



INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION

22 November 2012
Ref. No. L.12-0343

Dear John,

Thank you for your letter of 16 November containing details of proposals to list several tropical timber/tree species in the CITES Appendices at the 16th Conference of the Parties to CITES next March in Bangkok. We were pleased to have Ms. Milena Schmidt from the CITES Secretariat at the recently concluded 48th ITTC Session. During the regular ITTC agenda item on reporting on new CITES listing proposals, the details of the listing proposals contained in your letter were conveyed to ITTO's members. There were no substantive comments on the proposals, all of which were acknowledged to have emanated from range states of the concerned species. One or two country representatives had questions about the *Dalbergia* species proposals given the global range of this genus. These countries were informed that the listing proponents were urged to consult with all other range states of the species in question prior to the COP. We will let you know if we receive any additional comments or feedback on any of the listing proposals from ITTO members prior to the COP.

I also note in this regard that ITTO was contacted by officials from Belize, Madagascar and Thailand regarding their proposals, all dealing with different species of *Dalbergia* (and, in the case of Madagascar, with the various other species listed in your letter). As you are aware, the Madagascar listing proposals have been at least partly facilitated by a project funded under our joint ITTO-CITES program. In our response to all of these proponents we provided comments on the trade statistics quoted in the proposals (based on our trade database) and urged the proponents of the various *Dalbergia* proposals to consult with each other or at least to make mention of the fact that this genus was coming under pressure in other parts of the world as evidenced by the multiple proposals for listing of different species of the genus from Africa, Asia and Latin America.

I attach the limited trade statistics we have in the ITTO database for the species proposed for listing at COP 16. As you can see, the data we have indicate there is only limited officially recognized trade in any of these species, although our data confirms the relatively high values for products from these species (note that we believe that the data on Brazil's import volumes of *Senna* spp. are erroneous due to the low unit values, we have queried this but have not received a response). Unfortunately we have not received a recent breakdown of China's imports by species so if we obtain information on imports of any of these species by that important importer we will let you know.

Regarding the proposals to amend annotations of current listings of *Aniba roseaodora* and agarwood species, we have no comment on the former (which seems straightforward) but question whether Management Authorities would be easily able to ascertain the percentage content of agarwood in samples.

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We are unable to comment further on the scientific merits or otherwise of the listing proposals but we believe it is a good sign that all of them have been developed and are being supported by one or more range states. We stand prepared to work together with the CITES Secretariat to assist countries to implement any of the tropical timber/tree listing proposals that are approved at COP 16 through our successful joint ITTO-CITES program.

Best regards,



Emmanuel Ze Meka
Executive Director

Products	Country	Year	Latin Name or HS Code	Pilot Name/Local Name	Volume 1000 m ³	Avg. Price \$/m ³
Import						
Logs	Thailand	2006	Dalbergia oliveri	ching-chan or ket-daeng	0.002	1037.500
Logs	Malaysia	2009	Diospyros spp.	kayu malam	0.028	148.978
Logs	Malaysia	2010	Diospyros spp.	kayu malam	0.696	1365.865
Sawnwood	Thailand	2006	Dalbergia oliveri	ching-chan or ket-daeng	0.667	353.136
Sawnwood	Malaysia	2008	Diospyros ebenaster	kayu malam	1.353	500.026
Sawnwood	Malaysia	2009	Diospyros ebenaster	kayu malam	2.226	278.564
Sawnwood	Malaysia	2010	Diospyros ebenaster	kayu malam	4.295	793.305
Sawnwood	Brazil	2006	Senna spp.	canafistula	6.582	21.895
Sawnwood	Brazil	2007	Senna spp.	canafistula	10.915	25.379
Exports						
Logs	Malaysia	2010	Diospyros spp.	kayu malam	0.13	298.01
Sawnwood	Malaysia	2008	Diospyros ebenaster	kayu malam	3.30	776.25
Sawnwood	Malaysia	2009	Diospyros ebenaster	kayu malam	2.27	783.05
Sawnwood	Malaysia	2010	Diospyros ebenaster	kayu malam	4.95	940.39
Sawnwood	Brazil	2006	Senna spp.	canafistula	0.14	615.16
Sawnwood	Brazil	2007	Senna spp.	canafistula	0.25	635.46