

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



Twenty-fifth meeting of the Plants Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 17 and 20-23 July 2020

Species specific matters

NEOTROPICAL TREE SPECIES

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 18.299 on *Neotropical tree species*, as follows:

**18.299 Directed to the Plants Committee**

*The Plants Committee shall:*

- a) *re-establish the intersessional neotropical tree species working group to work by electronic means to:*
  - i) *agree on a priority list of CITES-listed neotropical tree species, and decide on associated activities that will most significantly contribute to the implementation of the mandates in Resolutions relating to neotropical tree species and that are addressed to the Plants Committee;*
  - ii) *in the process of developing the priority list referred to in paragraph i) above, special consideration shall be given to neotropical tree species-listings in effect since the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties; to neotropical tree species that are currently under the Review of Significant Trade (or other compliance mechanisms of the Convention); as well as those that are known to represent implementation challenges particularly in matters related to the formulation of non-detriment findings and identification of specimens in trade;*
  - iii) *exchange experiences, information and skills between countries on the priority neotropical tree species; and*
  - iv) *report on progress made in the management and conservation of, and trade in, priority neotropical tree species, as well as on lessons learned, including on the generation of studies on the status of their populations; implementation of traceability and chain of custody systems, which strengthen the transparency and sustainable trade in timber species; and creation of materials for identification and training in the different existing methods, with an emphasis on those that can be used easily by authorities; and*
- b) *review the progress reported by the intersessional working group and make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties as appropriate.*

3. To facilitate the establishment of a priority list of CITES-listed neotropical tree species called for under Decision 18.299, subparagraph a) i), the Secretariat has produced in the Annex to this document a preliminary overview of all neotropical tree species currently included in the CITES Appendices (valid from 26 November 2019).

#### Recommendations

4. The Plants Committee is invited to:
  - a) re-establish the intersessional neotropical tree species working group, with the terms of reference indicated in Decision 18.299; and
  - b) request the working group to take into consideration the preliminary overview of neotropical tree species listed in the Appendices in the Annex to this document when conducting its work.

Preliminary overview of neotropical tree species listed in the Appendices

1. For the purpose of this overview, the following definitions for “tree” have been used as reference:
  - Tree (FAO, 2018):

*“A woody perennial with a single main stem, or in the case of coppice with several stems, having a more or less definite crown.*

*Explanatory note*

*1. Includes bamboos, palms, and other woody plants meeting the above criteria.”*
  - Tree (IUCN GTSG, 2020):

*“Woody plant with usually a single stem growing to a height of at least two metres, or if multi-stemmed, then at least one vertical stem five centimetres in diameter at breast height.*

*Some plant species have variable lifeforms, but all species that are recorded as naturally growing as a tree somewhere have been included, with the reference cited.”*
2. Regarding the term “neotropical”, the Secretariat took as reference the definition by Morrone (2017) (*i.e.* a biogeographical realm comprised by tropical areas of the Americas, from Mexico to Argentina).
3. Based on the definition above, the Secretariat has identified within the Appendices those listings that represent or cover neotropical tree species (table below). There is a total of 108 neotropical tree species listed in the Appendices (columns B and C). Neotropical tree species listings adopted or revised at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18, Geneva 2019) are highlighted in green; and further aspects relevant to the implementation of the Convention for these taxa are summarized in column D.

A. Family	B. Appendix			C. Neotropical tree species per family* *CITES Checklist	D. Ongoing CITES processes per family
	Appendix I	Appendix II	Appendix III		
ARAUCARIACEAE Monkey-puzzle trees	<i>Araucaria araucana</i>	-	-	1	N/A.
CARYOCARACEAE Ajo	-	<i>Caryocar costaricense</i> #4	-	1	N/A.
CUPRESSACEAE Alerce, cypresses	<i>Fitzroya cupressoides</i> <i>Pilgerodendron uviferum</i>	-	-	1	N/A.
JUGLANDACEAE Gavilan	-	<i>Oreomunnea pterocarpa</i> #4	-	1	N/A.
LAURACEAE Laurels	-	<i>Aniba rosaeodora</i> #12	-	1	N/A.
LEGUMINOSAE (Fabaceae) Afrormosia, cristobal, palisander, rosewood, sandalwood	<i>Dalbergia nigra</i>	<i>Dalbergia</i> spp. #15 (except for the species listed in Appendix I) <i>Paubrasilia echinata</i> #10 <i>Platymiscium parviflorum</i> #4	<i>Dipteryx panamensis</i> (Costa Rica, Nicaragua)	79	<i>Dalbergia</i> spp.  To date there is no standard nomenclature reference for this higher taxonomic listing and, therefore, the estimated number of neotropical tree species of the genus <i>Dalbergia</i> is based on the data available in the <i>CITES Checklist</i> . Decisions 18.307 to 18.308 on the <i>Production of a CITES Checklist for Dalbergia spp.</i> aim to establish such a nomenclature reference.  The Secretariat reports on the progress in the implementation of Decisions 18.234 to 18.237 on

#4 All parts and derivatives, except:

- 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 *Dypsis decaryi* exported from Madagascar;
- seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers;
- cut flowers of artificially propagated plants;
- fruits, and parts and derivatives thereof, of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genus *Vanilla* (*Orchidaceae*) and of the family *Cactaceae*;
- stems, flowers, and parts and derivatives thereof, of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genera *Opuntia* subgenus *Opuntia* and *Selenicereus* (*Cactaceae*); and
- finished products of *Aloe ferox* and *Euphorbia antisiphilitica* packaged and ready for retail trade.

#12 Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood and extracts. Finished products containing such extracts as ingredients, including fragrances, are not considered to be covered by this annotation.

#15 All parts and derivatives, except:

- Leaves, flowers, pollen, fruits, and seeds;
- Finished products to a maximum weight of wood of the listed species of up to 10 kg per shipment;
- Finished musical instruments, finished musical instrument parts and finished musical instrument accessories;
- Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, which are covered by Annotation # 4; and
- Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia* spp. originating and exported from Mexico, which are covered by Annotation # 6.

#10 Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, including unfinished wood articles used for the fabrication of bows for stringed musical instruments.

A. Family	B. Appendix			C. Neotropical tree species per family* *CITES Checklist	D. Ongoing CITES processes per family
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					<p><i>Rosewood tree species</i> [Leguminosae (Fabaceae)] in document PC25 Doc. 26.1.</p> <p>At CoP18, annotation #15 was amended to exclude from CITES' controls all musical instruments and other small handicrafts. Decisions 18.321 to 18.322 on <i>Annotation #15</i> aim to assess the effects of these new exemptions and conservation implications thereof.</p> <p>The revised annotation #15 has introduced new terms to the Appendices (e.g. on instruments and shipments), which are now included in the Interpretation section of the Appendices.</p> <p>Additionally, Nicaragua and Panama are part of the Review of Significant Trade for <i>Dalbergia retusa</i>. The Secretariat provides updates on these cases in document PC25 Doc. 15.3 on <i>Species selected following CoP17</i>.</p> <p><u><i>Paubrasilia echinata</i></u> Nomenclature change adopted at CoP18. See also Resolution Conf. 12.11 (Rev. CoP18). The species was formerly listed as <i>Caesalpinia echinata</i>.</p>

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MELIACEAE Mahoganies, West Indian cedar		<p><b><i>Cedrela</i> spp.</b><sup>#6</sup> (Populations of the Neotropics) (Entry into effect delayed by 12 months, i.e. until 28 August 2020)</p> <p><b><i>Swietenia humilis</i></b> <sup>#4</sup> <b><i>Swietenia macrophylla</i></b> <sup>#6</sup> (Populations of the Neotropics)</p>	<p><b><i>Cedrela fissilis</i></b> <sup>#5</sup> (Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil) (To be deleted on 28 August 2020) <b><i>Cedrela lilloj</i></b> <sup>#5</sup> (Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil) (To be deleted on 28 August 2020) <b><i>Cedrela odorata</i></b><sup>#5</sup> (Brazil and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. In addition, the following countries have listed their national populations: Colombia, Guatemala and Peru) (To be deleted on 28 August 2020)</p>	19	<p><u><i>Cedrela</i> spp.</u></p> <p>The genus <i>Cedrela</i> was listed in Appendix II at CoP18 with a delay of entry into force as per the annotations in column B.</p>

<sup>#6</sup> Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets and plywood.

<sup>#4</sup> 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 *Dyopsis 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 *Aloe ferox* and *Euphorbia antisiphilitica* packaged and ready for retail trade.

<sup>#5</sup> Logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets.

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		<i>Swietenia mahagoni</i> #5			
PINACEAE Firs and pines	<i>Abies guatemalensis</i>	-	-	1	The species is native to Guatemala and Mexico. <i>A. guatemalensis</i> was selected for the Periodic Review process at the 23rd meeting of the Plants Committee (PC23, July 2017).
PODOCARPACEAE Podocarps	<i>Podocarpus parlatorei</i>	-	-	1	N/A
RUBIACEAE Ayugue	<i>Balmea stormiae</i>	-	-	1	N/A
ZYGOPHYLLACEAE Lignum-vitae	-	<i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i> #11 <i>Guaiacum</i> spp. #2	-	2	<i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i> The species/country combination <i>B. sarmientoi</i> /Paraguay is part of the Review of Significant Trade. The Secretariat provides updates on this case in document PC25 Doc. 15.2 on <i>Species selected following CoP16</i> .

4. For further updates on ongoing projects for neotropical tree species under the CITES Tree species programme, please refer to document PC25 Doc. 8 on *Tree species programme*, as well as to <https://cites-tsp.org/es/>

#### References

FAO. 2018. *Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020: Terms and Definitions*. [www.fao.org/3/i8661en/i8661en.pdf](http://www.fao.org/3/i8661en/i8661en.pdf)

IUCN's Global Tree Specialist Group (IUCN GTSG). 2020. Available at: [https://tools.bgci.org/global\\_tree\\_search.php?action=about](https://tools.bgci.org/global_tree_search.php?action=about)

Morrone J.J. 2017. *Neotropical Biogeography: Regionalization and Evolution*. First Edition. CRC Press.

#11 Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood, powder and extracts. Finished products containing such extracts as ingredients, including fragrances, are not considered to be covered by this annotation.

#2 All parts and derivatives except:

- a) seeds and pollen; and
- b) finished products packaged and ready for retail trade.