

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



Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Johannesburg (South Africa), 24 September – 5 October 2016

Species specific matters

Agarwood-producing taxa (*Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp.)

SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION OF AGARWOOD-PRODUCING TAXA
(*AQUILARIA* SPP. AND *GYRINOPS* SPP.)

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.
2. At its 16th meeting (CoP16, Bangkok, 2013), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 15.95 (Rev.CoP16) as follows:

Directed to the Secretariat

Subject to external funding, the Secretariat shall, in cooperation with the agarwood range States and the Plants Committee, organize a workshop to share experiences, discuss management of wild and plantation-source agarwood, identify and agree on strategies that balance the conservation and use of the wild populations, while relieving the pressure on these by using the planted material.

3. In compliance with Decision 15.95 (Rev.CoP16), the Secretariat co-funded, with the Secretariat of the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), an Asian regional workshop on the management of wild and planted agarwood taxa, hosted by the Government of India in Guwahati, Assam, from 19 to 23 January 2015. The objectives of the workshop were to make progress on: the management and conservation of agarwood-producing species; the formulation of non-detriment findings for these species; the adoption of management strategies that integrate the management of natural agarwood-producing forests with plantations of agarwood-producing species; and strengthening the communication network of agarwood stakeholders.
4. The workshop focused on *Aquilaria* and *Gyrinops*, the two genera most commonly used in the production of agarwood. Forty participants from 15 countries attended, including representatives of most range States. The minutes of the meeting are available as document PC22 Inf. 1, and a summary was presented by the Secretariat at the 22nd meeting of the Plants Committee (PC22, Tbilisi, October 2015) in document PC22 Doc. 17.5.1.
5. The implementation of Decision 15.95 (Rev.CoP16) was supported by the generous funding of the European Union and ITTO.
6. At PC22, the Plants Committee reviewed the report of the Secretariat and agreed to present draft decisions for consideration at the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The draft decisions, as edited by the Secretariat in consultation with the interim Chair of the Plants Committee, are presented in Annex 1.
7. In accordance with Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP16) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, in Annex 2 of the present document the Secretariat proposes a tentative budget and source of funding for the implementation of the proposed draft decisions.

Recommendations

8. The Conference of the Parties is invited to take note of this report, to agree the deletion of Decision 15.95 (Rev. CoP16) and to adopt the draft decisions in Annex 1, as well as the proposed estimated budget in Annex 2.

DRAFT DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
ENCOURAGING THE SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION OF AGARWOOD-PRODUCING TAXA
(*AQUILARIA* SPP. AND *GYRINOPS* SPP.)

The draft decisions, as agreed the Plants Committee at PC22, are presented below with editorial changes and clarifications made by the Secretariat in consultation with the interim Chair of the Plants Committee. These concern mainly: a clarification in the first draft decision; a correction in the third draft decision because Decision 15.95 (Rev. CoP16) will cease to exist after CoP17 and can therefore not be referenced; the addition of a fifth draft decision directed to the Plants Committee; and a merging of the last two draft decisions into a single paragraph that preserves the substance of the original two draft decisions. Proposed new language is underlined and deleted language is in ~~strike~~through.

Directed to range States

- 17.XX Subject to available funding, the range States shall generate and compile biological and ecological data as well as information on the illegal harvest and trade of agarwood-producing species ~~populations~~ in the wild. Range states are requested to ~~They~~ report this information at the regional agarwood workshop referred to in Dec. 17.XX₁ and agree on regional priorities to ensure the survival of populations of agarwood-producing species in the wild.
- 17.XX The range ~~s~~States are invited to develop policies to encourage the sustainable use of and trade in parts and derivatives of artificially propagated agarwood-producing trees.

Directed to the Secretariat

- 17.XX Subject to external funding, the Secretariat, in cooperation with agarwood range States and the Plants Committee ~~members~~, shall organize a regional workshop to: ~~continue the work referred to in Decision 15.95 (Rev. CoP16)~~, continue the work of the Asian Regional Workshop on the Management of Wild and Planted Agarwood Taxa, hosted by the Government of India in Guwahati, Assam, India, from 19 to 23 January 2015 with an emphasis on how range States can cooperate to ensure the long-term survival of agarwood-producing species in the wild through agarwood plantation programmes that integrate forest recovery programmes; and strengthen the ~~develop an~~ agarwood network for sharing information on planting stocks, management, technologies and other information.
- 17.XX The Secretariat will report to the Plants Committee meeting on the implementation of Decisions 17.XX and 17.XX prior to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES.

Directed to the Plants Committee

- 17.XX The Plants Committee will consider the report of the Secretariat submitted in accordance with Decision 17.XX and report accordingly to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Directed to consumer and trading Parties

- 17.XX Consumer and trading countries of agarwood ~~parts and derivatives~~ are encouraged to contribute financially towards the in situ conservation of wild populations of agarwood-producing species in range States and foster cooperation ~~17.XX Encourage cooperation~~ between in situ conservation programmes and the fragrance industry for the promotion of the conservation and sustainable use of agarwood-producing species.

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DRAFT DECISIONS IN ANNEX 1

According to Resolution Conf. 4.6 (Rev. CoP16) on *Submission of draft resolutions, draft decisions and other documents for meetings of the Conference of the Parties*, the Conference of the Parties decided that any draft resolutions or decisions submitted for consideration at a meeting of the Conference of the Parties that have budgetary and workload implications for the Secretariat or permanent committees must contain or be accompanied by a budget for the work involved and an indication of the source of funding. The Secretariat proposes the following tentative budget and source of funding.

Tentative budget: USD 100,000

Source of funding: No possible source of funding has yet been identified. Therefore, all interested Parties and organizations are invited to consider contributing funds to support the implementation of the draft decisions presented in Annex 1.