



INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

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Yokohama, Japan

DECISION 2(XXXVII)

ENHANCED COOPERATION BETWEEN ITTO AND CITES FOR RAMIN AND MAHOGANY

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling Decisions 6(XII), 3(XVI), 5(XVIII), 7(XX) and 7(XXXIV) on measures to improve cooperation between ITTO and CITES, and relevant aspects of the ITTO Yokohama Action Plan, the Biennial Work Programme for the Years 2004-2005, and recommendations made by the Civil Society Advisory Group and the Trade Advisory Group at the Thirty-sixth Session of the Council;

Welcoming the strong synergies that have developed between ITTO and CITES, including in facilitating implementation of the listing of mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*) on Appendix II of CITES;

Noting the decision at the 13th Conference of the Parties to CITES to list ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.) on Appendix II of CITES, including all manufactured products;

Welcoming the cooperation demonstrated by Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore in establishing the Tri-National Ramin Task Force to improve trade control systems and enhance enforcement of ramin trade;

Recognizing the challenge faced by exporters and importers of ramin resulting from the decision to list it on Appendix II, as a consequence of the wide scope, large volume and considerable variety of products covered by the listing;

Decides to:

1. Request the Executive Director to provide support to organize, in cooperation with the CITES Secretariat, a meeting under the auspices of the Tri-National Ramin Task Force to bring together ramin range states, exporters, importers, CITES experts and other interested parties to assist in the effective implementation of the CITES decision to list ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.) on CITES Appendix II;
2. Request the Executive Director to provide support, on request, in cooperation with the CITES Secretariat, to member countries requiring technical assistance in implementing the Appendix II listing of ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.), including, *inter alia*:
 - Developing training curricula and materials on enforcement, identification of ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.) and CITES procedures;
 - Facilitating meetings of the Tri-National Ramin Task Force; and
 - Developing project proposals to assist CITES authorities in carrying out their Non Detriment Findings for ramin in key producing countries, where appropriate and identify potential donors to support these projects.

- 3 Request the Executive Director, in cooperation with the CITES Secretariat, to undertake further activities to assist range countries and major trading partners in building their capacity to implement the CITES listings of ramin and mahogany, including *inter alia*:
 - Strengthening capacity of customs authorities and enforcement agencies at national and regional levels to effectively implement the CITES Appendix II listing;
 - Enhancing information and knowledge exchange on CITES procedures with regard to trade and implementation of the CITES Appendix II listing among producer and consumer countries; and
 - Enhancing cooperation and networking amongst producer and consumer countries, including civil society and the private sector, to improve mechanisms for CITES implementation and enforcement at both national and regional levels.

4. Authorize the Executive Director to seek voluntary contributions from Member countries to meet the financial requirements of this decision, not exceeding US\$282,500. If sufficient contributions are not received by 31 July 2005, the Executive Director is requested to use funds from Sub-Account B of the Bali Partnership Fund.

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