

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



Sixty-sixth meeting of the Standing Committee
Geneva (Switzerland), 11-15 January 2016

Interpretation and implementation of the Convention

Trade control and traceability

PHYSICAL INSPECTION OF TIMBER SHIPMENTS

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 65th meeting (SC65, Geneva, July 2014), the Committee agreed that the Secretariat should issue a Notification to solicit more information from Parties on tools and procedures they have developed for the identification and measurement of CITES-listed tree species and the physical inspection of timber shipments.
3. It was determined by the Secretariat that the solicitation and compilation of such additional information would best be undertaken through a consultancy, using available external funds provided to the Secretariat by the European Union. Such funds were intended to facilitate the implementation of selected decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 16th meeting (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), including Decision 16.58 on *Physical inspection of timber shipments*.
4. The Secretariat thereafter included a related activity on Decision 16.58 in a Small Scale Funding Agreement (SSFA) concluded with the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) on 24 April 2015. The implementation of this SSFA has been delayed as a result of the implementation of a United Nations-wide enterprise resource planning system known as "Umoja"¹ and will proceed as soon as possible.
5. Any further developments on this matter will be included in the Secretariat's oral report at the present meeting.

Recommendation

6. The Secretariat invites the Standing Committee to take note of this document.

¹ See <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/notif/E-Notif-2015-018.pdf>