

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



Sixty-ninth meeting of the Standing Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 27 November – 1 December 2017

Species specific matters

Maintenance of the Appendices

Annotations

ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING GROUP ON ANNOTATIONS

1. This document has been submitted by Canada, on behalf of Namibia and Canada as joint leads for the Standing Committee on the issue of Annotations.\*

Background

2. At the 17th meeting, (CoP17; Johannesburg, 2016) the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP17) which directs the Standing Committee to re-establish the working group on annotations, in close collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees. At its 68th meeting (Johannesburg, 2016), the Standing Committee agreed that Canada and Namibia would lead on the issue of annotations.
4. After discussion with the Chair of the Standing Committee in February 2017 and consultation between Canada and Namibia, it was agreed to engage members of the previous Standing Committee Annotations Working Group in advance of the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee (November 2017; SC69), to continue discussions relating to the work included in the working group terms of reference contained in Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP17).

In April 2017, in response to concerns raised by the Secretariat in advance of CoP17 regarding a lack of regional diversity in the working group in its discussions during the CoP16/CoP17 intersessional period, the Chair of the CITES Plants Committee confirmed that ten members or alternate members of the Plants Committee had expressed interest in participating in the Standing Committee's work on annotations. The Plants Committee members or alternate members that joined the ad hoc working group discussions were: From Africa: Ali Mahamane (Niger), Aurélie Flore Koumba Pambo (Gabon) and Beatrice Khayota (Kenya); from Asia: Byoung-Yoon Lee (Republic of Korea) and Joeni Setijo Rahajo (Indonesia); from Central and South America and the Caribbean: Vera Rauber Coradin; from Europe: Paulo José Da Luz Carmo (Portugal) and Ursula Moser (Switzerland); from North America: Isabel Camarena Osorno (Mexico) and from Oceania: Greg Leach (Australia). Further, participation from interested additional observers from wood products, musical instrument fabricator and professional musician's associations has likewise increased balance in discussions to date.

5. The following Parties and observers have participated in the informal working group discussions to date: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, EU, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Mexico, Norway, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, American Herbal Products Association, Chambre Syndicale de la Factice Instrumentale (CSFI), Center for International Environmental Law, Confederation of

---

\* *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.*

European Music Industries, Entente Internationale des Luthiers et des Archetiers, Forest Based Solutions LLC, FTS Botanics, Humane Society International, International Association of Violin and Bow Makers (EILA), International Fragrance Association (IFRA), International Wood Products Association (IWPA), League of American Orchestras and Pearle (Live Performance Europe), Lewis and Clark Law School (IELP), Madinter Trade S.I., Species Survival Network, Taylor Guitars, TRAFFIC, and IWMC World Conservation Trust.

#### Terms of Reference

6. Parties and observers began consultations by email on the tasks identified in the terms of reference identified in Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP17), which are:
  - a) *to further consider procedures for crafting annotations and develop recommendations for improving them;*
  - b) *to evaluate and address issues related to the drafting, interpretation and implementation of annotations, and assist Parties in drafting future annotations, drawing on appropriate expertise from within and outside its membership;*
  - c) *to conduct any relevant additional work on evaluating the existing annotations for plant taxa listed in Appendices II and III, with an emphasis on ensuring that such annotations are clear as to the types of specimens to be covered by a listing, can be readily implemented, and focus on those parts and derivatives primarily exported from the range States and those commodities that dominate the trade in and demand for the wild resource;*
  - d) *based on the results of the timber trade study directed to the Secretariat in Decision 15.35 (Rev. CoP16), to review the existing annotations for tree species and, if appropriate, draft amendments to those annotations and prepare clear definitions for the terms used in the annotations in order to facilitate their use and understanding by CITES authorities, enforcement officers, exporters and importers;*
  - e) *in close collaboration with ongoing efforts in the Plants Committee, to continue reviewing the appropriateness and practical implementation of the annotation(s) of the agarwood-producing taxa (Aquilaria spp. and Gyrinops spp.), taking into consideration the previous work done by the range and consumer States of these species;*
  - f) *to review outstanding implementation challenges resulting from the listings of Aniba rosaeodora and Bulnesia sarmientoi in the Appendices, particularly concerning trade in extracts, and propose appropriate solutions;*
  - g) *to draft definitions of terms included in annotations, in cases where the terms are not easily understood or where there has been difficulty in implementing the listing as a result of confusion about what commodities are covered, and submit them to the Standing Committee for adoption by the Conference of the Parties and subsequent inclusion in the Interpretation section of the Appendices;*
  - h) *to conduct any work related to annotations directed to it by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing, Animals or Plants Committee; and*
  - i) *to prepare reports on progress made in addressing the issues tasked to it and submit them for consideration at the 69th and 70th meetings of the Standing Committee.*
7. Paragraph d) of the terms of reference listed in paragraph 6 directs the working group to review the existing annotations for tree species based on the results of the timber trade study directed to the Secretariat in Decision 15.35 (Rev. CoP16). The preliminary results of this study were presented to the Plants Committee at its twenty-second meeting (Tbilisi, 2015) in document PC22 Doc. 6.1, and are included in the Annex of the present document.

#### Animals and plants related annotations

8. The ad hoc working group participants discussed the advisability of considering plant and animal annotations separately. Noting that working group terms of reference contained in Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP17) deal almost entirely with plant annotations but that paragraph h) directs the working group “to conduct any work related to annotations directed to it by the Conference of the Parties, the Standing, Animals or Plants

Committee,” the Animals Committee was asked at the joint session of the 29th meeting of the Animals Committee and 23rd meeting of the Plants Committee (Geneva, 2017) to identify issues for the working group to consider following its formal re-establishment at SC69. The Animals Committee indicated that it did not have any specific issues to direct to the working group. Therefore, the ad hoc working group concluded that there is no advantage to dividing attention between two taxonomic groups.

#### Discussions of the ad hoc working group at PC23

9. The ad hoc working group met informally on the margins of the 23rd meeting of the Plants Committee (PC23; Geneva, 2017). During those discussions, participants shared perspectives and experiences associated with annotations, particularly Annotations #15, which was adopted with the listings of *Dalbergia* spp., *Guibourtia demeusei*, *Guibourtia pellegriniana*, and *Guibourtia tessmannii* at the 17th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (Johannesburg, 2016). Particular concerns included the scope of commodities covered by the listing, particularly beyond those commodities primarily exported from the range States, the ambiguity of the terms included in the annotation, and lack of standardized interpretation of the annotation across the CITES Parties. The discussion participants also noted the recommendations made by the PC23 Working Group on Rosewood Timber Species and included in Document PC23 Com.2. The discussion participants acknowledged the importance of following the guidance previously adopted by the Conference of the Parties in Resolutions such as Resolution Conf. 9.25 (Rev. CoP17) and Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP17) concerning the use and crafting of annotations, and considering further guidance on issues including interpretation of terms in annotations, standardization of language in annotations, simplification of annotations, and the process by which annotations are drafted and presented at meetings of the Conference of the Parties.

#### Recommendations

10. Recalling that at its 68th meeting, the Standing Committee agreed to re-establish a Working Group on Annotations at SC69 and that Canada and Namibia were selected as the interim leads for initiating the work in advance of SC69, the Standing Committee is invited to formally re-establish the Working Group on Annotations, confirm its membership, and identify a process for inviting additional members, particularly among Parties and observer organizations not present at SC69.
11. The Standing Committee is invited to take note of this interim report and to offer comments and guidance regarding the tasks included in the Terms of Reference contained in 16.162 (Rev. CoP17) (shown also in paragraph 6 of the present document),
12. As no further results have been reported from the trade study referenced in paragraph d) of Decision 16.162 (Rev. CoP17), the Standing Committee is invited to consider the desirability of additional studies for characterizing commodities of CITES-listed tree species in international trade, including how the Working Group should consider the preliminary timber trade study results contained in PC22 Doc. 6.1.
13. The Standing Committee is invited to provide any additional instructions to the Working Group with regard to potential revision of Annotation #15, with particular emphasis on the discussion in document PC23 Sum. 4 Rev. 1, at paragraphs 9 and 10.

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

Strategic matters

Annotations for species listed in the CITES Appendices

REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT (DECISION 15.35)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. At its 16th meeting (CoP16; Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties decided to maintain as valid Decision 15.35, which reads:

*The Secretariat shall commission a trade study, subject to available funding, to be conducted by an external consultant in cooperation with the International Tropical Timber Organization, to review the trade in timber species listed in Appendices II and III to determine the types of specimens that initially appear in international trade or are exported from range States and regarding those which dominate the trade in and demand for the wild resource. Once the specimens that meet these criteria have been determined, the study should also determine which six-digit universal HS codes and associated definitions are applicable to these specimens. The Secretariat shall provide the results of this study to the Plants Committee.*

The Conference also adopted Decision 14.148 (Rev. CoP16), which reads:

- a) *Based on the results of the timber trade study, the Standing Committee and Plants Committee, via the working group called for in Decision 16.162, shall review the annotations for tree species listed in Appendices II and III and, if appropriate, draft amendments to the annotations and prepare clear definitions for the terms used in those annotations in order to facilitate their use and understanding by CITES authorities, enforcement officers, exporters and importers.*
- b) *The amended annotations shall focus on specimens that appear in international trade as exports from range States and those which dominate the trade in and demand for the wild resource.*
- c) *As appropriate, the Standing Committee, in close cooperation with the Plants Committee, shall draft a proposal to amend any annotation in the Appendices and any amendments to Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15).*
- d) *The Standing Committee, in close cooperation with the Plants Committee, shall request that the Secretariat submit on its behalf any proposal to amend Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15) for consideration at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17). The Plants Committee*

*shall request that the Depositary Government submit on its behalf any proposal to amend the annotations in the Appendices for consideration at CoP17.*

In addition, the Conference adopted Decision 16.162, which reads in relevant parts:

*The Standing Committee shall form a working group on annotations, in close collaboration with the Animals and Plants Committees, recognizing that the Animals and Plants Committees are an important source of expertise and advice to Parties on such scientific and technical issues. The group shall be chaired by a member of the Standing Committee and shall include, but not be limited to, members from the Standing Committee, Animals Committee, Plants Committee, observer Parties, CITES Management and Scientific Authorities, enforcement authorities, including Customs, and industry representatives. The terms of reference for the working group shall be:*

*[...]*

- d) based on the results of the timber trade study directed to the Secretariat in Decision 15.35 (Rev. CoP16), to review the existing annotations for tree species and, if appropriate, draft amendments to those annotations and prepare clear definitions for the terms used in the annotations in order to facilitate their use and understanding by CITES authorities, enforcement officers, exporters and importers;*

*[...]*

- j) to prepare reports on progress made in addressing the issues tasked to it and submit them for the 65th and 66th meetings of the Standing Committee.*

3. The joint sessions of the 27th meeting of the Animals Committee and the 21st meeting of the Plants Committee (AC27/PC21, Veracruz, May 2014) considered an agenda item on *Annotations for species listed in the CITES Appendices: report of the interim Standing Committee working group*. The interim working group reported that it had addressed some of the more overarching and straightforward issues contained in the relevant CoP16 Decisions. This work did not include, *inter alia*, review of the existing annotations for tree species mentioned above, in part as the results of the timber trade study envisaged under Decision 15.35 were not yet available. The interim working group recommended that the Standing Committee, at its 65th meeting (SC65, Geneva, July 2014), convene the working group so that it could, among other things, develop a programme of work to complete the remaining work called for in relevant Decisions.

4. At SC65, the Standing Committee

*noted the document and oral report of the chair of the interim working group on annotations and agreed to re-establish the working group with the mandate provided under Decision 16.162 and the following additional tasks: to consider the results of the timber trade study called for in Decision 15.35 and, in particular, to consider whether current annotations regarding tree species adequately cover the types of specimens primarily exported from source countries; to assess the advantages and disadvantages of potential changes to those annotations; and, if appropriate to prepare draft amendments to the annotations for consideration at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Committee also agreed that the working group would be co-chaired by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America and that its members would be: Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Mexico, Norway, Switzerland; Ms Caceres as a representative of the Animals Committee, and Ms Rivera (Central and South America and the Caribbean), Mr Sajeva (Europe), Mr Leach (Oceania), Mr Luke (Africa) and Ms Al-Salem (Asia) as representatives of the Plants Committee; and the European Union, the American Herbal Products Association, the Centre for International Environmental Law, Humane Society International, IWMC-World Conservation Trust, Lewis and Clark College, and TRAFFIC. [SC65 Sum. 9 (Rev. 1)]*

5. Further, at SC65,

*The Secretariat reported that the timber trade study envisaged under Decision 15.35 had been initiated in collaboration with the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), through the joint development of terms of reference and the contracting of a consultant. It was reported that the study was being funded through the ITTO-CITES programme. The study was scheduled to be completed in time for consideration at upcoming meetings of relevant CITES bodies....*

The Committee noted the oral progress report of the Secretariat, as supplemented by the representative of ITTO, and also noted the continuing collaboration between the CITES Secretariat and ITTO on this and other matters under the ITTO-CITES programme. [see [SC65 Summary Record](#), agenda item 49.2]

6. On 18 November 2014, the Secretariat issued Notification to the Parties [No. 2014/053](#) in which,

*Parties are requested to provide information on trade in specimens of tree species that are included in CITES Appendices II and III and that are used in the manufacture of wood products. Parties are also requested to provide information on trade in wood products derived from listed tree species, where the products fall outside the scope of annotations for those species and are therefore not subject to CITES controls and not included in the CITES Trade Database. Information on trade in any listed tree species will be useful in the trade study as well as for reports to the Standing Committee and Plants Committee. However, information on trade in products manufactured using Dalbergia cochinchinensis (Siamese rosewood), Swietenia macrophylla (bigleaf mahogany), Pericopsis elata (afroormosia) or Cedrela odorata (Spanish cedar) is of particular interest.*

*The Annex to the present Notification provides additional guidance on the information being sought for the study and related work by CITES bodies on annotations for tree species included in Appendices II and III, including: categories, descriptions and trade classifications of wood products; descriptions of annotations for tree species used for wood products; and examples of information that will assist in carrying out the trade study.*

*Parties are also requested to provide any examples of difficulty in implementing trade controls for existing annotations for tree species, in particular for further processed timber products.*

7. Subsequently, in Notification to the Parties [No. 2014/057](#) of 27 November 2014, the initial deadline for Parties' responses to the above Notification (30 November 2014) was extended until 31 January 2015. Parties were also advised that "Any relevant information that is sent after 31 January 2015 will be used to inform related work of the Standing Committee's Working Group on Annotations, the Standing Committee and the Plants Committee under Decisions 16.162 and 14.148 (Rev. CoP16)". To date, responses have been received from Australia, Belgium, Brazil, China, the European Union (analysis of commodities codes and customs data for all 28 Member States), Germany, Italy, Latvia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America.
8. On 24 April 2015, the CITES and ITTO Secretariats concluded a Small Scale Funding Agreement which, *inter alia*, provided additional financial support to the timber trade study through external funds donated by the United States of America. Such funds are to be used for the analysis of responses made to Notification to the Parties No. 2014/053 and thereafter finalization of the timber trade study. Payment of the funds, however, has been delayed by the transition of the United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Office at Nairobi and CITES Secretariat to a new UN business system known as Umoja on 1 June 2015. Under Umoja, the Secretariat's certification and approval powers have been temporarily suspended and its bank account has been limited to the receipt of funds. The Secretariat's administrative support team has nevertheless made strong and consistent efforts since April 2015 to process this payment through UNEP and UNON, and it is hoped that payment will be made by the end of August 2015 or in early September 2015.
9. On 18 May 2015, the ITTO Secretariat provided the co-chairs of the Standing Committee Working Group on Annotations and the Secretariat with briefing materials summarizing the work done to date under, and preliminary results of, the timber trade study. It was explained that Phase 1 of the study—a compilation and analysis of official trade data—has been completed and that Phase 2 of the study—compilation and analysis of Parties' responses to Notification to the Parties No. 2014/053—has not been completed. The following paragraphs draw from and build on the preliminary findings and conclusions, and associated tables, that were contained in the briefing materials provided to the co-chairs of the Standing Committee Working Group on Annotations.

#### Phase 1 of the timber trade study

10. Table 1 (see Annex) lists the 10 annotations applied to CITES Appendix-II or Appendix-III listed tree species that are used in manufacturing wood products. For purposes of the review of annotations directed by Decision 16.162, annotations for tree species that are of particular interest are those that are not comprehensive; that is, annotations that do not designate all parts and derivatives for CITES coverage.

Specifically, annotations #5, #6, #7, #10, #11 and #12 apply CITES trade controls only to wood raw material (such as logs) or semi-processed products (such as sawn wood, veneer sheets and plywood). For CITES-listed tree species with these annotations, further processed and finished products are excluded from CITES coverage.

11. More than 40 tree species used in manufacturing wood products (“timber species”) are listed in CITES Appendices II or III. These listed timber species are used in a wide variety of products and end uses, including high-value finished products such as doors, window frames, furniture and carvings. Table 2 (see Annex) lists selected CITES-listed timber species and provides examples of their use in further processed and finished products.
12. Phase 1 of the timber trade study reviewed trade in wood products originating from range States for selected CITES-listed tree species, and focused on range States for tree species where the related annotation limits CITES trade controls to primary (minimally processed) wood products. Drawing on the guidance provided by Parties at SC65, as reflected in the Notification to the Parties No. 2014/053 (see paragraph 6 above), the compilation and analysis of trade data focused on the wood products trade originating from range States for *Pericopsis elata* (Afromosia), *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* (Siamese rosewood), *Swietenia macrophylla* (Bigleaf mahogany) and *Cedrela odorata* (Spanish cedar). Tables 3, 3a and 3b show each species, the relevant annotation and the corresponding range States.
13. The primary source of information for Phase 1 of the study is commodity trade data that are based on customs declarations collected by national customs officials and compiled by international organizations such as the United Nations Statistics Division (UN-Comtrade).<sup>1</sup> These data are collected and reported using the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System of tariff nomenclature (HS codes). This is an internationally standardized system maintained by the World Customs Organization (WCO) and used by more than 200 countries to classify traded products. These data are the only comprehensive source of information on goods in trade, including wood products.<sup>2</sup>
14. The HS code-based data provide some information on tree species or groups of species in wood raw material (for example, logs) and in some minimally processed commodities such as sawn wood, veneer and plywood. However, with very few exceptions, the internationally harmonized (6-digit) HS codes do not identify the tree species used in manufacturing the further processed wood products that appear in trade. Therefore, these data cannot be used to “...determine the types of specimens that appear in trade...” as requested in Decision 15.35. However, the customs data are comprehensive and provide a complete description of the wood products trade of the relevant range States, including trade in products manufactured from listed species and trade in products manufactured from other tree species. Therefore, the HS data are a necessary starting point for the review requested in Decision 15.35.
15. Information on the structure of wood products trade, with corresponding HS codes, is summarized in tables 4, 5 and 6 (see Annex). Table 4 provides descriptions, along with corresponding HS codes, for the groups of products generally included in the categories: primary wood products, secondary wood products and wood furniture. For each of the product groups shown in table 4, table 5 shows the annotations that effectively require CITES documents for the trade of products in that group. As noted in table 4, annotations #1, #2, #4 and #14 designate “all parts and derivatives” (with some exclusions; see table 1); therefore these annotations include all primary and secondary processed wood products—all wood products shown in table 5. Table 5 illustrates the relatively narrow scope of CITES coverage for species listed with annotations #5 and #6.
16. Table 6 displays the broad product groups and corresponding HS codes in two categories: products covered by annotation #5 or annotation #6 and products not covered by the annotations. For each of the range States, data on the value and quantity of trade for each 4-digit HS code in each of the product groups shown in table 6 were compiled for the period 2000-2013 from the UN-Comtrade database. Because export data were incomplete for some range countries or product groups, data reported by importers (imports sourced directly from range countries) were used as needed to fill gaps.<sup>3</sup>
17. Where available, both quantity and value data were compiled. Trade values are reported in US dollars and can be aggregated across all commodities in the sub-categories. For some processed wood products, data

---

<sup>1</sup> Data are available at: [comtrade.un.org](http://comtrade.un.org).

<sup>2</sup> Information on the WCO is available at: [www.wcoomd.org](http://www.wcoomd.org) and information on the Harmonized System can be found at: [http://www.wcoomd.org/en/faq/harmonized\\_system\\_faq.aspx](http://www.wcoomd.org/en/faq/harmonized_system_faq.aspx)

<sup>3</sup> For a number of reasons, importer data are typically more comprehensive and may be more accurate than exporter data and therefore provide an appropriate “mirror” image for the direct exports of partner countries.

on primary units of quantity are not routinely collected or are collected in a variety of weight-based units, volume-based units, or simply as the number of items. However, for most countries the UN-Comtrade data also report a secondary unit of quantity (weight). Trends in these data on secondary units of quantity were compared to trends in value data and were also used to calculate aggregate unit values. Because CITES-listed species are likely to be used in higher value products, increases in aggregate unit value might indicate an increase in the share of trade accounted for by higher-value species, including (but not necessarily limited to) CITES-listed species.

18. Because the context for this study is the possible trade in wood products manufactured from CITES-listed timber species, it was considered unlikely that specimens of these species would be exported in the form of primary products not expressly covered by the annotation. These “other primary products” are generally not suitable for the products and end uses listed in table 2; examples of these ‘other primary products’ include fuelwood, sawdust, chips, waferboard and fibreboard (see table 4 and table 5). Therefore, the examination of patterns and trends in wood products trade was focused on range State exports of secondary processed wood products (SPWP) and wood furniture.

#### Preliminary results of Phase 1

19. Wood products trade data for the selected range States, for the period 2000-2013, were compiled and aggregated as described above. Data for 2013 are summarized below. Because all *Swietenia macrophylla* range States are also *Cedrela odorata* range countries (with one exception), the larger range group (*Cedrela*) was used for this and subsequent analysis.<sup>4</sup>
20. Patterns of exports and the relative importance of processed products in trade vary widely across the three groups of range States. Nevertheless, total forest product exports from the range States for the selected CITES-listed species are substantial and were valued at more than USD 16 billion in 2013 (see figure below); these range States account for about 8 percent of world exports of primary and secondary wood products and wooden furniture. With the exception of the *Pericopsis elata* range States, a considerable portion of these exports (roughly half, measured by value) is in secondary processed wood products and wood furniture—products outside the scope of annotations #5 and #6. For most of these range States, however, the exports of wood products containing CITES-listed species are likely to account for a very small share of the total forest product trade. For the primary products for which comparison is possible, CITES-listed species account for less than 5 percent of the exports of most range States, and typically much less than 1 percent.<sup>5</sup>

Value of direct exports of selected wood products, by group, from range States  
for selected CITES-listed tree species (data for 2013) – in billion USD

Product Group	Selected Species of Interest			All other States	World total
	<i>Pericopsis elata</i> range States	<i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i> range States	<i>Cedrela odorata</i> range States		
Primary wood products	1.8	4.3	2.2	83.4	91.7
Secondary processed wood products	0.1	0.6	1.3	28.9	30.9
Wooden furniture	-	4.9	1.2	55.7	61.8
Total, selected products	1.9	9.8	4.7	168.0	184.4

Source: Compiled from UN-Comtrade data, with data reported by importers used to estimate exports for some States. Data do not include pulp, paper, paperboard and related products. See table 3 for lists of range States and table 4 for definitions of product groups.

<sup>4</sup> The exception is Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

<sup>5</sup> Based on a comparison of quantities reported in the CITES Trade Database and data reported by ITTO.



21. Trends in the volume and value of trade in SPWP and wood furniture over the period 2000-2013 were examined for each range State in the species groups. Tables 7-9 (see annex) summarize an assessment of trends in the volume of trade for SPWP (as a group), selected subgroups of SPWP, and wood furniture. An increasing trend is indicated with “+”, a decreasing trend is indicated with “-“, a mixed trend (in many cases increasing, then decreasing exports) is indicated with “+/-“, and no trend is indicated with “0”. In the circumstance of negligible trade, the entry is blank. Range States whose trade data show a significant increase in trade over the period 2000-2013 are highlighted in gray.

#### *Pericopsis elata* range States

In aggregate, there is little indication of an increase in trade in SPWP and wood furniture. The slight increase in trade in HS 4418 by Cameroon and Ghana is a weak trend and starts from a very low level. In both cases, trends in unit value data are mixed and although generally increasing do not provide strong evidence of increasing trade in high value specimens. The “mixed trends” indicated for a number of range States and products groups generally follow a pattern of increasing exports until 2008/2009 followed by sharp decreases in exports.

#### *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* range States

The listing of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* is recent (2013); therefore, the data (with the possible exception of some data for 2013) cannot be interpreted as including that listed species. However, for three of the four range States (Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam), there was a significant increase in exports of SPWP and wood furniture over the past decade. Exports of these products are now considerable—valued at USD 2.5 billion in 2013 (see table above) and have increased sharply in the past few years. This trend is especially strong in the case of wood furniture exports.

#### *Cedrela odorata* and *Swietenia macrophylla* range States

The range States for these species are quite diverse, including in the size and structure of forest product manufacturing and exports. Two range States (Brazil and Mexico) account for roughly 90 percent of the exports of SPWP and wood furniture. For most range States and product groups, trends in exports were mixed—increasing until 2008 and decreasing afterward. Exceptions to the above are the trends in exports of SPWP from Peru, Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Guatemala. The volume and value of exports increased for these range States, although in most cases the increases were uneven (punctuated by periods of sharp decline). There are no significant trends in the unit value of SPWP exports from these range States. Some of the increasing trends noted in table 9 are from low levels of exports in 2000.

22. As described above, the harmonized trade data cannot provide definitive evidence of trade in specimens of listed species outside the scope of the annotation. Interpretation of the aggregate trade data in tables 7-9 must take into account the small share of total trade accounted for by CITES-listed species; trends in trade aggregated across all species (listed and non-listed) are likely to be caused by changes in production and export of the largest component: in species other than CITES-listed species. Nevertheless, by highlighting trade patterns that may indicate an increase in exports of products that could contain listed species but are not subject to CITES trade controls, the aggregate data can serve as a “coarse filter” to focus further examination of patterns of exports from range States.

#### Preliminary conclusions of the timber trade study

23. Phase 1 of the timber trade study provides a structure for examining trade in CITES-listed species in a larger context, that is, range State exports of all wood products made from those species. The study documents the scale and complexity of the wood products exports of the range States and demonstrates that there is considerable potential to use CITES-listed tree species in value-added processing. The study also highlights trends in specific range States and product groups that require further examination.
24. Phase 2 of the timber trade study will include a compilation and analysis of responses to Notification to the Parties 2014/053. In at least a few cases, the information and data provided by Parties can be used in a more detailed examination of trends highlighted in Phase 1. If payment under the SSFA mentioned in paragraph 8 is made quickly, additional information from Phase 2 of the study can be made available in time to be taken into account by the Standing Committee Working Group on Annotations as it prepares a discussion document and related recommendations for the 66th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC66, Geneva, 11-15 January 2016). The document deadline for SC66 documents is 12 November 2015.

25. Recognizing that the current available information is inconclusive, and at best circumstantial, the Plants Committee may wish to recommend to the Standing Committee Working Group on Annotations that they advise Parties to establish mechanisms to more closely monitor wood products trade in CITES-listed species, in lieu of considering changes to the annotations at this time. Drawing on information provided in responses to Notification to the Parties 2014/053, the Plants Committee and Standing Committee may wish to draw attention to methods and approaches that Parties might use to provide additional information on the species content of trade in processed products.

#### Recommendations

26. Taking into account the preliminary results and conclusions to date, the Plants Committee may wish to consider recommending to the Standing Committee Working Group on Annotations that it begin discussing and otherwise exploring proposals for possible amendments to annotations #5 and #6. Such proposed amendments should expand the scope of those annotations' coverage to include secondary processed wood products, similar to the scope of annotation #4.

Table 1 – Annotations applied to listings of tree species used for wood products

Annotation	Description
#1	<p><b>All parts and derivatives</b>, except:</p> <p>a) seeds, spores and pollen (including pollinia);  b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers;  c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants; and  d) fruits, and parts and derivatives thereof, of artificially propagated plants of the genus <i>Vanilla</i></p>
#2	<p><b>All parts and derivatives</b> except:</p> <p>a) seeds and pollen; and  b) finished products for retail</p>
#4	<p><b>All parts and derivatives</b>, except:</p> <p>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 <i>Beccariophoenix madagascariensis</i> and <i>Neodypsis decaryi</i> 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 <i>Vanilla</i> (Orchidaceae) and of the family Cactaceae;  e) stems, flowers, and parts and derivatives thereof of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genera <i>Opuntia</i> subgenus <i>Opuntia</i> and <i>Selenicereus</i> (Cactaceae); and  f) finished products of <i>Euphorbia antisyphilitica</i> packaged and ready for retail trade</p>
#5	Logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets
#6	Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets and plywood
#7	Logs, wood-chips, powder and extracts
#10	Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, including unfinished wood articles used for the fabrication of bows for stringed musical instruments
#11	Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood, powder and extracts
#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
#14	<p><b>All parts and derivatives</b> except:</p> <p>a) seeds and pollen;  b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers;  c) fruits;  d) leaves;  e) exhausted agarwood powder, including compressed powder in all shapes; and  f) finished products packaged and ready for retail trade; this exemption does not apply to beads, prayer beads and carvings</p>

Source: CITES (<http://checklist.cites.org/#/en>)

Table 2 – Annotations and reported uses of selected CITES-listed tree species used in wood products<sup>6</sup>

Scientific name	Common name(s)	Annotation	Common uses as wood
<i>Aniba rosaeodora</i>	Brazilian rosewood	#12	Furniture, boat building, flooring, tool handles, turnings
<i>Bulnesia sarmientoi</i>	Palo santo, Verawood, Argentine lignum vitae	#11	Flooring, construction, tool handles, boatbuilding, carving, turnings
<i>Caesalpinia echinata</i>	Brazilwood, pernambuco	#10	Stringed instrument bows, veneers, inlay, carvings, turnings
<i>Cedrela odorata</i>	Spanish cedar	#5	Construction, flooring, cabinetry, veneer, furniture, boat building
<i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i>	Thailand rosewood	#5	Furniture, turnings, musical instruments, specialty wood items
<i>Dalbergia retusa</i>	Cocobolo	#6	Fine furniture, musical instruments, turnings, specialty objects
<i>Dalbergia</i> spp.	Madagascar rosewood	#5	Veneer, musical instruments, furniture, cabinetry, inlays, carving, specialty items
<i>Gonystylus</i> spp.	Ramin	#4	Furniture, cabinetry, veneer, plywood, flooring, utility lumber, dowels, tool handles, turnings
<i>Guaiacum</i> spp.	Lignum vitae, Palo santo	#2	Marine construction, carving, tool handles
<i>Pericopsis elata</i>	Afromosia, African teak	#5	Boatbuilding, veneer, flooring, and furniture
<i>Podocarpus neriifolius</i>	Black pine podocarp	#1	Construction, furniture, carving
<i>Prunus africana</i>	African cherry	#4	Construction, flooring, tool handles, furniture
<i>Pterocarpus santalinus</i>	Red sandalwood	#7	Furniture, carving
<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>	Mahogany	#6	Furniture, cabinetry, joinery, veneer, boatbuilding, carving

<sup>6</sup> Information on common uses for listed species was drawn from the Wood Handbook, USDA Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory (available at [http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/documnts/fplqtr/fpl\\_qtr190.pdf](http://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/documnts/fplqtr/fpl_qtr190.pdf)); The Wood Database (<http://www.wood-database.com/>); the Forest Legality Alliance (<http://risk.forestlegality.org/species/>); and Global Trees Campaign (<http://globaltrees.org/threatened-trees/trees/>).

Table 3 – Examples of tree species listed in CITES Appendix II and III with annotations that are not comprehensive with respect to manufactured wood products

Species	Common name	Annotation <sup>7</sup>	Range States
<i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i>	Thailand rosewood	#5	Cambodia Lao People's Democratic Republic Thailand Viet Nam
<i>Pericopsis elata</i>	Afromosia	#5	Cameroon Central African Republic Congo Côte d'Ivoire Democratic Republic of the Congo Ghana Nigeria
<i>Cedrela odorata</i>	Spanish cedar	#5	See table 3a
<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>	Mahogany	#6	See table 3b

Source for range States: CITES (see: <http://checklist.cites.org/#/en>)

Table 3a – Range States and territories for *Cedrela odorata*

Antigua and Barbuda	El Salvador	Nicaragua
Argentina	French Guiana	Panama
Barbados	Grenada	Paraguay
Belize	Guadeloupe	Peru
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Guatemala	Puerto Rico
Brazil	Guyana	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Cayman Islands	Haiti	Saint Lucia
Colombia	Honduras	Suriname
Costa Rica	Jamaica	Trinidad and Tobago
Cuba	Martinique	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Dominica	Mexico	Virgin Islands of the USA
Dominican Republic	Montserrat	
Ecuador	Netherlands Antilles	

Table 3b – Range States and territories for *Swietenia macrophylla*

Belize	Guyana
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Honduras
Brazil	Martinique
Colombia	Mexico
Costa Rica	Montserrat
Dominica	Panama
Ecuador	Peru
El Salvador	Saint Lucia
French Guiana	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Guadeloupe	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
Guatemala	

<sup>7</sup> See table 1 for descriptions of annotations.

Table 4 – Wood product groups,<sup>8</sup> descriptions and corresponding Harmonized System codes

Group	Description	Harmonized System Codes
<b>Primary wood products</b>		
Wood in the rough	Fuelwood, logs, pulp wood, chips, poles	4401 4402 4403 4404 4405
Sawn wood	Railway sleepers, lumber	4406 4407
Veneer and wood-based panels	Sliced and peeled veneers, plywood, waferboard, OSB, fiberboard, laminated wood	4408 4410 4411 4412
<b>Secondary processed wood products</b>		
Mouldings	Wood continuously shaped along any edge	4409
Builders' woodwork	Doors, windows, flooring, builders' joinery	4418
Packaging	Packing cases, boxes, pallets, cooperage	4415 4416
Other manufactured wood products	Wooden frames, wooden tableware, statuettes, cases, caskets, tool handles and other manufactured products	4413 4414 4417 4419 4420 4421
<b>Wood furniture and furniture parts</b>		
Wooden furniture	Seats with wooden frames, wooden furniture used in offices, bedrooms, kitchens	9401.61 9401.69 9403.30 9403.40 9403.50 9403.60
Furniture parts <sup>9</sup>	Parts of wooden furniture	9401.90.* 9403.90.*

<sup>8</sup> Does not include wood pulp (mechanically or chemically processed wood fiber), paper, paperboard and related products.

<sup>9</sup> Internationally standardized trade data (HS 6 digit) do not provide information on the material (wood, plastic or metal) in imported furniture parts; however, as indicated by the asterisks, some countries use supplemental codes to identify imports of wooden furniture parts.

Table 5 – Wood product groups with Harmonized System classifications and corresponding CITES listing annotations

<b>Group</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Harmonized System Classification</b>	<b>Annotations<sup>10</sup></b>
<b>Primary wood products</b>			
Wood in the rough	Fuelwood, charcoal, poles	4402 4404	See note to this table
	Chips	4401	#7
	Sawdust, powder	4405	#7, #11, #12
	Logs	4403	#5, #6, #7, #10, #11, #12
Sawn wood	Railway sleepers, lumber	4406 4407	#5, #6, #10, #11, #12
		4408	
Wood-based panels	Sliced and peeled veneers	4408	#6, #11, #12
	Plywood	4412	
	Waferboard, OSB, fiberboard, laminated wood	4410 4411	See note to this table
<b>All secondary processed wood products and wooden furniture</b>			
See table 4		See table 4	See note to this table

<sup>10</sup> Annotations #1, #2, #4 and #14 designate "all parts and derivatives" (with some exclusions; see table 1); therefore these annotations include all primary and secondary processed wood products. Annotation #10 also includes articles used for the fabrication of bows for stringed musical instruments; annotations #7, #11 and #12 also include extracts.

Table 6 – Wood product groups<sup>11</sup> and Harmonized System codes  
corresponding to CITES listing annotations #5 and #6

<b>Product Group</b>	<b>Annotation #5</b>	<b>Annotation #6</b>
<b>Products and HS codes covered by the annotation</b>		
Primary wood products	4403	4403
	4406	4406
	4407	4407
	4408	4408
	4408	4412
<b>Products and HS codes not covered by the annotation</b>		
Other primary wood products	4401	4401
	4402	4402
	4404	4404
	4405	4405
	4410	4410
	4411	4411
	4412	4411
Secondary processed wood products (SPWP)	4409	
	4413	
	4414	
	4415	
	4416	
	4417	
	4418	
	4419	
	4420	
4421		
Wood furniture	9401.61	
	9401.69	
	9403.30	
	9403.40	
	9403.50	
Wood furniture parts <sup>12</sup>	9403.60	
	9401.90.*	
	9403.90.*	

<sup>11</sup> See tables 4 and 5 for additional information on product groups.

<sup>12</sup> More detailed information is available only when extensions are specified by importers; extensions to these 6-digit codes differ among importers.



Table 7—Indicators of trends in SPWP and wood furniture trade of  
*Pericopsis elata* range States, 2000-2013

	Product Group					
	Secondary Processed Wood Products					Wood furniture
	All SPWP	HS 4409 Mouldings & flooring	HS 4414 Frames	HS 4418 Joinery	HS 4420 Marquetry, statuettes	
Cameroon	+/-	-		+	-	+/-
Central African Republic						
Democratic Republic of the Congo	+/-	+/-		+/-	-	0
Congo	+/-	+/-		-	+/-	0
Côte d'Ivoire	0	-		0	-	-
Ghana	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	-	--
Nigeria	-	-		-	-	+/-

Table 8—Indicators of trends in SPWP and wood furniture trade of  
*Dalbergia cochinchinensis* range States, 2000-2013

	Product Group					
	Secondary Processed Wood Products					Wood furniture
	All SPWP	HS 4409 Mouldings & flooring	HS 4414 Frames	HS 4418 Joinery	HS 4420 Marquetry, statuettes	
Cambodia	-	-		+	+	+
Lao People's Democratic Republic	+/-	+/-	+/-	+	+	+
Thailand	-	-	-	-	-	+/-
Viet Nam	+	+	+	+	+	+

See Table 4 for a description of product groups; assessment of trends is based on quantity of trade (kg)

**Legend:**

- + Increasing trend
- Decreasing trend
- +/- Mixed (generally: increasing then decreasing)
- 0 No trend
- blank Negligible trade

Table 9 – Indicators of trends in SPWP and wood furniture trade of *Cedrela odorata* range States and territories, 2000-2103

Range State	Product Group					
	Secondary Processed Wood Products					Wood furniture
	All SPWP	HS 4409 Mouldings & flooring	HS 4414 Frames	HS 4418 Joinery	HS 4420 Marquetry, statuettes	
Argentina	+	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
Barbados						+/-
Belize	+/-	+/-		+/-		+/-
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	+	+		+/-	0	+/-
Brazil	+/-	+	+/-	+/-	+/-	0
Colombia	+/-	+/-	-	+	-	+/-
Costa Rica	-	+/-		-	0	+/-
Cuba	0				0	-
Dominica						
Dominican Republic.	+/-		-	+/-	+/-	-
Ecuador	0	+/-		0	-	0
El Salvador	+			+	0	-
Guatemala*	+	+/-	-	0	0	0
Guyana	+/-	+/-		0		-
Honduras	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-		-
Jamaica	0			0	-	0
Mexico	0	+/-	-	-	+/-	0
Montserrat						
Nicaragua	+/-	+/-		-	0	+
Panama	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-	+/-
Paraguay	+/-	-		+/-		0
Peru	+	+	0	+	+/-	+/-
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	-			-		
Suriname	+	+		+/-		+
Trinidad and Tobago	-	-		-	-	-
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	+/-	+/-		+/-	-	-

See Table 4 for a description of product groups; assessment of trends is based on quantity of trade (kg)

\* Guatemala's increase is in exports of HS 4415 (packing cases, crates, drums)

Legend: see previous page