

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



Twentieth meeting of the Plants Committee  
Dublin (Ireland), 22-30 March 2012

Timber issues

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE JOINT CITES-ITTO TIMBER PROGRAMME

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. Document PC19 Doc. 16.2 with the same title provided a progress report on the CITES-ITTO programme until April 2011. In the margins of 19th meeting of the Committee (PC19, April, 2011), the Advisory Committee of the programme brought together around twenty participants from the participating countries, donors, NGOs and representatives from both Secretariats (ITTO and CITES).
3. Since the PC19, both Secretariats worked together to build and finalize a project proposal to seek funding for a second phase of this collaboration (see Annex for further details on the proposed second phase). The first phase is considered to be the programme of work that was implemented between 2006 and 2011 through the generous contribution of the European Commission and other donors (the United States of America, Switzerland, Japan, Norway, Germany, New Zealand, and the private sector). The total budget of the first phase reached more than 4 million USD.
4. From the 6 to the 10th November 2011 the remaining funds of the first phase were dedicated to co-finance a Meeting of the Working Group on the Bigleaf Mahogany and Other Neotropical Timber Species. That meeting was hosted by Guatemala in the city of Petén and resulted in numerous outputs including the identification of future steps that the range States will take e.g. draft reports for the 20th meeting of the Committee (PC20, March, Dublin, 2012) and draft decisions for Cop16.
5. Following the above mentioned meeting, the 47th meeting of the ITTO Council was held in the city of La Antigua, Guatemala. At that meeting, the Secretariats of ITTO and CITES reported jointly on the progress made during 2011, on recent listings of tropical timber and tree species in the Appendices and on the type of products that are controlled by CITES. The ITTO Secretariat reported that assistance was being offered to Madagascar under the ITTO-CITES capacity building program to implement the new listings and to decide which (if any) species might be proposed for inclusion in Appendix II at CoP16. Later on, the 6th meeting of the Advisory Committee met and discussed the recent events since the PC19.
6. The Council of ITTO agreed on the following decisions that are relevant to the joint work under the ITTO-CITES programme:
  - A partial funding of USD 180,000.00 was agreed for the Phase II ITTO-CITES Implementation for Tree Species and Trade Market Transparency (TMT).
  - A partial funding of USD 50,000.00 was agreed for Activities approved in the Biennial Work Programme for the years 2010-2011 regarding the element Enhance cooperation between ITTO and CITES. This is to continue to assist Members to implement CITES listings of timber species.
  - For Enhance cooperation between ITTO and CITES it was agreed to Continue to assist Members to implement CITES listings of timber species. Pursuant to Decision 5(XLVI) on “Multi-Donor Mechanism to Facilitate Enhanced Cooperation between ITTO and CITES”, the European

Commission's further grant in the amount of USD 7,268,000 (EUR 5,000,000) is being envisaged over a period of four years for the ITTO-CITES capacity building programme which commenced earlier in 2006. Matching ITTO contributions from other donors in the amount of USD 3,634,000 (EUR 2,500,000) during the same period are required, with US\$1,817,000 (EUR 1,250,000) for each of the biennial periods.<sup>1</sup>

- Finally, it was reported that ITTO plans to host a side event or have an information booth at CoP16 between other relevant fora (e.g. Rio +20; COFO, etc).

7. The Committee is invited to note this report.

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<sup>1</sup> *All figures of USD mentioned in this report are approximate since the final amounts will vary according to the current exchange rate at the time that the ITTO Secretariat receives the funds.*

## PROPOSED SECOND PHASE OF THE ITTO-CITES PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

1. A second grant proposal has been submitted by ITTO to the EC in 2011 seeking a total budget of EUR 7.5 million to continue ITTO's capacity building work on CITES. This activity seeks contributions from other donors to make up the EC requirement that one third of the total grant amount requested come from other sources.
2. The programme will continue to be implemented in a country-driven manner with an expansion in scope of species covered to include additional timber species and non-timber trees listed in CITES and a widening of coverage to additional range States of species of concern. The activity will be overseen by an advisory committee made up of representatives of donors, target countries, the ITTO and the CITES secretariats and trade/civil society stakeholders. Currently more than 15 country activities with budgets totalling over USD2 million are pending funding through this programme.
3. Some of the expected outputs are countries with improved inventories or inventory designs for CITES listed tree species; tracking/monitoring systems in place for CITES listed tree species; regional training/experience exchange workshops organized; and, a reduced number of trade suspensions of CITES listed timber species and an increased capacity of countries to undertake non-detriment findings for these species.
4. All target countries are CITES Parties and/ or ITTO member countries.
5. Duration: 48 months.
6. Budget: EUR 7.5 million of which one third will need to be fundraised from other donors than the European Union.