

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



Seventy-fourth meeting of the Standing Committee  
Lyon (France), 7 - 11 March 2022

Interpretation and implementation matters

General compliance and enforcement

Compliance matters

Application of Article XIII: Reports of the Secretariat

APPLICATION OF ARTICLE XIII IN GUINEA

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. At the 61st meeting of the Standing Committee (SC61, Geneva, August 2011), the Secretariat expressed its concern regarding illegal trade of CITES-listed species in Guinea. The Committee noted this and asked the Secretariat to conduct a mission to Guinea (SC61 SR). The mission took place in September 2011 and revealed significant problems in the implementation of the Convention. Consequently, a comprehensive list of recommendations was formulated by the Secretariat in consultation with relevant Guinean authorities.
3. At the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee (SC62, Geneva, July 2012), the Secretariat reported that limited progress had been made in meeting the recommendations, and that the challenges faced by Guinea related not only to enforcement issues, but also to broader problems of compliance with the Convention (SC62 Doc. 29). The Committee instructed the Secretariat to provide Guinea with a set of minimum actions that it should undertake on the basis of the list of recommendations, and to prepare a letter pressing Guinea to take measures to implement the actions identified (SC62 SR).
4. On 17 September 2012, the Secretariat sent a formal email to the Guinean authorities asking them to provide a detailed report on progress made in the implementation of the minimum actions identified. Since Guinea did not provide a report, the Standing Committee, at its 63rd meeting (SC63, Bangkok, March 2013), instructed the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties recommending the suspension of all commercial trade in CITES-listed species with Guinea (Notification to the Parties No. 2013/017 of 16 May 2013).
5. At the 69th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC69, Geneva, November 2017), the Secretariat reported that it had received a report from Guinea in December 2015, describing the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations issued in 2011. Guinea reported that measures had been taken to address the main problems and that key actors involved in the fraudulent issuance of CITES permits and illegal trade had been prosecuted and sentenced (SC69 Doc. 29.2.3). The Standing Committee took note of the progress made by Guinea and asked the Secretariat, subject to the availability of resources, to conduct a technical mission to Guinea pursuant to Article XIII of the Convention in order to assess the administrative and legislative arrangements for the implementation of CITES in Guinea and to provide technical assistance as needed to the authorities (SC69 SR).

6. At the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC70, Sochi, October 2018), the Secretariat reported that the technical mission was under preparation. The Standing Committee noted this information, agreed to maintain the suspension of all commercial trade in CITES-listed species with Guinea and requested the Secretariat to present the results of its technical mission at its 71st meeting (SC70 SR).
7. At the 71<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Standing Committee (SC71, Geneva, August 2019), in accordance with Article XIII of the Convention and Resolution Conf. 14.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *CITES compliance procedures* and based on the report by the Secretariat (SC71 Doc. 10.2), the Standing Committee issued a series of recommendations to Guinea (see the Annex to this document). It asked Guinea to submit a report to the Secretariat on the implementation of these recommendations, in particular recommendation a) on safeguards, 90 days before the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee also asked the Secretariat to provide capacity-building and training to the Guinean authorities upon request, subject to the availability of resources (SC71 SR). In its Notification to the Parties No. 2019/075 of 19 December 2019, the Secretariat reissued the recommendation by the Standing Committee that Parties suspend all commercial trade of CITES-listed species with Guinea until the above-mentioned recommendations have been implemented.
8. In July 2020, Guinea submitted to the Secretariat a progress report describing the measures taken between August 2019 and July 2020 on the implementation of the recommendations of the Standing Committee. Overall, the Secretariat noted significant progress regarding all the recommendations of the Standing Committee (information document SC2020 Inf. 4). Because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the adjustments made to hold the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee (SC73, online, May 2021), the Standing Committee was not able to consider the report submitted by Guinea.
9. In parallel, Guinea requested the Secretariat to provide support under the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP). The programme is aimed at providing overall support at the institutional, scientific, legal and enforcement level to the Guinean authorities (see SC74 Doc. 29). An action plan including all the recommendations formulated at the 71st meeting of the Standing Committee (SC71, Geneva, August 2019) and a budget were developed. The microfinance agreement associated with this programme has not been signed yet.
10. On 5 September 2021, a military coup took place in Guinea. Despite the political and health challenges, the Secretariat remained regularly in touch with the representatives of the CITES Management Authority between September and November 2021, in particular to finalize the activities included in the CAP. On 23 November 2021, the representatives of the CITES Management Authority, namely the Director General of Forestry and Fauna of the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD) and the CITES Focal Point, were dismissed and forced to retire (Service Note<sup>1</sup>). A new interim Director General and a new CITES Focal Point were appointed.
11. Despite the significant progress made by Guinea, these difficulties and other unpredicted events delayed the implementation of the recommendations made by the Standing Committee at its 71st meeting (SC71, Geneva, August 2019 – see Annex). The recent appointment of the representatives of the CITES Management Authority and Focal Point did not enable the authorities to submit a report in time to the Secretariat on the implementation of the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The present report is therefore based on the progress report submitted by Guinea in July 2020 and on the regular communications between the Secretariat and the Guinean authorities since then.

Report on the implementation of the recommendations adopted at the 71st meeting of the Standing Committee (SC71, Geneva, August 2019 – see Annex)

*Regarding export of pre-Convention specimens of Pterocarpus erinaceus*

12. At its 71<sup>e</sup> meeting, the Standing Committee recommended that Guinea:
  - a) *adopt adequate safeguards to mitigate any potential risks associated with the export of a stockpile of pre-Convention Pterocarpus erinaceus, including a system to identify the logs to be exported and a possible establishment of a voluntary 'zero quota' for export of Pterocarpus erinaceus harvested after the inclusion of the species in Appendix II (i.e. after 2 January 2017);*

---

<sup>1</sup> Service Note on the interim organization of the nature conservation authorities (*Note de service portant organisation du fonctionnement temporaire du commandement au Corps des Conservateurs de la Nature*), 23 November 2021.

13. On 29 November 2019, the Minister of State of Guinea issued a Service Note on the safeguards for the export of wood of *Pterocarpus erinaceus*. To clarify certain points, the Minister of State issued a second Service Note on 16 November 2020<sup>2</sup>. A summary of the safeguards is presented in information document SC2020 Inf. 4. It should be noted that the establishment of a voluntary zero quota for export of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* harvested after the listing of the species in Appendix II (i.e. after 2 January 2017) is not appropriate at the moment because the recommendation to suspend all commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species has been upheld (Notification to the Parties No. 2021/037 – see paragraph 16 of the present document).
14. Because of the ongoing deterioration of the stockpile, the costs associated to its maintenance and security and the uncertainties on the date of the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Guinea invoked the procedure set out in Article 20 of the Rules of Procedure of the Standing Committee, asking the Committee to take a decision on the pre-Convention stockpiles between meetings of the Committee. Guinea has implemented the safeguards requested to ensure the transparency and regularity of the procedure to export the stockpile. Considering this, the Secretariat recommended that the Standing Committee allow Guinea to exceptionally authorize the issuance of pre-Convention certificates for the export of the 14,000 m<sup>3</sup> of pre-Convention specimens of *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, maintaining the current suspension of commercial trade with Guinea, until the Standing Committee can meet and consider the implementation of the recommendations altogether.
15. On 8 January 2021, the Chair of the Standing Committee approved the submission of this recommendation and the Parties were invited to provide comments by 17 February 2021 (Notification to the Parties No. 2021/004 of 12 January 2021). At the end of this procedure, on 21 April 2021, the Standing Committee decided to exceptionally allow the export and import of the stockpile of pre-Convention specimens of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Guinea with a maximum volume of 14,000 m<sup>3</sup>, subject to the safeguard measures in Service Note 200051 adopted by Guinea on 16 November 2020 (Notification to the Parties No. 2021/033 of 26 April 2021) including the following:
  - i) *the inventory of the pre-Convention stock of Pterocarpus erinaceus located at two different sites is updated with the quantity of timber that can be exported;*
  - ii) *the loading and sealing of the containers (approximately 824) takes place on-site in presence of representatives of the CITES Management Authority (National Directorate of Water and Forests), Office Guinéen du bois, Customs Services, Gendarmerie, Interpol/National Central Bureau (Guinea Conakry) and international observer(s);*
  - iii) *each shipment is accompanied by a pre-Convention certificate issued by the CITES Management Authority of Guinea in accordance with CITES and national legislation. The pre-Convention certificates include a specific reference to the inventory. A copy of each pre-Convention certificate is sent directly to the Management Authority of the importing Party and to the Secretariat prior to departure of the containers;*
  - iv) *no pre-Convention logs are authorized for export from Guinea twelve months after the date of the Notification mentioned in paragraph c) below; and*
  - v) *forty per cent of the proceeds from the export will be transferred to the Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests of Guinea to be allocated towards the conservation of species of fauna and flora in Guinea;*
16. As a result, on 6 May 2021, the Secretariat published Notification to the Parties No. 2021/037, reporting that the recommendation to suspend trade circulated to the Parties in Notification to the Parties No. 2019/075 of 19 December 2019 was partly withdrawn concerning recommendation a) on the export of pre-Convention specimens of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* with a maximum volume of 14,000 m<sup>3</sup>, subject to the safeguard measures in Service Note 200051 adopted by Guinea on 16 November 2020. The Notification also indicated that the recommendation to suspend trade communicated to Parties in Notification No. 019/075 of 19 December 2019 concerning all other commercial trade in specimens of CITES-listed species was upheld for Guinea until all the recommendations of the Standing Committee on the application of Article XIII listed in paragraphs b), c) and d) of document SC71 SR (pages 6-7) were implemented.

---

<sup>2</sup> Service Note on the safeguards for the export of the stockpile of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* timber (*Note de service portant mesures de sauvegarde d'exportation de stock de bois de l'espèce Pterocarpus erinaceus*), 16 November 2020.

17. In accordance with the safeguards listed in Service Note 200051 that Guinea adopted on 16 November 2020, Guinea sent the Secretariat the list of the members of the Commission for monitoring the export of the stockpile (*Commission de suivi pour l'exportation du stock*). The Commission is composed of four members of the National Directorate for Forestry and Fauna (DNEF, *Direction Nationale des Forêts et de la Faune*), two members of the General Directorate of the Guinean Timber Office (*Office Guinéen du Bois*), two representatives of Customs, two representatives of the Gendarmerie and two officers of the INTERPOL Bureau. Two independent observers were also appointed: a representative of the European Union delegation in Yaoundé and a representative of the United National Development Programme (UNDP). The delegation of the European Union reported not having enough human or technical resources to participate in all the operations to export the timber stockpile, but confirmed that it would follow the process with appropriate actions, specifically participating on an *ad hoc* basis in the observation of the loading and sealing of containers.
18. On 7 June 2021, in accordance with paragraph i) of the Standing Committee decision, Guinea shared with the Secretariat a reassessment of the volume of timber stockpiles: 9477 m<sup>3</sup> in the Kountiya site and 3405 m<sup>3</sup> in the Sanoya site, that is, a total volume of 12,882 m<sup>3</sup> of exportable timber of the 14,000 m<sup>3</sup> initially estimated. It should be noted that this volume might be lower than 12,882 m<sup>3</sup> if the authorities find that the timber is more damaged than expected before it is loaded into the containers.
19. On 2 July 2021, the Commission for monitoring the export of the stockpile met to coordinate the activities. The report submitted to the Secretariat indicates that the operations should have begun on 15 July 2021, starting with a field visit of the two sites to inventory and mark the stockpile and prepare the loading into containers. It also mentions that the timber stockpiled at the site of Sanoya had been transferred to Gomboya because the rent of the warehouse had not been paid for over seven years. The first three months of the operations should be devoted to administrative formalities to obtain the national authorizations necessary to export the stockpile, and the remaining nine months should be devoted to the export operations themselves, at a rate of five containers daily.
20. On 31 August 2021, the Secretariat organized a consultation meeting with the members of the Commission for monitoring the export of the stockpile to take stock of the progress made in meeting the conditions set by the Standing Committee on 21 April 2021 before the export of the stockpile (Notification to the Parties No. 2021/033 of 26 April 2021). On that occasion, the Guinean authorities reported that they were awaiting the authorization of the Minister of Environment, Water and Forests to begin the export operations. The independent observers reiterated their intention to monitor the operations and the Secretariat provided explanations on the issuance of pre-Convention certificates. Because of the military coup that took place on 5 September 2021, the authorization of the Minister has not yet been granted and the export of the timber stockpile has been suspended until further notice.
21. Following the coup in Guinea on 5 September 2021 and the institutional reforms that followed, most of the members of the Commission for monitoring the export of the stockpile had to leave their positions because they were forced to retire. The Guinean authorities told the Secretariat that new members had been appointed and that the Commission was expected to meet in December 2021. The Secretariat is awaiting the Service Note on the appointment of new members as well as the minutes of the latest consultation meeting of the Commission.

*Regarding national legislation, recommendations b) and c)*

22. Between January 2019 and September 2020, on the basis of its two main Codes (i.e., the Wildlife Code and Forestry Code), Guinea adopted a considerable number of decisions, decrees and other regulations to progressively transpose the Convention into its national legislation. In particular, the Minister of Environment and the Minister of Fisheries issued a joint order on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora in Guinea<sup>3</sup>. The Secretariat found some inconsistencies in these texts and organized a consultation meeting with the Management Authorities to provide its comments. At the time of drafting this document, these comments were still being reviewed by Guinea. The Secretariat intends to help Guinea finalize its the national CITES legislation in the framework of the Compliance Assistance Programme (see paragraph 9 of the present document).

---

<sup>3</sup> *Arrêté conjoint no. 1590 du 19 mai 2020 portant protection des espèces de faune et de flore sauvage en Guinée.*

*Regarding management and issuance of CITES permits and certificates, recommendations d) to h)*

23. Regarding the management and issuance of CITES permits and certificates, Guinea shared a draft standard CITES permit with the Secretariat and ordered the printing of 1000 security permits and stamps. These documents were ordered by Guinea to be used as pre-Convention certificates for the export of the stockpile of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* timber. Guinea reported that the protocol for making a non-detriment finding (NDF) would be the subject of a Service Note and that the NDF would subsequently be attached to each permit issued by the CITES Management Authority. In preparation of a workshop on non-detriment findings (NDFs), Guinea has already sent to the Secretariat a list of species that may be traded internationally and subject to voluntary national export quotas. All the objectives of the recommendations listed in paragraphs d) to g) were included in an action plan in the framework of the Compliance Assistance Programme (see paragraph 9 of the present document).
24. In 2019, Guinea issued five CITES permits for the export of specimens only for scientific purposes. Between January and September 2020, Guinea also issued five CITES permits for scientific purposes (S) or zoological gardens (Z). The Secretariat received copies of each permit issued by Guinea.

*Regarding compliance and law enforcement, recommendations i) to j)*

25. Regarding compliance and law enforcement, Guinea reported the seizures and confiscations of animal and plant species made between January 2019 and June 2021. A large timber trafficking network was dismantled in June 2021 in the prefectures of Faranah and Mamou. The investigation of the case is now completed and 30 individuals are currently incarcerated pending trial, including some officials of the authority in charge of water and forests. Senior officials of the Ministry of Environment were also removed from their posts and sub-prefects were dismissed<sup>4</sup>.
26. As a reminder, under the authority of the Minister of Forestry, Guinea has established a national brigade for combating wildlife crime in each prefecture. A total of 180 officers patrol the territory to detect, record and pursue infringements involving the exploitation of timber and wildlife. Guinea sent to the Secretariat its 2020 Action Plan and the consolidated report of activities and performance assessment issued in June 2020 on the national brigade. The latter lists the seizure and confiscation operations of products of wild fauna and flora conducted and the training given to officials. In July 2021, the non-government organization WARA Conservation Project organized a training workshop on combating wildlife crime aimed at 84 officials, including officials of the agency in charge of managing parks and reserves (*Office Guinéen des Parcs et Réserves*), the national brigade and judges.
27. Concerning recommendation j), Guinea reported that a memorandum of understanding is being prepared between the CITES Management Authority (DNEF) and the Customs Service, the Police and INTERPOL to formalize the collaboration, coordination and exchange of information between them. The Secretariat intends to support the Guinean authorities in the preparation of this memorandum through the CAP (see paragraph 9 of the present document).
28. Concerning recommendation k), Guinea has asked for the implementation of the ICCWC Indicator Framework and received approval from ICCWC. Given the exceptional situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the coup that took place in September 2021, the implementation of the ICCWC Indicator Framework in Guinea has been delayed until the situations allows it. It should be noted that the funds necessary to conduct the activities have been secured thanks to the contribution of France to the ICCWC Strategic Programme.
29. Concerning recommendation l), Guinea noted the difficulties it faces to preserve dead specimens and manage the live animals confiscated as regards their health, transport and food. The Secretariat intends to support Guinea in the development of a protocol for the management and disposal of seized and confiscated specimens in the framework of the CAP (see paragraph 9 of the present document).

---

<sup>4</sup> News article – Timber trafficking in Faranah: five senior officials suspended, suspects brought before the Office of the Public Prosecutor. Groupe Fréquence Média, 27 May 2021, <https://fimquinee.com/actualite/trafic-de-bois-a-faranah-cinq-cadres-suspendus-des-suspects-deferes-au-parquet>

## Conclusions

30. Since the 71st meeting of the Standing Committee (SC71, Geneva, August 2019), Guinea has made significant efforts to implement the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The Secretariat has also held numerous online meetings with the authorities to develop a consistent action plan addressing all these recommendations in the framework of the CAP. The Secretariat wishes to congratulate the Guinean authorities for their commitment and promptness concerning these activities.
31. Regarding the export of the pre-Convention stockpile of *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, the Secretariat notes that Guinea has not yet undertaken the marking of the logs, their loading into containers or the sealing of the containers, although the entire stock had to be exported before 26 April 2022 in accordance with paragraph iv) of the decision of the Standing Committee adopted on 21 April 2021 - Notification to the Parties No. 2021/033 of 26 April 2021). At the time of drafting the present document, the Secretariat was still awaiting from Guinea a planned timetable for these following stages as well as the Service Note on the appointment of new members of the Commission for monitoring the export of the stockpile and the minutes of the latest consultation meeting of the Commission.
32. Regarding paragraphs b) to g) and i) to l) of the Standing Committee recommendations (SC71, Geneva, August 2019 – see Annex), the Secretariat notes minor progress. The forthcoming signing of the microfinance agreement related to the Compliance Assistance Programme (CAP) should allow Guinea to make substantial progress in meeting these recommendations.
33. In this context, the Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee reiterate the recommendations it made at its 71st meeting (SC71, Geneva, 2019), with a few minor adjustments on the export of pre-Convention specimens of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* and national legislation, and uphold the recommendation that Parties should suspend all commercial trade of CITES-listed species with Guinea.

## Recommendations

34. In light of the above, the Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee consider the following recommendations:

### *Regarding export of pre-convention specimens of Pterocarpus erinaceus*

The Standing Committee shall:

- a) take note of the inventory of the stockpile of pre-Convention *Pterocarpus erinaceus* made by the Guinean authorities on 7 June 2021, that is, a total volume of 12,882 m<sup>3</sup> of exportable wood of the 14,000 m<sup>3</sup> originally estimated;
- b) recommend that Guinea take all the necessary measures by 26 April 2022 to implement the Standing Committee decision adopted on 21 April 2021 (Notification to the Parties No. 2021/033 of 26 April 2021);
- c) invite importing Parties to exert due diligence when CITES permits or certificates from Guinea are submitted, if they have reason to believe that the specimens of CITES-listed species may not have been traded in accordance with the decision adopted by the Standing Committee on 21 April 2021 (Notification to the Parties No. 2021/033 of 26 April 2021) and in accordance with the provisions of the Convention [paragraphs 1 c) and 2 of Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18) on *Compliance and enforcement*];

### *Regarding national legislation*

The Standing Committee recommends that Guinea:

- d) adopt legislative measures that meet the CITES minimum requirements set out in Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on *National laws for implementation of the Convention* and in accordance with the guidance provided under the National Legislation Project; this should include the issuance of a legally binding instrument on the functions and responsibilities of the CITES Scientific and Management Authorities;

*Regarding management and issuance of CITES permits and certificates*

The Standing Committee recommends that Guinea:

- e) implement a system for the receipt and management of applications for CITES documents, and for the issuance, filing and monitoring of CITES documents, including use of secure paper and security stamps;
- f) develop a protocol for the making of non-detriment findings by the CITES Scientific Authority prior to the issuance of export permits;
- g) assess the capacity of the CITES Management and Scientific Authority as well as customs on CITES implementation, including the capacity to make non-detriment findings, and address any gaps and needs for training and capacity-building, with the relevant technical assistance, including from the CITES Secretariat, if requested and subject to available resources;
- h) consider establishing voluntary national export quotas for CITES-listed species expected to be in trade;
- i) every six months, submit copies of CITES permits and certificates issued to the CITES Secretariat for information and monitoring;

*Regarding compliance and law enforcement*

The Standing Committee recommends that Guinea:

- j) continue to investigate and prosecute cases of illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed species, and inform the Secretariat of the results of any legal proceedings by submitting the annual illegal trade report in accordance with existing guidelines;
- k) establish a formal agreement between the CITES Management Authority and the Customs Service on collaboration, coordination and exchange of information;
- l) consider the implementation of the ICCWC *Indicator Framework for wildlife and forest crime* and request support from the CITES Secretariat in this regard; and
- m) develop a protocol for the management and disposal of seized and confiscated specimens (live and dead), taking into account the provisions of the Convention and the recommendations of Resolution Conf. 17.8 on *Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species*.

- 35. The Secretariat also recommends that the Standing Committee ask Guinea to submit a report to the Secretariat on the implementation of these recommendations before the 75th meeting of the Standing Committee so that the Secretariat can in turn submit its report and recommendations to the Standing Committee at that meeting.
- 36. The Standing Committee could also instruct the Secretariat to provide capacity building and training to Guinea, subject to the availability of resources. This could include another mission to Guinea before the 77th meeting of the Standing Committee.
- 37. Finally, the Secretariat recommends that the Standing Committee instruct the Secretariat to publish a Notification to the Parties to replace Notification No. 2021/037 of 6 May 2021, recommending that the Parties maintain the suspension of commercial trade with Guinea until the above-mentioned recommendations have been implemented to the satisfaction of the Secretariat.

Recommendations made by the Standing Committee at its 71st meeting  
(SC71, Geneva, August 2019) regarding the application of Article XIII in Guinea

Document SC71 SR – paragraph 10.2

The Standing Committee recommends that Guinea:

*Regarding export of pre-convention specimens of Pterocarpus erinaceus*

- a) adopt adequate safeguards to mitigate any potential risks associated with the export of a stockpile of pre-Convention *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, including a system to identify the logs to be exported and a possible establishment of a voluntary 'zero quota' for export of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* harvested after the inclusion of the species in Appendix II (i.e. after 2 January 2017);

*Regarding national legislation*

- b) adopt legislative measures that meet the CITES minimum requirements set out in Resolution Conf. 8.4 (Rev. CoP15) on *National laws for implementation of the Convention* and in accordance with the guidance provided under the National Legislation Project; this should include the issuance of a legally binding instrument on the functions and responsibilities of the CITES Scientific and Management Authorities;
- c) clearly define how CITES is implemented in Guinea with regard to trade in marine species (which may be outside the scope of the existing laws on fauna and on forestry);

*Regarding management and issuance of CITES permits and certificates*

- d) implement a system for the receipt and management of applications for CITES documents, and for the issuance, filing and monitoring of CITES documents, including use of secure paper and security stamps;
- e) develop a protocol for the making of non-detriment findings by the CITES Scientific Authority prior to the issuance of export permits;
- f) assess the capacity of the CITES Management and Scientific Authority as well as customs on CITES implementation, including the capacity to make non-detriment findings, and address any gaps and needs for training and capacity-building, with the relevant technical assistance, including from the CITES Secretariat, if requested and subject to available resources;
- g) consider establishing voluntary national export quotas for species expected to be in trade;
- h) every six months (starting January-June 2019) submit copies of CITES permits and certificates issued to the CITES Secretariat for information and monitoring;

*Regarding compliance and law enforcement*

- i) continue to investigate and prosecute cases of illegal trade in specimens of CITES-listed species, and inform the Secretariat of the results of any legal proceedings by submitting the annual illegal trade report in accordance with existing guidelines;
- j) establish a formal agreement between the CITES Management Authority (DNEF) and the Customs Service on collaboration, coordination and exchange of information;
- k) consider the implementation of the ICCWC *Indicator Framework for wildlife and forest crime* and request support from the CITES Secretariat in this regard; and
- l) develop a protocol for the management and disposal of seized and confiscated specimens (live and dead), taking into account the provisions of the Convention and the recommendations of Resolution Conf. 17.8 on *Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species*.

The Standing Committee invites Guinea to submit a report to the Secretariat on the implementation of these recommendations, in particular recommendation a) on safeguards, 90 days before the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee for the Secretariat to convey the report and its recommendations to the Standing Committee at its 73rd meeting. The Standing Committee requests the Secretariat to provide capacity-building and training to Guinea upon request, subject to the availability of resources. This could include another mission to Guinea prior to the next meeting of the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee instructs the Secretariat to issue a Notification to the Parties, replacing Notification No. 2013/017 of 16 May 2013 and recommending that Parties continue to suspend commercial trade with Guinea until the above-mentioned recommendations have been implemented to the satisfaction of the Secretariat. In this context, the Standing Committee agrees to consider the report on Guinea, the potential export of the stockpile of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* and the safeguards adopted at its 73rd meeting.