

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



Twenty-second meeting of the Plants Committee  
Tbilisi (Georgia), 19-23 October 2015

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Species trade and conservation

Proposals for possible consideration at CoP17

AMENDMENT OF THE ANNOTATION TO THE LISTING OF  
*DALBERGIA COCHINCHINENSIS* INCLUDED IN APPENDIX II

1. This document has been submitted by Thailand.\*

Background

2. At the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), the Parties adopted, by consensus, a proposal ([CoP16 Prop. 60](#)) to list *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* in Appendix II with annotation #5 that reads as follows:

#5 *Logs, sawn wood and veneers sheets*

3. The intent of the listing is to cover the major products in trade that pose a conservation threat to the species in the wild. Since the Appendix II listing in March 2013, a review of the trade in *D. cochinchinensis* has been carried out and it shows that the trade includes parts and derivatives not regulated under the current annotation #5.
4. This species is among a number of *Dalbergia* species from the Mekong region known as "rosewoods" (common name = Siamese Rosewood, Thailand Rosewood, Vietnamese Rosewood, Trác wood or Hongmu). The species is holding its market value, and the on-going demand for it is such that parts of the tree, other than those covered under the current annotation #5, such as roots, are found in trade.
5. Range states of *D. cochinchinensis* have implemented domestic legislation to prohibit the harvest and export of this species, in particular as primary timber products, such as logs. An analysis of the exports from *D. cochinchinensis* range states and imports by major importing/processing Parties show that a large portion of the trade in "rosewood" species is now in secondary processed products, in particular furniture.
6. Given the high demand for this species in many different forms the illegal trade from range states is also of concern. A Notification to the Parties was issued in July 2014 (Notification [No. 2014/032](#)) requesting all Parties to assist Thailand in regulating the illegal trade. As an emergency response to this illegal trade, this species was discussed at the Regional Dialogue on Siamese Rosewood and illegal logging (Bangkok,

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\* 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.

Dec.2014) and it was noted at the 11th meeting of the Association of the South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Experts Group on CITES (AEG on CITES) in Brunei (May 2015) that a change in the annotation to the *D. cochinchinensis* listing would assist in the regulation of the trade.

7. Amendments to annotations may be necessary when clarification is required as to the intent of the annotation, when trade patterns shift or when they do not regulate the products in trade that are of conservation concern (as seen with other CITES listed species e.g. *Cistanche deserticola*, *Hoodia* spp. and *Aniba rosaeodora*). The annotations #5 and #6 have frequently been used for CITES-listed tree species [see Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15)], but where appropriate other annotations have been used. For example the genus *Gonystylus* (ramin) was listed at CoP13 (Bangkok, October 2004) with annotation #4.

#### Recommendations to the Plants Committee

8. The Plants Committee is invited to:

- a) Note that the current annotation #5 to this listing does not cover all products of the species *D. cochinchinensis* in trade, that the intent of the listing is not being met resulting in the unsustainable and illegal trade in this species and that a change of annotation is required to ensure that the parts and derivatives that dominate the trade and the demand from the wild resource are regulated.
- b) Support the proposal to amend the listing for *D. cochinchinensis* and delete the annotation #5 and replace it with annotation #4 that reads as follows:

*#4 All parts and derivatives, except:*

- a) *seeds (including seedpods of Orchidaceae), spores and pollen (including pollinia). The exemption does not apply to seeds from Cactaceae spp. exported from Mexico, and to seeds from Beccariophoenix madagascariensis and Neodypsis decaryi exported from Madagascar;*
  - b) *seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers;*
  - c) *cut flowers of artificially propagated plants;*
  - d) *fruits, and parts and derivatives thereof, of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genus Vanilla (Orchidaceae) and of the family Cactaceae;*
  - e) *stems, flowers, and parts and derivatives thereof, of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genera Opuntia subgenus Opuntia and Selenicereus (Cactaceae); and*
  - f) *finished products of Euphorbia antisyphilitica packaged and ready for retail trade.*
- c) Note that Thailand is preparing this proposal to put forward at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Johannesburg, South Africa, September 2016).
  - d) Note that the proponent will incorporate into the proposal all information and comments from other range states and major importing or processing Parties as well as the relevant timber and trade organisations as outlined under Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Re. CoP15) *Implementation of the Convention for timber species* and under Resolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16) *Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II*.