

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

Appendices of the Convention

Proposals for possible consideration at CoP20

INCLUSION OF *JUBAEA CHILENSIS* IN APPENDIX I

1. This document has been submitted by Chile.*
2. This summary is presented as a document to the Plant Committee by the Administrative Authority for Terrestrial Flora of Chile, for the purposes of entering into the next Conference of the Parties in 2025, a proposal for the inclusion of the species *Jubaea chilensis* (Molina) Baillon, commonly known as Chilean Palm in Appendix I of the Convention. This is in accordance with Article II 1) of the text of the Convention and criterion A established in Annex 1 of Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16).
3. The Chilean Palm, *Jubaea chilensis* (Molina) Baillon, is an endemic species of Chile, whose distribution covers the regions of Coquimbo, Valparaíso, Metropolitana, O'Higgins and Maule corresponding to the central zone of Chile.

In Chile, the species is under protection and regulation through various legal rules, including the D.L. 701 of 1974, Law 19,561 on Forest Development, Law 20,283 on Native Forest and Forest Development. Regarding its conservation status, the Chilean palm is classified as an “Endangered” species according to the 16th classification process of wild species established in the General Environmental Bases Law of 2020.

Given the endemism and ecological importance of the species, it is represented and protected in the National System of Protected Wild Areas of the State of Chile (SNASPE), specifically in the La Campana National Parks in the Valparaíso Region and Las Palmas de Cocalán in the O'Higgins Region.

The main threats to wild populations of *Jubaea chilensis* are: the loss of habitat mainly due to permanent damage by forest fires; the high harvest of fruits and seeds of its populations for commercial purposes, which have a high demand in the international market; herbivory and browsing; the extraction of water in its natural distribution areas, the drought phenomena of the last 14 years; the introduction of invasive alien species; land use change, urban expansion and deforestation.

The above, added to the progressive decrease in its natural distribution area as a result of the alteration and fragmentation of its habitat and the set of other threats already mentioned, has resulted in a significant spatial decline in its presence in the country.

In summary, the proposal to be presented at the next CoP 20 of the CITES Convention in 2025 to include the Chilean palm in Appendix I of CITES is based on the fact that it meets the requirements stipulated in the Convention for the inclusion of species of wild fauna and flora in its Appendices, namely:

* 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.

- a) *Jubaea chilensis* (Molina) Baill is a species endemic to Chile and, according to the country's species classification registry, it is in the "Endangered" category, that was made official on August 3, 2020, through Supreme Decree No. 16/2020 of the Ministry of the Environment of Chile.
- b) Regarding its international trade, the official records provided by the National Customs Service of Chile, in its capacity as CITES Enforcement Authority, indicate that international trade in specimens, parts and derivatives of the species has been verified.

Therefore, in the opinion of the National Forestry Corporation (CONAF), in its capacity as the Administrative Authority of flora before CITES, it is absolutely necessary to regulate its international trade through the provisions of the Convention in order to guarantee sustainable international trade. that does not threaten the survival of the species.

4. The aforementioned background is presented for the knowledge and prior information of the Plants Committee at its 27th meeting.