. 15 on <i>CITES Tree Species Programme</i></p> <p>PC27 Doc. 35 on <i>Annotation #15</i></p> <p>PC27 Doc. 15.4 on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of</i></p>

#5 Logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets.

#17 Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood and transformed wood.

#15 All parts and derivatives, except:

- a) Leaves, flowers, pollen, fruits, and seeds;
- b) Finished products to a maximum weight of wood of the listed species of up to 10 kg per shipment;
- c) Finished musical instruments, finished musical instrument parts and finished musical instrument accessories;
- d) Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, which are covered by Annotation # 4; and
- e) Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia* spp. originating and exported from Mexico, which are covered by Annotation # 6.

A. Family	B. Appendix II* *There are no listings of African tree species in Appendices I or III	C. Ongoing CITES processes	D. PC26, SC77 and/or PC27 updates
		<p>Madagascar is currently under a recommendation to suspend trade for this genus (see Notification No. 2022/031). For further updates, see document CoP19 Doc. 29.3 on <i>Malagasy palisanders and rosewoods (Dalbergia spp.) and ebonies (Diospyros spp.)</i>.</p> <p>Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya were selected for the Review of Significant Trade in <i>Dalbergia melanoxylon</i> at PC26 (see summary record PC26 SR).</p> <p>Same highlights as for <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. regarding annotation #15.</p> <p>Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Cameroon were selected for review of significant trade in <i>Guibourtia tessmannii</i> at PC26 (see summary record PC26 SR).</p> <p>A project in the CITES Tree Species Project addressed matters related to <i>Guibourtia</i> spp. and an NDF was produced for <i>Guibourtia</i> spp in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see document PC26 Doc. 15).</p> <p>CoP18 amended this listing by including annotation #17, which introduces a new exemption and the term “transformed wood”; also defined in the Interpretation section of the Appendices.</p> <p>Regarding country specific matters for <i>Pericopsis elata</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Côte d’Ivoire is part of the Review of Significant Trade for this species, since it was selected after CoP14. An ongoing recommendation to suspend trade for this species has been in effect since 7 September 2012 (see Notification No. 2023/034). ○ Congo is also part of the Review of Significant Trade for this species. <p>A project in the CITES Tree Species Project addressed matters related to <i>Pericopsis elata</i> and NDFs were produced in Côte d’Ivoire and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (see document PC26 Doc. 15).</p> <p>SC77 agreed that the Democratic Republic of the Congo complied with all recommendations in the Review of Significant Trade in this species and can be removed from the RST process (see summary record SC77 SR).</p>	<p><i>Appendix-II species: Species selected following CoP19</i></p> <p>PC27 Doc. 35 on <i>Annotation #15</i></p> <p>PC26 Doc. 15 on <i>CITES Tree Species Programme</i></p> <p>PC27 Doc. 15.4 on <i>Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Species selected following CoP19</i></p> <p>PC27 Doc. 15.2. on <i>Ongoing cases selected following CoP17</i></p> <p>PC26 Doc. 15 on <i>CITES Tree Species Programme</i></p>

#15 All parts and derivatives, except:

- a) Leaves, flowers, pollen, fruits, and seeds;
- b) Finished products to a maximum weight of wood of the listed species of up to 10 kg per shipment;
- c) Finished musical instruments, finished musical instrument parts and finished musical instrument accessories;
- d) Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, which are covered by Annotation # 4; and
- e) Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia* spp. originating and exported from Mexico, which are covered by Annotation # 6.

#17 Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood and transformed wood.

A. Family	B. Appendix II* *There are no listings of African tree species in Appendices I or III	C. Ongoing CITES processes	D. PC26, SC77 and/or PC27 updates
	<p><i>Pterocarpus</i> spp.^{#17} (Except <i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i> which is included in Appendix II with annotation #7; only the African populations; no other population is included in the Appendices)</p>	<p>In compliance with Decision 18.92, the Plants and Standing Committees have developed recommendations concerning the inclusion of <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> from all range States in the Review of Significant Trade. Trade suspensions in accordance with Article XIII are in force for Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Nigeria, and Togo (see Notification No. 2022/045).</p> <p>Several projects in the CITES Tree Species Project addressed matters related to <i>Pterocarpus</i> spp. and NDFs were produced for <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> in Benin, Togo, and Côte d'Ivoire (see document PC26 Doc. 15).</p> <p>Mali and Sierra Leone submitted NDFs for <i>Pterocarpus erinaceus</i> to PC26 (see document PC26 Doc. 16.4).</p>	<p>PC27 Doc. 15.3 on <i>Ongoing cases of species selected following CoP18 (Pterocarpus erinaceus as an exceptional case)</i></p> <p>SC77 Doc. 33.2.3 (Rev. 1) on <i>Expedited application of Article XIII for West African rosewood (Pterocarpus erinaceus) for all range States: Report of the Secretariat</i></p> <p>PC26 Doc. 15 on <i>CITES Tree Species Programme</i></p>
	<p><i>Senna meridionalis</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>MALVACEAE Includes baobabs</p>	<p><i>Adansonia grandidieri</i>^{#16}</p>	<p>CoP18 adopted revisions to annotation #16, as reflected in the footnote below.</p>	
<p>MELIACEAE Mahoganies, West Indian cedar</p>	<p><i>Khaya</i> spp.^{#17} (Only the African populations; no other population is included in the Appendices)</p>	<p>The nomenclature remains unresolved and a standard nomenclature reference is to be developed within the framework of Decision 19.284.</p>	<p>PC27 Doc. 41.6 on <i>Standard nomenclature for African mahoganies (Khaya spp.)</i></p>

^{#17} Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood and transformed wood.

^{#16} Seeds, fruits and oils.

^{#17} Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood and transformed wood.

A. Family	B. Appendix II* *There are no listings of African tree species in Appendices I or III	C. Ongoing CITES processes	D. PC26, SC77 and/or PC27 updates
ROSACEAE African cherry, stinkwood	<i>Prunus africana</i> #4	<p>Discussions on recommendations for the sustainable management of <i>P. africana</i> are ongoing in the framework of Decision 19.254.</p> <p>Several projects in the CITES Tree Species Project addressed matters related to <i>P. africana</i> and NDFs were produced in Burundi, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Madagascar (see document PC26 Doc. 15).</p> <p>Equatorial Guinea was selected under the Review of Significant Trade for this species after CoP11. Since 3 February 2009, an ongoing recommendation to suspend trade for this species remains in effect (see also Notification No. 2023/034).</p> <p>At PC26, the Plants Committee recommended to prioritize the species for non-detriment findings (NDFs). Cameroon submitted a case study on the species to the international expert workshop on NDFs (PC27 Doc. 16 / AC33 Doc. 16).</p> <p>SC77 agreed that Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of the Congo have complied with all recommendations formulated within the Review of Significant Trade in this species and can be removed from the RST process (see summary record SC77 SR).</p>	<p>PC26 Doc. 15 on CITES Tree Species Programme</p> <p>PC26 Doc. 16.3 on Implementation of the recommendations of the Plants Committee by Madagascar on <i>Prunus africana</i></p>
SANTALACEAE Sandalwoods	<i>Osyris lanceolata</i> #2 (Populations of Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania)	<p>A project in the CITES Tree Species Project addressed matters related to <i>O. lanceolata</i>.</p> <p>All range States, including South Sudan, were selected for the Review of Significant Trade in <i>Osyris lanceolata</i> at PC26 (see summary record PC26 SR).</p>	<p>PC26 Doc. 15 on CITES Tree Species Programme</p> <p>PC27 Doc. 15.4 on Review of Significant Trade in specimens of Appendix-II species: Species selected following CoP19</p>

#4 All parts and derivatives, except:

- seeds (including seedpods of Orchidaceae), spores and pollen (including pollinia). The exemption does not apply to seeds from Cactaceae spp. exported from Mexico, and to seeds from Beccariophoenix madagascariensis and *Dypsis decaryi* exported from Madagascar;
- seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro transported in sterile containers;
- cut flowers of artificially propagated plants;
- fruits, and parts and derivatives thereof, of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genus *Vanilla* (Orchidaceae) and of the family Cactaceae;
- stems, flowers, and parts and derivatives thereof, of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genera *Opuntia* subgenus *Opuntia* and *Selenicereus* (Cactaceae);
- finished products of *Aloe ferox* and *Euphorbia antisiphilitica* packaged and ready for retail trade; and
- finished products derived from artificial propagation, packaged and ready for retail trade of cosmetics containing parts and derivatives of *Bletilla striata*, *Cynoches cooperi*, *Gastrodia elata*, *Phalaenopsis amabilis* or *Phalaenopsis lobbii*.

#2 All parts and derivatives except:

- seeds and pollen; and
- finished products packaged and ready for retail trade.

References

FAO. 2018. *Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020: Terms and Definitions*. www.fao.org/3/i8661en/i8661en.pdf

IUCN's Global Tree Specialist Group (IUCN GTSG). 2020. Available at: https://tools.bgci.org/global_tree_search.php?action=about