

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



Twenty-third meeting of the Plants Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 22 and 24-27 July 2017

Interpretation and implementation matters

Trade controls and traceability

TIMBER IDENTIFICATION
(agenda item 18)

Membership (as decided by the Committee)

Co-chairs: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rauber Coradin) and Canada;

Members: the representatives of Africa (Mr. Mahamane and Ms. Koumba Pambo) and the acting representative of Europe (Ms. Moser);

Parties: Austria, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Estonia, European Union, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, Chambre Syndicale de la Façture Instrumentale (CSFI), Forest Based Solutions, LLC, International Wood Products Association, Taylor Guitars, TRAFFIC, and the World Resources Institute.

Mandate

Concerning agenda item 18.1:

In order to implement Decision 17.167, develop and implement a realistic work plan of activities, including timelines and the identification and involvement of experts, institutions and networks, to fulfil work intersessionally. In doing so, use available information sources and existing networks.

Concerning agenda item 18.2:

Propose recommendations for consideration by the Plants Committee regarding the use of CITESwoodID as a tool for enforcement officers and use in training workshops.

Recommendations

Concerning agenda item 18.1

1. The working group recommends that:
 - a) The working group continue intersessionally and that a Chair and Co-chair be elected;

- b) The Secretariat liaise with the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and the Global Timber Tracking Network (GTTN) about existing tools and capacity applicable to CITES-listed tree species in trade;
- c) The Secretariat share information and resources via the tree species webpage set up by the Secretariat;
- d) Parties make available reference samples, in line with Decision 17.166. The working group further encourages Parties that are considering a tree listing proposal to have relevant and appropriate reference samples available to support the listing.
- e) All listings have relevant and appropriate reference samples available to support the listing, possibly in line with Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15).;
- f) Parties analyse and report existing gaps within available reference material, particularly in regard to highly traded species;
- g) The Plants Committee encourage the nomenclature specialist to review CITES-listed tree species that require new checklists and that other nomenclature issues be referred to the Plants Committee for consideration; and
- h) Parties identify ways in which Parties with timber identification capacity, in close cooperation with other stakeholders, can assist other Parties that lack such capacities.

Concerning agenda item 18.2

2. The working group notes that the CITESwoodID can be used as a tool for enforcement officers after they are trained to utilize it, and in training workshops. The working group further notes that an updated version of the CITESwoodID, which will be published in November 2017, will be made available on the CITES website, along with other identification tools.