

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)

Chair: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rauber Coradin);

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

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 Factice 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 to 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 sent 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;
- 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;
- i) A market study be commissioned to identify the most heavily traded species of rosewoods.

Concerning to agenda item 18.1

- 2. The working group notes that the CITESwoodID could be used as a tool for enforcement officers after they are trained to utilize it, and in training workshops. However, it is not intended to be a tool to be used by non-experts or untrained individuals. The working group further notes that the CITESwoodID, along with other identification tools, will be on the CITES tree species webpage that will be published in November 2017.