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

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

A. Proposal

Transfer of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Appendix III to Appendix II, without annotation specifying the types of specimens to be included, in order to include all readily recognizable parts and derivatives in accordance with Resolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP16). Though most illegal and unsustainable international trade is currently of logs and sawn timber, experience with CITES listings of other rosewood species has demonstrated that other annotations can be easily circumvented (Government of Thailand, 2015).

The rational for this proposal of transfer relies on several elements:

- Available information suggest that *Pterocarpus erinaceus* was in 2015 the most traded species of "Hongmu"[1], in volume, at the international level.
- Unless rapidly checked, unsustainable exploitation of the species for international trade is likely to have serious negative impacts on the species itself, the ecology of the West African dry forests and the human populations who depend on them.
- Given that most of the range States have passed and enforced harvest and/or trade bans in order to regulate the surge in international trade and mitigate its impacts, it has been demonstrated that a considerable share of the international trade in *Pterocarpus erinaceus* is of illegal origin.
- To address this issue, Senegal listed all the populations of the species on Appendix III of CITES (see Notification of the Parties No. 2016/008), which will come into force from May 9, 2016. However, past experiences have demonstrated that Appendix III listing might not be sufficient to prevent the commercial extinction of rosewood species, when international well-organized trading networks are actively involved in illegal activities (Environmental Investigation Agency and Telapak, 2004).
- For this reason, and following the Plant Committee's recommendation raised during at the 22nd meeting in Tbilisi (Georgia) 19-23 October 2015, it is proposed to transfer *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Appendix III to Appendix II of CITES. Such uplisting will raise the profile of the species and bring increased resources and attention to control trade in the species. It is expected that the uplisting will decisively empower importing countries to assist range states by blocking shipments of illegally harvested and illegally traded wood, and make it easier to distinguish legal from illegal wood.

Considering that Appendix II lists species that are not necessarily now threatened from extinction but that may become so, unless trade in specimens of such species is subject to strict regulation in order to avoid

[1] "Hongmu" literally means "red wood" in Chinese and refers to a range of richly hued tropical hardwoods used to produce high-end furniture. China's 2000 National Hongmu Standard identifies 33 species across the *Cassia*, *Dalbergia*, *Diospyros*, *Millettia* and *Pterocarpus* genera.

utilization incompatible with their survival, it is essential to include the species *Pterocarpus erinaceus* in the Appendix II.

B. Proponent

The transfer of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from the Appendix III to the Appendix II is proposed by Senegal and is co-sponsored by seven range States, namely Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Nigeria, Togo, as well with one extra State, namely Chad.

C. Supporting Statement

1. Taxonomy

1.1 Class:	Magnoliopsida
1.2 Order:	Fabales
1.3 Family:	Fabaceae
1.4 Species:	Pterocarpus erinaceus
1.5 Scientific synonyms:	Pterocarpus erinaceus Poir. (GBIF, 2013)
1.6 Common names:	Anglais: kosso, African rosewood
	Français: bois de vène, palissandre du Sénégal
	Portugais: pau de sangue
	Ghana: krayie / kpatro
	Gambie: keno / kino
	Fulfulde (B.Faso): bani / banuhi
	Bambara: gwani / n'gueni
	Djerma: tolo
	Gourmantché: bu natombo
	Moré: noega, noeka, pempelaga
	Sérer: ban
	Wolof: ven, yirk
	Autres: muninga, barwood, mukwa

2. Overview

Pterocarpus erinaceus is a rosewood species native to the semi-arid Sudan-Guinea savanna forests of West Africa (Section 3.1). The last few years have seen a dramatic increase in trade of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* timber, in response to rising demand in Asia for rosewood furniture and increasing scarcity of other officially recognized 'rosewood' species (several of which are listed on the CITES Appendices). It is estimated that imports of the species logs into China have risen more than 2,000-fold, between the third quarter 2009 and the third quarter 2015, from 70 cubic meter to approximately 149,000 cubic meter (Section 6.2). Widespread illegal and unsustainable harvesting of the species across its range has led many range States to enact total bans on harvesting and trade of the species in recent years, in an attempt to prevent commercial extinction, yet trade continues (Sections 6.4 and 7.1). *Pterocarpus erinaceus* is a multi-use species in West Africa: it is a keystone fire-resistant nitrogen-fixing species within fragile semi-arid habitats (Section 3.5), an important source of livestock fodder for traditional pastoral communities across its range, and it is an important element of the rural communities' pharmacopeia (Section 6.1). Unless rapidly checked, unsustainable exploitation of the species for international trade is therefore likely to have serious negative impacts on the environment and human population of the West African savanna. To help prevent this, Senegal listed all the populations of the species on Appendix III of CITES (see Notification of the Parties No. 2016/008), which will come into force from May 9, 2016. Nevertheless, past experiences have demonstrated that Appendix III listing might not be sufficient to prevent the commercial extinction of rosewood species, when international well-organized trading networks are actively involved in illegal activities (Environmental Investigation Agency and Telapak, 2004). For this reason, and following the recommendation of the Plant Committee, raised during at the 22nd meeting in Tbilisi (Georgia) 19-23 October 2015, it is proposed to transfer the species from Appendix III to Appendix II of CITES. Such uplisting will raise the profile of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* and bring increased resources and attention to control trade in the species than currently exist under the Appendix III regime. It is expected that the uplisting will decisively empower importing countries to assist range states by blocking shipments of illegally harvested and illegally traded wood, and make it easier to distinguish legal from illegal wood.

3. Species characteristics

3.1 Distribution

The species is native to the Guinean Forest Savanna Mosaic ecoregion of West Africa, which lies between the Guinean rainforest and the Sudanian savannah (WWF, 2015). It has been recorded as occurring across the region, including in Senegal, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, Benin, Togo, Nigeria and Cameroon (GBIF, 2013). It is distributed up to 14ºN but is a stunted, small tree at this latitude, where another species, *Pterocarpus lucens*, takes over and becomes more abundant. Southward, the range extends to the limit of the humid forest in Cote d'Ivoire and the humid coastal savannas in Guinea, Togo, and Benin, where a gallery-forest species, *Pterocarpus santalinoides*, is common along rivers and temporary watercourses. The species is not known to have been introduced outside its native region (Winrock, 1999).

3.2 Habitat

Pterocarpus erinaceus is found in open dry forests of semiarid and subhumid lands with mean annual rainfall of 600–1200 mm and a moderately to very long dry season that can last 8–9 months. Mean annual temperature in the tree's natural range is 15–32ºC, but it tolerates high temperatures reaching over 40ºC. The tree grows at low altitudes (0–600 m) and thrives even on shallow soils. It is drought tolerant and once established it survives yearly dry seasons. It also survives the yearly savanna bush fires and readily colonizes fallow lands*. Parkia biglobosa* and *P. erinaceus* are believed to be surviving species of the former dense, dry forest of the sudanian zone (Aubreville, 1950).

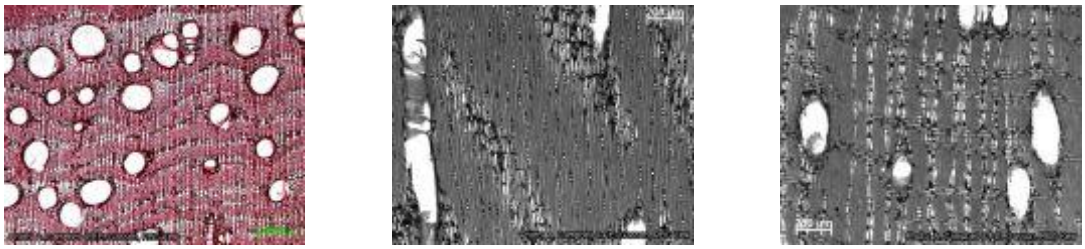
3.3 Biological characteristics

Pterocarpus erinaceus is a slow-growing deciduous species. The trees flower when leafless at the end of the dry season, usually in December–February, before developing new leaves, but sometimes inflorescences develop together with young leaves. The flowers are much visited by bees, which are probably responsible for pollination. The tree may produce so many fruits that when the fruits are green it looks as if the tree is covered with leaves. Young leaves normally develop after the fruits have ripened and have become brown. Natural regeneration is often abundant and the species may be quite invasive if protected from grazing for some years (Duvall, 2008).

3.4 Morphological characteristics

Pterocarpus erinaceus bark is stiff, blackish and scaly. The branches have long shoots which bend downwards. The first golden-yellow flowers appear in January when the tree is quite leafless. Fruit body is bristly, fruits orbicular, broadly winged. Leaves 10-15 foliolate. Branchlets not prickly; leaflets mostly oblong-elliptic, gradually and very shortly acuminate, 6-11 cm. long, 3-6 cm. broad. Light green fruits suborbicular, 4-7 cm diameter. *Pterocarpus erinaceus* timber is yellowish in colour, with an attractive fine-grained appearance (Orwa, 2009). The heartwood is yellowish brown to reddish brown, often with purplish brown streaks, and distinctly demarcated from the 2–5(–8) cm thick, yellowish or pale cream-coloured sapwood. The grain is straight to interlocked, texture fine to moderately coarse (see Figure 1). Fresh wood has an unpleasant smell.

The wood is moderately heavy to heavy, with a density of (560–) 800–890(–940) kg/m³ at 12% moisture content (Duvall, 2008).



Wood in transverse section *Wood in tangential section* *Wood in radial section*

Figure 1. **Pterocarpus erinaceus** ***grain structure (Source: Duvall, 2008)***

3.5 Role of the species in its ecosystem

Pterocarpus erinaceus is an important legume species within its habitat: the species fixes atmospheric nitrogen through a symbiotic relationship with Rhizobium soil bacteria (Winrock, 1999). The species is one of the main components within its wooded savannah habitat (Orwa, 2009) and can survive annual bush fires (Aubreville, 1950). By helping reduce the current unsustainable and illegal exploitation of the species for international trade, an Appendix II listing will help protect the unique habitats of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* by protecting this important keystone species.

4. Status and trends

4.1 Habitat trends

Surveys suggest that over 65 per cent of the original wildlife habitat in Africa's dry forests and woodlands has been lost (Kiss, 1990) as a result of agricultural expansion, deforestation, and overgrazing, which have been fuelled by rapid human population growth and poverty. The Guinean Forest-Savanna Mosaic ecoregion of which *Pterocarpus erinaceus* is a keystone species has been classified as having Critical/Endangered status (WWF, 2015). During 1990 to 2000 it was estimated that dry forest and woodland countries in sub-Saharan Africa lost nearly 5 million hectares of forest cover annually or nearly 1 per cent of the forest cover in 2000 (FAO, 2005). Compared to other tropical dry forests, West African forest have benefitted from important research efforts on livelihoods, food security, community management and conservation/development trade-offs (Blackie et al., 2014). Nevertheless, some significant gaps remain: despite "substantial research into biophysical aspects of African dry forests, reliable deforestation data are scarce […]. This is particularly true in areas where such forests have not been officially classified as forests and are targeted for the development of commercial farming and resettlement schemes. […] The resilience of dry forest ecosystems, particularly in the face of deforestation, is poorly understood although such understanding is vital for effective management" (Blackie et al., 2014, p.5). Given the difficulties of modelling deforestation and degradation of tropical open woodlands (Grainger, 1999), very little consolidated data is available on how much the habitat has changed. Nevertheless, the studies have in their great majority acknowledged that given the limited availability of suitable agricultural land, there is increasing pressure to convert remaining dry forests and woodlands to agriculture. This is contributing to loss of biodiversity (Kigomo, 2003 ; Chidumayo and Gumbo, 2010).

Given that *Pterocarpus erinaceus*' range includes areas of significant and rapidly rising human population, with associated demands for agricultural land, grazing, firewood and charcoal, it can be expected that anthropogenic degradation is extensive. One 2013 study of a small area of this habitat in Nigeria found that it had been influenced significantly by anthropogenic disturbance (including illegal logging) and that drastic measures were needed to reverse the trend and mitigate the far reaching ecological consequences of the degradation highlighted (Jibrin, 2013).

4.2 Population size

There is no quantitative information available on the total population of the species or other indices of population abundance. There are no firm data on either the total area of relevant habitat or the average density of stems per hectare.

4.3 Population structure

No information available. However, given that the largest specimens are disproportionately targeted for timber production, it can be expected that the recent boom in illegal and unsustainable harvesting will be leading to a skewing of the population structure towards immature specimens.

4.4 Population trends

No data is available on population trends of the species, but suggestions of increasing scarcity even prior to the recent boom in harvesting for international trade can be inferred from the available literature and the actions taken by the range states. Due to its various local utilizations and despite the plasticity of the species, the impact of the exploitation and first signs of overexploitation of the populations of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* have been described in several countries in the region, including Benin (Glèlè, 2008), Burkina Faso (Devineau, 1999; Sawadogo, 2006; Ouedraogo, 2008), Ghana (Dumenu and Bandoh, 2014) and Togo (Kokou et al., 2009 ; Adjonou, 2010). However, despite the importance devoted to this multi-purpose species, many countries of the range do not have adequate information on the current state of natural populations, especially in order to develop appropriate management strategies of the resource.

As long ago as the late 1990s, more than 10 range countries reported the species as among highest priorities for management and conservation (Eyog et al., 1999). Niger already classified the species as endangered before 2006 (Garzuglia, 2006), while in Senegal it has been given special protection since 1993 (Gueye, 2015). In Mali, cutting for livestock fodder had already resulted in extirpation within 50 kilometers of the capital city of Bamako by 1998 (Bonkoungou, 1998). That many other countries have been compelled to prohibit all harvesting of the species in recent years (see Section 7.1) is also suggestive of concerns on the part of relevant forestry authorities regarding rapidly declining populations. In 2014 China alone imported approximately 750,000 cubic meters of West African rosewood (Lawson, 2015); given a typical yield of 0.8 cubic meters for a relatively large tree (Duvall 2008), such a volume would have required the harvesting of more than 1 million trees.

4.5 Geographic trends

No information available.

5. Threats

In the past, the main threat to the species has been overharvesting of branches for animal fodder (Winrock, 1999). In recent years, uncontrolled and illegal harvesting and trade of the species for its valuable timber have become the principal threat (see Section 6).

6. Utilization and trade

6.1 National utilization

Pterocarpus erinaceus is an important traditional source of animal leaf-fodder to pastoralist communities in West Africa, who lop wild trees to feed their livestock during the dry season. Increasingly, this fodder is brought to urban and semi-urban markets for sale. Supply falls far short of demand, leading to increasing rarity of the species near to urban centres (Winrock, 1999). The species is also an important source of firewood and charcoal. The gum/resin of the species is blood-red in colour, and is used in dyeing cotton. The species is an important source of traditional medicine: the leaves are used in abortifacient mixtures and as a febrifuge. Bark is used for ringworm of scalp, dressing for chronic ulcers, blennorrhagia and in a gargle for tooth and mouth troubles. Bark and resin used for urethral discharge and as an astringent for severe diarrhoea and dysentery. The grated root is mixed with tobacco and smoked in a pipe as a cough remedy (Orwa, 2009)

Timber of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* is extremely hard-wearing and has a beautiful colour; as a result it has traditionally been used for production of local furniture, artisanal crafts and traditional musical instruments such as xylophones (Winrock, 1999).

All harvesting of the species is from wild specimens. Usage of branches, leaves, bark and resin for fodder, firewood, handicrafts or medicine, if carried out correctly, is potentially sustainable, since the species recovers well from coppicing (Orwa, 2009).

Stockpiles of illegal rosewood, stemming from seizures or lying unclaimed following changes to regulations, have been documented in Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire (Agence Ecofin, 2014), Gambia (Forest Trends, 2014), Senegal (Gueye, 2015) and Guinea Bissau (Guinea-Bissau, 2016a) in the past, but most such stockpiles appear to have been disposed of already. Stockpile of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* seized logs management and disposal is recognized as a major and pressing issue at the West African scale (Guinea-Bissau, 2016b)

6.2 Legal international trade

Until recently, wood of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* was virtually unknown in commerce outside of its native range (Winrock, 1999). However, in recent years there has been a dramatic increase in trade of the species to Asia for rosewood furniture manufacturing. The species is formally recognised as one of the thirty three “Hongmu” (literally “red wood” in Chinese) species included in China’s National Hongmu Standard (2010), and from 2010 onwards, the high prices and limited supplies of more traditional Southeast Asian rosewood species led to dramatic growth in imports of rosewood from West Africa (Forest Trends, 2013). In 2015, Africa was the first source region of “Hongmu” species in logs for China, in volume, accounting

for 64% of all "Hongmu" imports. West Africa alone accounted, the same year, for 84% of Chinese import of "Hongmu" from Africa, in volume, becoming the principal source sub-region in the world (Figure 2). While South-Eastern countries have some of the rarer and therefore more valuable "Hongmu" species, Africa is now playing a preeminent role in the international trade. In 2015, 8 of the top-15 source countries of "Hongmu" logs imported by China, in volume, are West African (Figure 3).

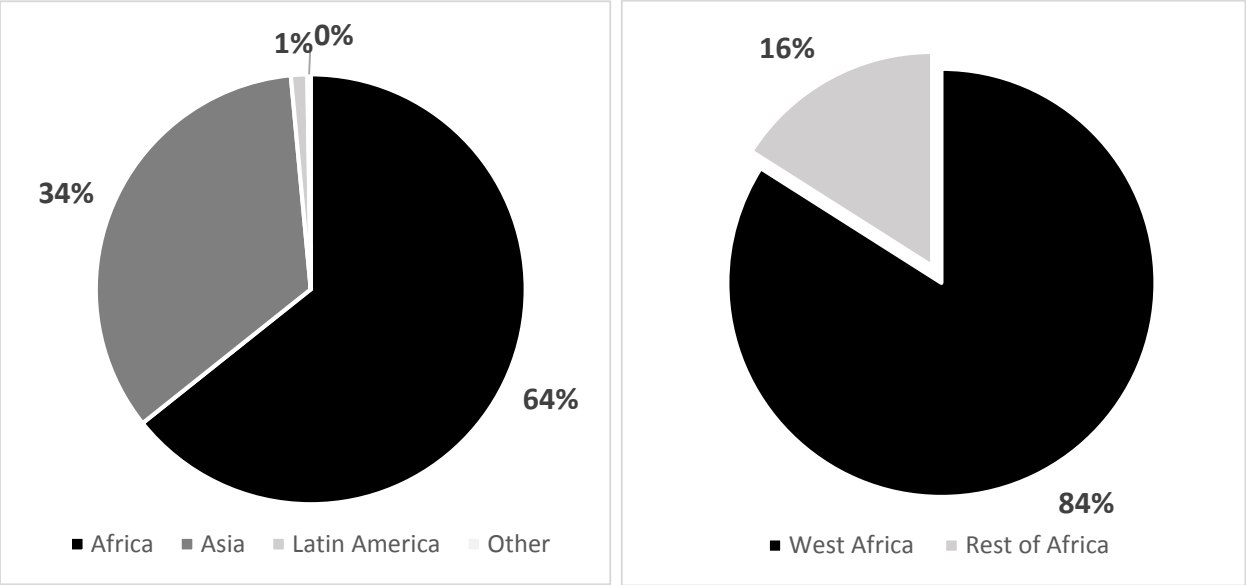


Figure 2: Chinese import of "Hongmu" logs, HS44039930 customs code, in 2015, by source region/sub-region, in volume (m^3). Source: China General Administration of Customs, 2016.

The importance taken by West Africa as source sub-region is the result of a steady growth over the past six years (Figure 4). Between the third quarter 2009 and the third quarter 2015, Chinese imports of Hongmu logs from West Africa increased by more than 2,000 times in volume. In 2015, China alone imported more than 387 mille cubic meter of "Hongmu" logs from West Africa, for a total of approximately $269 million US dollars. The annual result of the previous year were even more impressive: in 2014 China alone imported more than 830 mille cubic meter of Hongmu logs from West Africa, for a total of approximately $496 million US dollars. As a result, sparsely forested West Africa now exports more timber to China than the densely-forested Congo Basin (Lawson, 2015). Though relevant Chinese trade data also captures small volumes of African ebonies (*Dalbergia melanoxylon* and *Dalbergia crassiflora*), nearly all of this increase is believed to be made up of *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, as West African forestry experts corroborate recently (Guinea Bissau, 2016). *Pterocarpus erinaceus* is recognized to be currently, in volume and value, the most illegally harvested and traded species in West Africa (Guinea-Bissau, 2016b).

Though small volumes are also shipped to other countries, including Vietnam and India, most exports of the species from the region are destined for China. In Ghana in 2013, for example, 99 per cent of exports were to China (Coleman, 2014). Large volumes (including all of those from landlocked range states) are traded across borders within the region before being exported to China (Lawson, 2015).

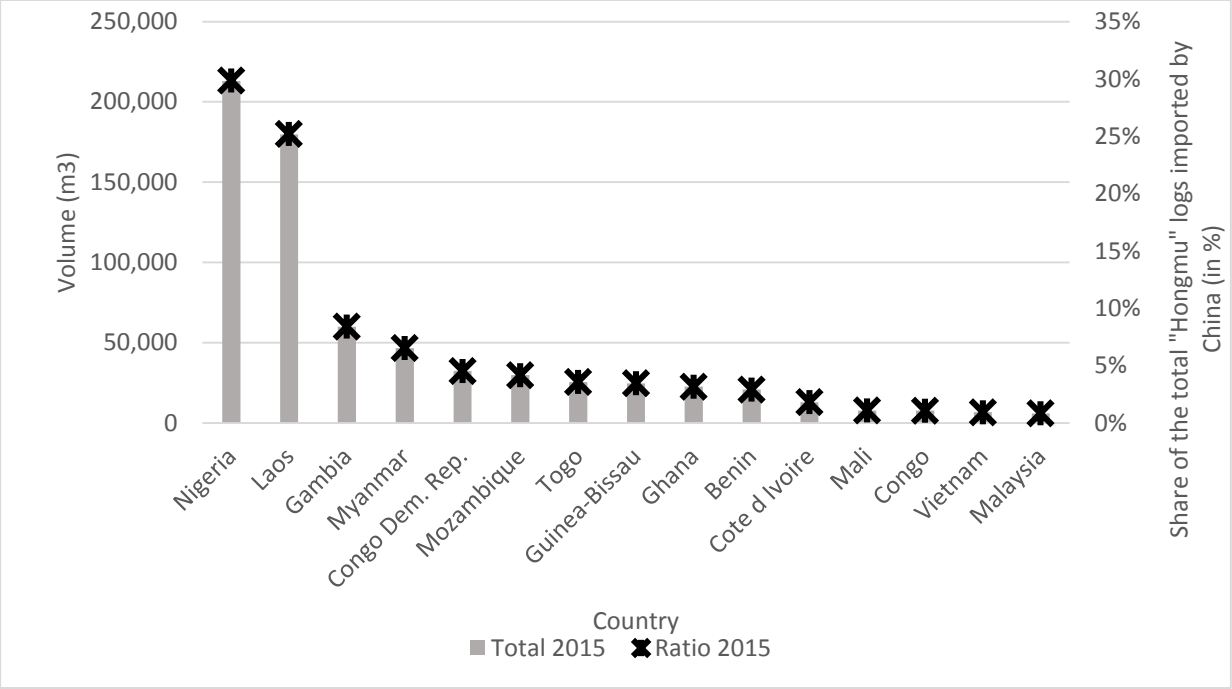


Figure 3: Top-15 source country of "Hongmu" logs imported in China, HS44039930 customs code, in 2015, in volume (m^3). Source: China General Administration of Customs, 2016.

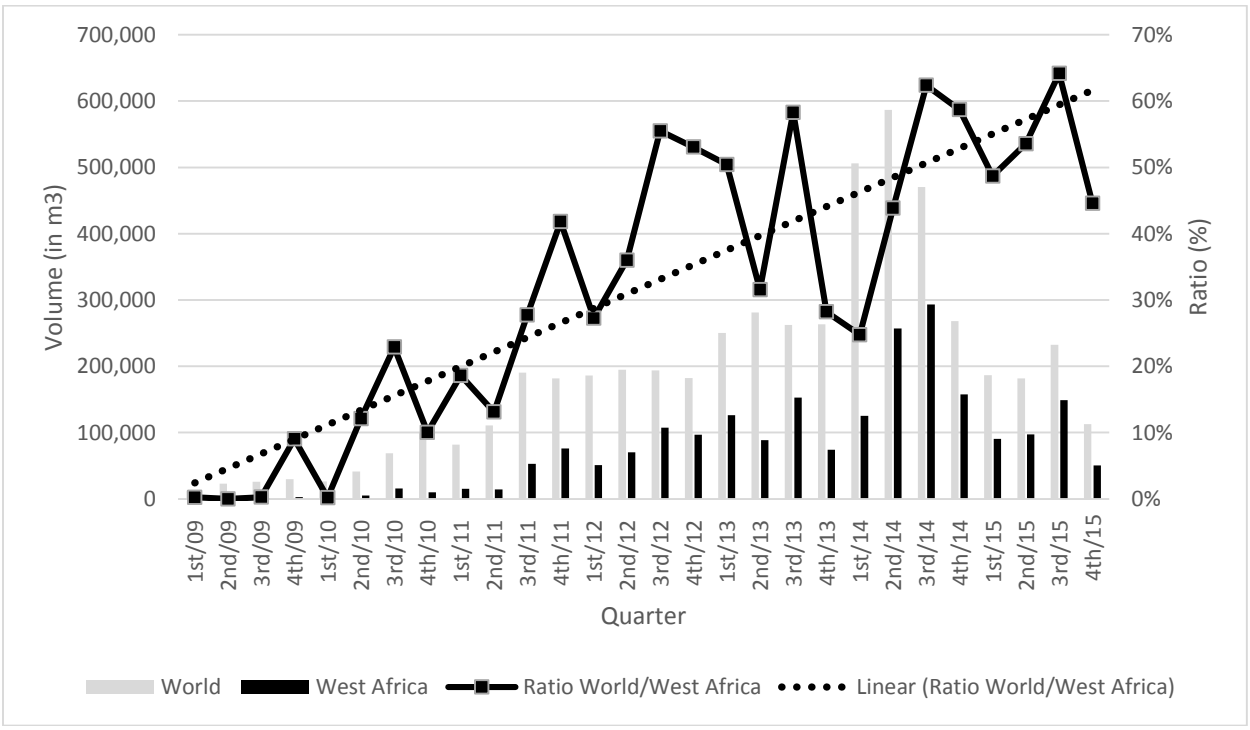


Figure 4: Evolution of the Chinese imports of "Hongmu" logs from West Africa, HS44039930 customs code, per quarter, in volume (m^3). Source: China General Administration of Customs, 2016.

As presented by Senegal (2015), in order to understand the patterns of the phenomenon facing West Africa, it is appropriate to adopt a chronological approach. A year-by-year comparison of Chinese imports data indicates that West Africa has experienced a series of "boom and bust" Hongmu trade cycles (Figure 5). The first countries affected by the increased exploitation of rosewood were Benin, then Guinea Bissau, Cote d'Ivoire and Gambia, followed by Ghana and finally Nigeria. Information obtained by ten of the countries in the region indicate a same characteristic pattern: commercial networks have moved extremely quickly and flexibly from one country to another, depending primarily on the accessibility (exhaustion) of the resource and to a certain extend to control measures put in place (Guinea-Bissau, 2016).

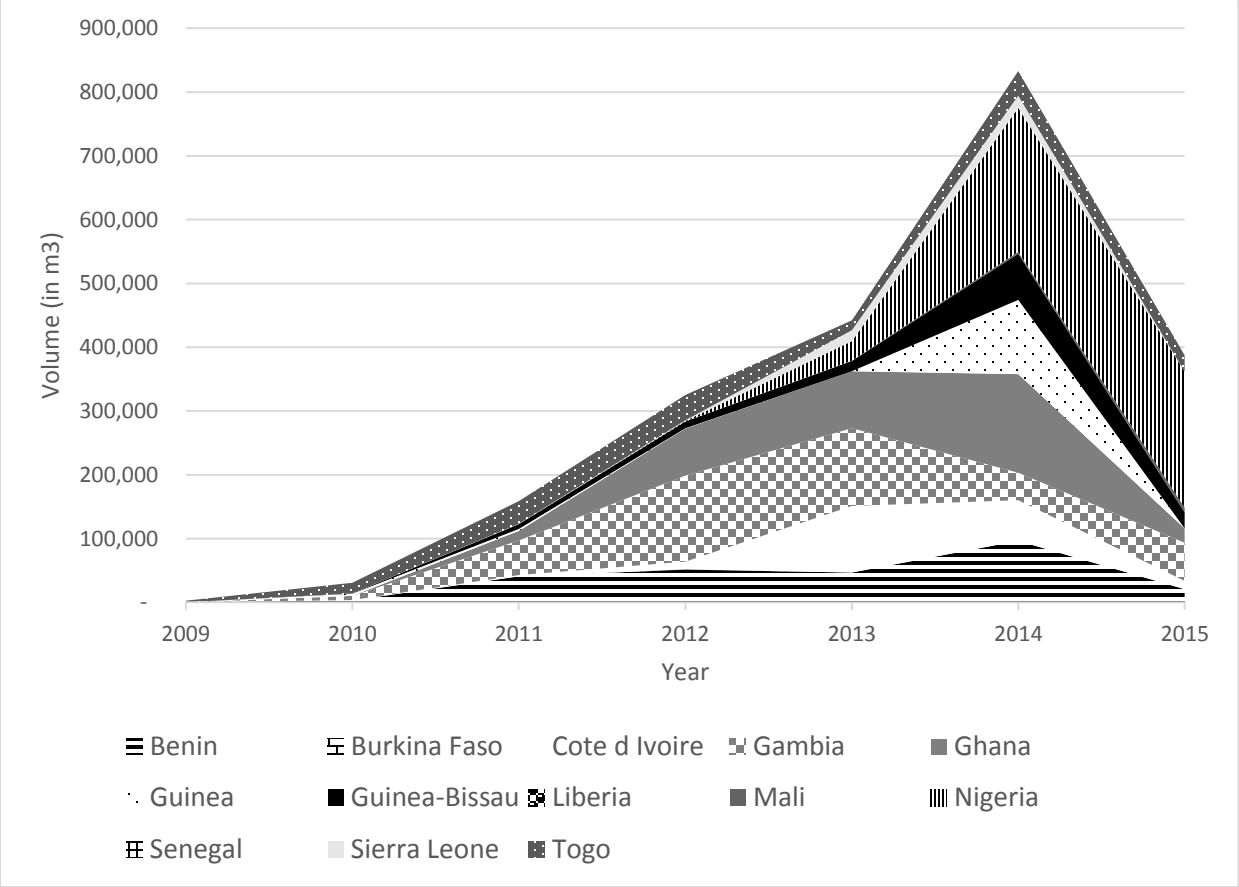


Figure 5: Evolution of the Chinese imports of "Hongmu" logs, HS44039930 customs code, by West African source country, per year, in volume (m^3). Source: China General Administration of Customs, 2016.

Of the eleven known range states, at least four have total bans in place on harvesting of the species, while a further three have prohibitions on exports of all logs (see Section 7.1). Of the seven main source countries for West African rosewood log imports to China in 2014 (Lawson, 2015), only Nigeria (in certain states) and Togo have legal harvesting of the species and allow log exports. By helping tackle illegal harvesting and trade, the proposed Appendix II listing should result in increased prices for legal supplies.

6.3 Parts and derivatives in trade

The principal products in international trade are round and roughly squared logs (HS Code 4403) and rough sawn timber (HS Code 4407). The majority of the trade is destined for China (which has a Customs code specific to rosewood/padauk), though significant volumes are also imported by Vietnam. The largest West African exporters of Hongmu logs and lumber to China during 2015 were Nigeria, Gambia, Togo, Guinea Bissau, Ghana, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and Mali (see Figure 3). As with all Hongmu species, the main usage is for decorative furniture, most of which is consumed in China (Wenbin and Xiufang, 2013; Forest Trends, 2015). There is no information available on re-exports of furniture or secondary processed products from China.

6.4 Illegal trade

Information from a number of range states suggests that a large percentage of the *Pterocarpus erinaceus* timber being exported to China and elsewhere is illegally harvested and/or illegally exported (Forest Trends, 2015). The recent seizure of more than $216 million US dollars in illegally harvested rosewood principally *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, and other timber species, which took place in nine West African countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal and Togo) demonstrates the regional scale of the issue. The operation, led by Interpol, resulted in the arrest of 44 individuals involved in national or regional timber traffic, especially *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (Interpol, 2015).

Rosewood is exported illegally as a result of corruption, or is smuggled. Smuggling has involved forged documents, mis-declaration as other goods (such as scrap metal), concealment behind other goods and mis-declaration of goods as transit cargo (Lawson, 2015). In addition to large-scale illegal export outside of the region, intra-regional illegal trade is also common (Ghana Broadcasting Corporation, 2014). At present, there is no legal mandate for importing countries such as China to halt shipments of illegal African rosewood, even if clear evidence of illegal origin is available (Hoare, 2015). There is also confusion within the region among importing or transit countries regarding the legal status of the species in other countries or the proper documentation which should accompany legal shipments.

An Appendix II listing will empower importing countries to assist range states by blocking shipments of illegally harvested and illegally traded wood, and make it easier to distinguish legal from illegal wood. In doing so, it can be expected to result in a significant reduction in illegal trade.

- Senegal / Guinea-Bissau / Gambia

During 2010-14 China reported importing over 360,000 cubic metres of rosewood logs from The Gambia. It is estimated that 99% of these rosewood logs actually originated in Senegalese forests and are illegal re-exports (all log exports from Senegal are prohibited). The Senegalese government classifies much of the African rosewood illegally traded into The Gambia as 'conflict timber' since it originates in parts of the Casamance region held by rebel forces (Gueye, 2015). Most of the logs were also shipped in contravention of a ban on rosewood export implemented by the government of The Gambia in November 2012 (Forest Trends, 2014). Since the breakdown of law and order which followed a coup in April 2012, large-scale illegal harvesting and export of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* has also been taking place in neighbouring Guinea-

Bissau (IRIN, 2014). In July 2014, the new Guinea-Bissau government declared a moratorium on all timber exports in an attempt to halt rosewood trafficking (IRIN, 2014).

- Ghana

Widespread illegal harvesting of rosewood (*Pterocarpus erinaceus*) under the guise of 'salvage permits' for road and dam construction projects led the Ghanaian authorities to re-impose a ban on all harvesting, processing and export of the species in July 2014. The ban included a prohibition on transhipment of rosewood from other countries, included in response to evidence of laundering of Ghanaian rosewood in neighbouring countries (Ghana Broadcasting Corp, 2014). In April 2014, the Paramount Chief of the town of Buipe in Gonja had appealed to the government to halt the illegal harvesting, saying that it was having a devastating impact on the local environment and water sources. He estimated that more than 200 articulated trucks were leaving the Gonja area with illegal rosewood every week (Ghana Chronicle, 2014). All of the illegally harvested rosewood in Ghana in recent years is bound for export. In 2012, sixty shipping containers of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* were seized at Tema port in Ghana (Bosu, 2014). In August 2014, a further 51 shipping containers of illegal rosewood logs were seized at the same port; the timber was valued at an estimated $800,000 US dollars (Ghana News Agency, 2014).

- Côte d'Ivoire

The majority of *Pterocarpus erinaceus's* natural range in Côte d'Ivoire is north of the 8th parallel of latitude, where all logging has been prohibited since 1982 (ITTO, 2008). UN reports have documented how illegal logging and associated trade in this zone have provided an important source of funding to rebel groups engaged in civil conflict in the country in recent years. The same reports cite evidence of collusion by corrupt officials in the trade (UN, 2014). There have been a number of significant seizures of illegal rosewood in Côte d'Ivoire in recent years, including one in January 2012 involving 30 containers seized at the ports of San Pedro and Abidjan in which senior officials were implicated (AllAfrica, 2012). During January 2012 - September 2013, the government reported seizing a total of 6051 cubic meters of illegal timber, worth $1.25 million US dollars, and arresting 74 individuals for illegal logging north of the 8th parallel (UN, 2014). Given its pre-eminent position in trade in the region, it is likely that most of this wood was *Pterocarpus erinaceus*.

- Other range states

Widespread illegal harvesting and export of rosewood have been reported at the regional scale by forestry and customs experts (Guinea-Bissau, 2016). Sophisticated regional smuggling tactics have been described in order to overcome harvest bans, such as the undeclared export of illegally harvested logs from Burkina Faso to neighboring countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana or Mali), followed by the formal re-import into Burkina Faso, before the re-export to one of the principal ports of the region (Lome, Accra or Abidjan) (Burkina Faso, 2016).

Rampant illegal harvest led the Malian government to ban all cutting and trade in the species in 2014 (Lawson, 2015). In Burkina Faso, where illegal rosewood is reportedly being harvested in National Parks, the Director of Forestry was suspended during 2014 for alleged involvement in illegal rosewood export. Rosewood is also being cut illegally in National Parks in Benin, and rosewood logs exported illegally hidden in shipping containers behind sawn wood (Lawson, 2015). In Sierra Leone, there has been illegal cutting in National Parks, while the President's Chief-of-Staff was recently sacked for rosewood-related alleged

corruption (Office of the President, 2014). Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali and Sierra Leone also have long-standing bans on the export of raw logs, yet Chinese customs authorities reported significant imports of rosewood logs from these countries during 2014, indicating probable illegal trade; the same is true of Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire (Lawson, 2015).

Interpol (2016) reported the structuration of mafia-like network that operate in most of the West African countries, and articulate illegal harvest practices, smuggling and illicit export to China.

6.5 Actual or potential trade impacts

There is very little information available regarding the impact of the increased trade in the species on populations in relevant range states, but anecdotal evidence suggests that the species is already commercially extinct in many areas, and that illegal harvesting is proving damaging to the fragile semi-arid environments in which the species grows (Lawson, 2015). The fact that so many range states have imposed total bans on harvesting of the species is also suggestive of increasing scarcity. Given the importance of the species as a source of dry-season fodder for traditional pastoral communities across its range, the impacts of increasingly unsustainable trade in *Pterocarpus erinaceus* timber on the livelihoods of these people is potentially very serious. Domestic demand for *Pterocarpus erinaceus* timber is now inconsequential compared with international demand, which presents by far the greatest threat to the species.

7. Legal instruments

7.1 National

The species is subject to general legislation and regulations governing land tenure, forestry and timber trade in the relevant range states. This includes prohibitions on cutting of trees in protected areas or other zones, regulations governing permits required for harvesting elsewhere, regulations relating to processing and export, minimum diameters of trees permitted to be harvested, and limits or prohibitions on the forms in which timber may be exported (FAOLEX, 2015). The latter includes general prohibitions on export of raw, unprocessed logs from many relevant range states (including Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone, Mali, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Benin) (Table 1).

Countries	Special measures for the protection or management of the species	Export-related regulation
Benin	According to the Forest Code in force (Law No 93-009 of 2 July 1993 laying down forest regime in the Republic of Benin) and its implementing decree (Decree No 96-271 of 2 July 1996, Article 25), *P. erinaceus* is a protected species belonging to the "List of protected forest species" (P. erinaceus appears under its common name "Vene").	"Decree No 2005-708 of 12 November 2005 on procedures for the exploitation, transportation, trade, industry and control of forest products in the Republic of Benin." In Article 21, the export of all woody species in their raw form is prohibited in Benin. This provision has been taken up in Article 3 of the "Interministerial Decree-Year2007-0053/MEPN/MIC/DC/SGM/DGFRN/SEB on procedures for the exploitation, transportation, trade, industry and control of forest products in the Republic of Benin".

Burkina Faso	*P. erinaceus* is specifically protected by Order No 2004-019/MECV of 7 July 2004, establishing the list of forest species which benefit from special protection measures. The Order is related to the implementation of the Forest Code adopted in 1997 (Law No. 006/97/ADP on the Forest Code in Burkina Faso). The implementing decree related to the protection of species within the framework of the new Forest Code (Law No 003-2011/AN on the Forest Code in Burkina Faso) has not yet been published. The forest code in force states in its Article 44 that "Some forest species, due to their specific ethnobotany interest or risk of extinction threatening them, benefit from special protection measures. The list is established by the order of the Minister of Forests."	Export of logs and processed products is prohibited under Decree No 2005 - 003/MECV/MCPEA of 9 March 2005 which suspends all operations and the trade of timber at the national level. The decree is still in force today.
Côte d'Ivoire	*P. erinaceus* species cannot be exploited pursuant to Decree No. 2013-508 of 25 July 2013 relating to "banning of exploitation, harvesting, transportation, trade and export of Vene timber".	*P. erinaceus* species cannot be exported pursuant to Decree No. 2013-508 of 25 July 2013 relating to "banning of exploitation, harvesting, transportation, trade and export of Vene timber".
Ghana	A ban has been placed on the harvesting and export of rosewood timber, since July 2014.	A ban has been placed on the harvesting and export of rosewood timber, since July 2014.
Guinea-Bissau		Moratorium on all timber exports passed in July 2014.
Mali	*P. erinaceus* is on the list of protected species mentioned in the Forest Code (Law No. 95-004 laying down conditions of forest resources management, Article 17). According to Article 16: "Protected species are those which benefit from social protection due to their economic, socio-cultural or scientific interest. Their felling and uprooting are prohibited unless expressly authorized. "Express authorizations are issued by the Director of Forest Service.	Decree No. 00-505/P-RM of 16 October 2000 on foreign trade regulations specifies the prohibited products for export such as unprocessed wood. The Inter-ministerial interdiction No 2014 -1856 / MC-MEF-SG-MEEA of 10 July 2014 relating to the interdiction of the export of timber, service wood (construction wood), firewood, bamboo, raphias of a raw state and charcoal', bans all export of timber.
Nigeria	In Nigeria, forestry laws are under the remit of states. Thus, *P. erinaceus* is a protected species in Taraba State, and given this status, felling and export status are strictly prohibited. In Cross River State, logging is prohibited in all natural forests and for all woody species.	
Sénégal	*P. erinaceus* species is protected by the current legislation namely the Forest Code (Law No 98-03 of 8 January 1998) and Decree No 98-164 of 20 February 1998, Article 63.	*P. erinaceus* Export is strictly prohibited pursuant to the current legislation namely the Forest Code (Law No 98-03 Act of 8 January 1998) and Decree No 98-164 of 20 February 1998, Article 63.
Togo	The forest code in force since 2008 (Law No 2008-09 on the Forest Code) identifies species fully protected as "species subtracted from any sampling, except for scientific reasons." No implementing decree for plant species has been adopted to date.	However, the Forest Code clearly states, in its Article 54, the required conditions for export, "Import, export and re-export of timber and non-timber forest products are regulated by decree in the Council of Ministers." The applicable decree is Decree No. 2011-142/PR which regulates import, export, re-export and

		transit of timber forest products. It establishes, in its Article 8, that authorized operators must obtain a written authorization issued by the administration in charge of forest resources for the import, export or re-export of all forest products. Article 15 of the same Decree also specifies that only forest products resulting from sustainable forest management, as defined in Togo, and which abide by traceability rules as defined by the decree of the Ministry in charge of forest resources.

Table 1. Protection and export prohibition measures taken by West African States. Source: FAOLEX, 2015 ; Senegal, 2015.

The failure of these general forestry regulations to halt illegal and unsustainable harvesting and trade of African rosewood, and subsequent threats to the species' future, has led many range states to enact additional regulations specific to rosewood. In November 2012, The Gambia banned export of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (Forest Trends, 2014). In Ghana, export bans were imposed during January-May 2012 and again since January 2014 (Coleman, 2014). The latter ban was temporarily lifted for specific companies, but was re-imposed in July 2014, when all harvesting, processing, transport, transhipment and export of the species was prohibited (Ghana Broadcasting Corp, 2014). The bans were put in place because of evidence of illegalities in harvesting and trade (Coleman, 2014). The species is specifically protected and all harvesting illegal in Burkina Faso, while in Mali all harvesting and export was also banned in 2014. Cutting of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* is also prohibited in some Nigerian states (Lawsone 2015). In Côte d'Ivoire, all harvesting, processing, transport and export of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* was prohibited by a Decree of the Council of Ministers in July 2013, with an allowance of three months for existing stocks to be exported (Council of Ministers, 2013); in March 2014 the ban was lifted for three further months to allow additional pre-ban stocks to be exported (Agence Ecofin, 2014). *Pterocarpus erinaceus* is listed as a semi-protected species under the Senegalese Forest Law, which restricts cutting of the species to limited national quotas intended only for local processing (Gueye, 2015). In direct response to the new challenge of illegal rosewood trafficking, in May 2015 Senegal revised its forest law to increase relevant penalties (Gueye, 2015).

The failure of the controls mentioned above to halt illegal and unsustainable harvesting is evidenced by major seizures in relevant countries (see Section 6.4), and by Chinese customs statistics, which record continued imports of rosewood logs from range states which have banned log exports in general and/or banned all harvesting and export of rosewood in particular (Lawson, 2015; Gueye, 2015). The structural weaknesses of the national competent authorities to tackle cross-border smuggling issues and regional illegal trade has also been highlighted by West African experts in forestry and customs issues (Guinea-Bissau, 2016b).

7.2 International

There are no current international controls in place on the species. Imports to the USA, European Union and Australia are subject to national legislation in those jurisdictions prohibiting the import and/or sale of wood which was illegally sourced in the country of origin (Hoare, 2015). However, little or no African rosewood is traded to these countries. The measures associated with the Appendix III listing of the species will be In June 2015, will be effective from May 9, 2016 (CITES Secretariat, 2016).

8. Species management

8.1 Management measures

General management measures in range states are defined by relevant Forestry legislation (including minimum diameter cutting limits), though it does not appear that any legal harvesting of the species takes place in specific zones managed under sustainable forest management plans. Specific management measures for the species take the form of blanket prohibitions on harvesting and trade, and are in place in a number of countries (see Section 7).

8.2 Population monitoring

No information available

8.3 Control measures

8.3.1 International

See Section 7.2

8.3.2 National

See Section 7.1

8.4 Captive breeding or artificial propagation for commercial purposes

At present all harvesting of this species appears to be from wild sources, though there is some indication of small-scale planting in Ghana and Senegal in the past (CABI, 2013).

8.5 Habitat conservation

The protected areas system within the Guinea Forest-Savanna Mosaic is reportedly underfunded and covers only two percent of the area of the ecoregion (WWF 2015). No additional specific information is available on the number, size and type of protected areas relevant to the habitat of the species, or specific habitat conservation programmes outside protected areas.

8.6 Safeguards

Not applicable

9. Information on similar species

To be determined

10. Consultations

Following the Resolution Conf. 8.21 (Rev. CoP 16), consistent efforts have been deployed in order to ensure a high level of consultation with the range states and with the CITES Parties.

An Information Document presenting the "Analysis of the international trade in *Pterocarpus erinaceus* and its consequences in West Africa" as well as a first draft of the Appendix II listing proposal was submitted and presented by Senegal at the 22nd meeting of the Plant Committee in Tbilisi, Georgia (19-23 October 2015). The proposal received the support from several Parties and representatives (United States of America, European Union, Central/South Americas and Caribbean Countries, African Countries). At this same meeting, the Plant Committee recommended Senegal to build on a strong process of regional consultation in order to propose the Appendix II listing for the species.

The proposal of transfer *of Pterocapus erinaceus* from Appendix III to Appendix II was formally presented by Senegal during the workshop on the "Development of Subregional Wildlife Enforcement Collaboration" held in Dakar, Senegal, 15-17 March 2016. The workshop was organized by the government of Senegal, with financial support from the United States' Fish and Wildlife Service. The representatives of range States of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* along with Liberia, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Chad, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Central African Republic, and Gabon unanimously supported the uplisting proposal for the species, as presented in the "Declaration of Dakar" (Senegal, 2016).

The proposal of uplisting of *Pterocapus erinaceus* was also shared by Senegal, in its electronic and hard copy versions, with the range States, namely: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Conakry, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, and Togo. In the framework of this consultation process, Senegal formally requested the support from the range States. The model of the letter used, intended to the focal point of the range States Management Authority is presented in Annex 1. Answers received so far demonstrate an important level of support for the uplisting proposal among range States.

A specific regional workshop was held in Bissau, Guinea-Bissau, from March 29 to 31, with the title "Understanding International Trade, Reforming International Trade: The Case of the Timber Species *Pterocarpus erinaceus*". During this event, the proposal of transfer of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Appendix III to Appendix II was officially presented et abundantly discussed between the governmental experts gathered in Bissau, coming from the range States Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo, along with Sierra Leone. At the end of these discussions, which were focused on the process of uplisting, the consequences for competent authorities, and the potential impacts in term of protection of the species and consequences, the representatives unanimously decided to support the transfer proposal. The regional support given to the proposal has been formally registered in the "Recommendations of Bissau" (Guinea-Bissau, 2016).

Finally, following the Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15), four different organizations listed in the section a) of the resolution were formally consulted by Senegal, namely the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), TRAFFIC, and the World

Wildlife Fund (WWF), to verify the trade data and more broadly review the proposal. A copy of the letter sent, through email, to the focal points of the organisations mentioned is presented in the Annexe 2. ITTO's answer demonstrates support from this institution, highlighting the importance of the regional consultation process.

This thorough consultation process has guaranteed a strong sense of regional ownership and consensus about the importance of the transfer of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Appendix III to Appendix II. This is the reason why 7 range States, namely Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea-Conakry, Mali, Nigeria, and Togo, as well as 1 non-range State, namely Chad, have decided to co-sponsor the proposal presented by Senegal.

11. Additional remarks

None.

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Annex 1. Model of consultation letter sent by Senegal to the range States

N° 000964

REPUBLIQUE DU SENEGAL
Un Peuple - Un But - Une Foi

N°..... DEFCCS/DAPF

Dakar, le ..... 08 AVR 2016

MINISTERE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

DIRECTION DES EAUX, FORETS, CHASSES
ET DE LA CONSERVATION DES SOLS

Le Directeur

Autorité de Gestion de la CITES

Objet : Consultation pour la démarche transfert de l'espèce *Pterocarpus erinaceus* de l'Annexe III à l'Annexe II de la CITES

Mon colonel,

Je viens solliciter de votre autorité, le soutien de votre pays dans le cadre de la démarche régionale de transfert de l'espèce *Pterocarpus erinaceus,* de l'Annexe III à l'Annexe II de la Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages (CITES). Cette démarche est motivée par l'exploitation illégale et le commerce illicite de cette espèce, stimulés par une demande asiatique croissante.

L'initiative cherche à garantir la légalité et relever le degré de contrôle du commerce international de *Pterocarpus erinaceus* et ainsi assurer la durabilité de son exploitation.

Je vous remercie d'avance de me faire part de vos observations et commentaires au plus tard **le 22 avril 2016** afin de pouvoir soumettre la proposition de transfert au secrétariat de la CITES avant le 27 avril 2016.

Etant assuré du soutien de votre pays pour mener cette initiative à terme, je vous prie d'agréer, **mon colonel**, l'expression de ma considération distinguée.

Pièce jointe : Note d'information

Direction des Eaux, Forêts, Chasses et de la Conservation des Sols
Le Directeur
Baidy BA
Ingénieur des Eaux et Fôrets
et du Génie Rural

Au

Colonel Théophile Kakpo, Directeur Général des Forêts et des Ressources Naturelles, Coordonnateur National du Programme de Gestion des Forêts et Terroirs Riverains (PGFTR)
Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Habitat et de l'Urbanisme

COTONOU

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Note d'information sur l'initiative de transfert de l'espèce *Pterocarpus erinaceus* de l'Annexe III à l'Annexe II de la CITES

Comme l'ont démontré les multiples discussions régionales tenues en 2015, autour du thème de l'exploitation illégale des ressources naturelles, et en particulier la rencontre de Lomé (Togo, 10-11 février 2015)[1], les pays d'Afrique de l'Ouest sont de manière croissante les victimes du commerce illégal de produits forestiers. Les récentes saisies de bois d'origine illégale, coordonnées régionalement par INTERPOL avec la participation de neuf pays de la sous-région[2], confirment cette tendance inquiétante.

Les conséquences négatives de la recrudescence des activités illégales d'exploitation, de transport et d'exportation des produits forestiers sont nombreuses. Elles sont tout d'abord économiques puisque les bois exportés illégalement échappent le plus souvent aux obligations fiscales et représentent un manque à gagner considérable pour les Etats. En outre, le commerce illégal se concentre le plus souvent sur des produits bruts non transformés, tels que grumes ou plots, et limite ainsi la valeur ajoutée et les emplois créés dans le pays d'origine. Le prix dérisoire payé pour la matière première en Afrique de l'Ouest contraste avec la valeur finale des produits transformés.

Les impacts sont également sociaux, puisque la surexploitation des ressources forestières affecte la disponibilité des ressources pour les populations rurales qui dépendent au quotidien des produits offerts par les forets sèches : combustibles, matériaux de construction, alimentation pour le bétail, outils et artisanats traditionnels, pharmacopée, etc.

Finalement, les impacts sont bien évidemment environnementaux. Le fragile équilibre des forêts sèches est ici en jeu ainsi que les divers services environnementaux qu'elles offrent. Il est bon de rappeler que la plupart des sources des grands fleuves d'Afrique sub-saharienne sont situées dans ces régions boisées. Ces forêts jouent donc un rôle essentiel dans le maintien des débits fluviaux et l'approvisionnement en eau pour l'irrigation, l'assainissement, l'énergie hydraulique, et la consommation humaine. Leur conservation est essentielle pour lutter contre la désertification

Une espèce ligneuse en particulier est la principale cible des trafiquants et braconniers. Cette espèce, désignée scientifiquement comme *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, est connue dans la sous-région sous de multiples noms vernaculaires : Vêne/Ven/Palissandre du Sénégal/Santal rouge d'Afrique en langue française, Kosso/Keno/African Barwood/African teak/African kino tree en langue anglaise et Pau de Sangre en portugais. L'espèce est convoitée par les négociants qui l'exportent en très grande quantité vers l'Asie, et tout particulièrement vers la Chine. Une fois en Chine, le bois d'Afrique de l'Ouest est transformé en luxueux meubles qui peuvent être vendus pour plusieurs milliers de dollars à la grandissante classe moyenne locale. Malgré le ralentissement de l'économie chinoise, en 2015, l'équivalent de 30 containers en moyenne ont été exportés chaque jour depuis l'Afrique de l'Ouest vers la Chine. L'Afrique de l'Ouest est devenue en quelques années seulement la première région exportatrice de ce genre de bois vers la Chine.

L'espèce *Pterocarpus erinaceus* bénéficie pourtant d'un haut degré de protection dans la plupart des pays de la région. L'exploitation et/ou l'export sont strictement interdits ou rigoureusement contrôlés au Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinée-Bissau, Mali, dans plusieurs états du Nigeria

[1] Pour plus d'information: http://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2015/N2015-012
[2] Pour plus d'information: http://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2015/N2015-206

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(tels que Taraba et Cross River) et au Sénégal. Malgré les régulations nationales existantes et les efforts de mise en œuvre réalisés, les réseaux mafieux ont développés des stratégies efficaces de contournement et de braconnage contre lesquelles il est très difficile de lutter à l'échelle nationale.

Pour cette raison, le Sénégal a récemment inclus l'espèce *Pterocarpus erinaceus* à l'Annexe III de la Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages (CITES) et sollicite à présent l'appui des pays de la sous-région afin de proposer le transfert de l'espèce à l'Annexe II de la CITES. Ce transfert de l'Annexe III à l'Annexe II, qui a été officiellement encouragé par le Comité des Plantes de la CITES lors de la 22e réunion qui s'est tenue à Tbilisi (Géorgie) en 2015, permettrait de garantir un degré supérieur de contrôle du commerce international et la durabilité de l'exploitation. Ce transfert n'interdira pas le commerce international.

En outre, la proposition de transfert pourrait inclure des mesures de soutien à la mise en œuvre qui viendraient renforcer les efforts de lutte nationaux et régionaux contre l'exploitation illégale des ressources naturelles. Ces mesures d'accompagnement sollicitées pourraient inclure : 1) Renforcement des capacités des autorités compétentes en matière d'export des produits forestiers ; 2) Renforcement des capacités pour la mise en œuvre de la CITES ; 3) Soutien au dialogue et à la coordination régionale en matière de gestion des ressources naturelles ; 4) Soutien au réseau régional des aires naturelles protégées en particulier les aires naturelles protégées transfrontalières : 5) Aménagement participatif des formations forestières au niveau national et transfrontière.

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Annex 2. Model of consultation letter sent by Senegal to the scientific experts

Nº 001060

REPUBLIQUE DU SENEGAL
Un Peuple - Un But - Une Foi

N°..... DEFCCS/DAPF

Dakar, le .....
14 AVR 2016

MINISTERE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

DIRECTION DES EAUX, FORETS, CHASSES
ET DE LA CONSERVATION DES SOLS

Le Directeur
Autorité de Gestion de la CITES

Objet : Consultation dans le cadre de la proposition de transfert de *Pteocarpus erinaceus* de l'Annexe III à l'Annexe II de la CITES, sans Annotation

Docteur,

Je viens porter à votre connaissance la démarche régionale de transfert de l'espèce Pterocarpus erinaceus de l'Annexe III à l'Annexe II de la Convention sur le commerce international des espèces de faune et de flore sauvages menacées d'extinction (CITES), initiée par le Sénégal, conformément à la Résolution Conf. 9.24 (Rev. CoP16).

Comme vous le savez, malgré les dispositions législatives et réglementaires prises par le Sénégal et les pays de la sous-région, et leurs mises en œuvre par les autorités compétentes, les peuplements de *Pterocarpus erinaceus* continuent d'être victimes des réseaux commerciaux mafieux. Ces derniers s'appuient sur des pratiques organisées et connues pour exporter illégalement cette ressource forestière afin d'alimenter les marchés asiatiques.

Face à cette situation, il est à craindre que la mise en œuvre des mesures liées à l'inscription de l'espèce à l'Annexe III de la CITES, à partir du 9 mai 2016, ne sera pas suffisante.

.../...

Au

Dr. Colman O Criodain,
WWF International

Gland -Suisse

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Toutefois, s'appuyant sur l'expérience acquise en matière de classement des espèces ligneuses à l'Annexe II de la Convention, conformément aux Décisions 14.148, 14.149 et 15.35 (Rev. CoP 15) et conformément à la Résolution Conf. 11.21 (Rev. CoP16), le Sénégal propose que l'inclusion à l'Annexe II susmentionnée se fasse sans annotation spécifiant les types de spécimens couverts, afin de couvrir tous les produits et parties faciles à identifier.

Conformément à la Résolution Conf. 8.21 (Rev. CoP16), plusieurs processus de consultation ont été conduits avec les autres Etats de l'aire de répartition de *Pterocarpus erinaceus* : (i) la réunion de Dakar sur le « Développement d'une Collaboration sous-régionale sur la Lutte contre la Criminalité Liée aux Espèces Sauvages » (Dakar, Sénégal 15-17 mars 2016), (ii) la rencontre de Bissau « Comprendre et changer le commerce international : le cas de l'espèce *Pterocarpus erinaceus* » (Bissau, Guinée Bissau 29-31 mars 2016) et (iii) l'envoi d'un courrier spécifique à chacun des Etats de la sous-région.

Suivant les recommandations de la Résolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15), je joins à la présente la proposition de transfert. Vous voudrez bien me faire parvenir vos observations d'ici le 22 avril 2016.

Je vous prie de croire, **Docteur**, à l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

Le Directeur des Eaux, Forêts, Chasses et de la Conservation des Sols

RÉPUBLIQUE DU SENEGAL
MINISTERE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE
Direction des Eaux Forêts Chasses et de la Conservation des Sols
Le Directeur Adjoint

Ousmane CISSOKHO
Ingénieur des Eaux et Forêts

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