

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 ConventionAnnotations

ANNOTATION #15

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 19th meeting (CoP19; Panama City, 2022), the Conference of the Parties revised Decisions 18.321 (Rev. CoP19) and 18.322 (Rev. CoP19) on *Annotation #15* as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

18.321 (Rev. CoP19) *The Secretariat shall:*

- a) *subject to available resources, undertake a study to assess the effect on Dalbergia/Guibourtia species in international trade of the exemptions contained in annotation #15 for finished musical instruments, parts and accessories, and the conservation implications thereof;*
- b) *bring any scientific or technical issues to the attention of the Plants Committee and seek its advice; and*
- c) *report the results of its evaluation along with its recommendations to the Standing Committee.*

Directed to the Standing Committee

18.322 (Rev. CoP19) *The Standing Committee shall in the context of its work on annotations under the relevant Decisions, consider any report by the Secretariat in accordance with Decision 18.321 (Rev. CoP19), undertake additional evaluation if necessary and report to the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. If warranted, the Standing Committee may work with relevant Parties in preparing an amendment proposal for the 20th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

3. The Secretariat last reported progress on the implementation of Decision 18.321 (Rev. CoP19) to the Plants Committee at its 26th meeting (PC26; Geneva, June 2023) in document [PC26 Doc. 37](#) that contained draft terms of reference for a study to assess the conservation implications of the exemptions of annotation #15 for rosewoods of *Dalbergia* and *Guibourtia* included in the Appendices. The Plants Committee provided comments to be considered by the Secretariat as it finalised the terms of reference (see summary record [PC26 SR](#)).
4. The Chair of the Plants Committee reported progress in the implementation of paragraph b) of Decision 18.321 (Rev. CoP19) to the Standing Committee at its 77th meeting (SC77; Geneva, November 2023) in document [SC77 Doc. 6](#). The Standing Committee noted the information in said document.

5. The Secretariat took on board the Plants Committee's feedback at its 26th meeting, including *inter alia* consideration of linkages of the now-finalised report on rosewood tree species developed in response to Decision 19.243 and available in document PC27 Doc. 27, before initiating the study called for in paragraph a) of Decision 18.321 (Rev. CoP19). The study was financed with the financial contribution received from the Netherlands. The Secretariat appreciates the support provided in this regard.
6. The study is structured to deliver the following outputs:
 - a) a mapping and analysis of the supply-chain of specimens exempted through annotation #15;
 - b) a regionally balanced set of case studies on the effects on *Dalbergia/Guibourtia* species in international trade of exemptions contained in annotation #15, including but not limited to finished musical instruments, parts and instrument accessories; and
 - c) a consolidated report on the above findings, in support of the Secretariat's reporting to the Standing Committee at its 78th meeting.
7. With regards to the regionally balanced set of case studies, the list of cases in development is tailored around CITES-listed rosewood tree species identified as "high" priority in the report on CITES-listed rosewood tree species (see document PC27 Doc. 27) as follows:

CITES-listed rosewood tree species or taxa	Priority assigned by CITES-listed rosewood tree species report (see document PC27 Doc. 27)	Scope
<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i>	High	Asia/India
<i>Dalbergia melanoxylon</i>	High	Africa/United Republic of Tanzania
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dalbergia retusa</i> • <i>Dalbergia stevensonii</i> • <i>Dalbergia tucurensis</i> 	High	Central, South America and the Caribbean/all range States
<i>Guibourtia</i> spp.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High: <i>Guibourtia pellegriniana</i> and <i>Guibourtia tessmannii</i> • Medium: <i>Guibourtia demeusei</i> 	Africa/all range States and importing Parties

Next steps

8. The study called for in Decision 18.321 (Rev. CoP19) is in its early stages of development. The Secretariat will provide an oral update at the present meeting.
9. The Secretariat considers that the Plants Committee would wish to provide their scientific or technical advice on the preliminary findings, ahead of the Secretariat's reporting to the Standing Committee at its 78th meeting (SC78; Geneva, February 2025). The Secretariat therefore proposes to circulate the preliminary findings for feedback from the Plants Committee, allowing for sufficient time for comments ahead of the documentation deadline for SC78.
10. With the feedback received from the Plants Committee, the Secretariat would then finalize the report and present it for consideration by the Standing Committee at SC78, including reflections on the status of the implementation of Decisions 18.321 (Rev. CoP19) and Decisions 18.322 (Rev. CoP19).

Recommendations

11. The Plants Committee is invited to:
 - a) provide feedback on the progress reported on the implementation of Decision 18.321 (Rev. CoP19); and
 - b) consider the proposed approach reflected in paragraphs 9 and 10 to provide the opportunity to Members of the Plants Committee to provide scientific or technical advice on the preliminary results of the study, ahead of the 78th meeting of the Standing Committee.