

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



Seventeenth meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 15-19 April 2008

Non-detriment findings

Timber species and medicinal plants

OVERVIEW ON NON-DETRIMENT FINDINGS
FOR TIMBER SPECIES AND MEDICINAL PLANTS

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 14th meeting (The Hague, 2007), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 14.135, directed to the Plants Committee on *Timber species and medicinal plants: non-detriment findings*, as follows:

The Plants Committee shall:

- a) *develop principles, criteria and indicators for the making of non-detriment findings for wild specimens of high-priority taxa such as timber species, Prunus africana and other medicinal plants; and*
 - b) *before the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties, support the organization of a workshop on non-detriment findings for tree species.*
3. The Committee is invited to decide on the action needed to comply with Decision 14.135, and to consider how best to achieve its effective implementation. The following documents, available on the CITES website, can serve as references: Inf. 11.3 on *CITES Scientific Authorities Checklist to assist in making non-detriment findings for Appendix II exports*, PC16 Doc. 10.2.1 on the *Evaluation of the harvest of Prunus africana bark on the Bioko Island (Equatorial Guinea): Guidelines for a management plan*, and PC17 Doc. 16.1.3 on the *International Workshop of Experts on Non-detriment Findings on Bigleaf Mahogany (Cancun, April 2007): endorsement and adoption of guidelines for making NDFs for mahogany*. Also available for this meeting are the reports submitted by Malaysia and Mexico as documents PC17 Doc. 17.1.2 and PC17 Inf. 5, and PC17 Doc. 17.1.3 respectively.
 4. In order to ensure synergy between CITES initiatives, the Plants Committee may want to make use of the results of the meeting of the *Prunus africana* working group, to be held in mid 2008 in the context of the Review of Significant Trade in this species. Furthermore, an International expert workshop on non-detriment findings is also to be held in November 2008 under the responsibility of a steering committee chaired by Mexico (see Decisions 14.49-14.51). However, the results of this latter meeting could only be considered at the 18th meeting of this Committee.