

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



Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Colombo (Sri Lanka), 23 May – 3 June 2019

Species specific matters

NEOTROPICAL TREE SPECIES

1. This document has been submitted by the Plants Committee.*

Background

2. At its 17th meeting, the Conference of the Parties renewed Decision 16.159 (Rev. CoP17) on *Neotropical tree species*, as follows:

16.159 (Rev. CoP17)

Directed to the Plants Committee

The Working Group on Neotropical Tree Species shall work under the auspices of the Plants Committee. During its 23rd meeting, the Plants Committee shall define the membership and the terms of reference of the Working Group.

The Working Group shall preferably work through electronic means in order to reduce costs and speed up information exchange and progress in the activities included in its terms of reference. The Working Group shall report on its progress at the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee. In turn, the Plants Committee shall prepare a report on work completed for submission at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Progress achieved in the implementation of Decision 16.159 (Rev. CoP17)

3. At its 23rd meeting (PC23, Geneva, July 2017), the Plants Committee considered document [PC23 Doc. 25](#) and established an intersessional working group on neotropical tree species ([PC23 SR](#)), with the following mandate:
 - a) The group shall work under the auspices of the Plants Committee;
 - b) The working group shall preferably work through electronic means in order to reduce costs and speed up information exchange and progress in the activities included in its terms of reference. External funding would be needed should the working group decide that additional means are required for it to carry out its mandate;
 - c) The group shall act as a hub to circulate and exchange experiences on the sustainable use and management of these species;

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

- d) The group shall contribute to the strengthening of capacities in range States;
- e) Where necessary, the group shall facilitate full and effective application of the review of significant trade and review of the appendices for the species concerned;
- f) The group shall draft reports on progress made in the management, conservation of, and trade in the species dealt with by this group, as well as on lessons learnt, for submission at the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee, which shall agree on how to submit these at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP18);
- g) The group shall include, as part of its activities, an analysis of the data received from range States and importing Parties;
- h) The group shall facilitate and foster the exchange of knowledge and experiences relating to the scientific and technical aspects of the inclusion of *Cedrela odorata*, *Aniba rosaeodora*, *Bulnesia sarmientoi*, among others, and species of the genus *Dalbergia*, with special emphasis on the latter in the annotation, and likewise any other New World tree species listed in the CITES appendices; and
- i) The Chair of the working group shall submit a written report, on the tasks defined in the previous paragraphs, for consideration at the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee, which report shall be submitted to the Secretariat 60 days in advance of the meeting.

The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Beltetón Chacón);

Vice-Chair: Ms. Nuñez (Peru);

Members: the representative of Central and South America and the Caribbean (Ms. Rauber Coradin);

Parties: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, European Union, France, Germany, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Spain, Suriname, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, and Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; and

IGOs and NGOs: UNEP-WCMC, Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD), and ITTO; Center of International Environmental Law, Confederation of European Music Industries, Forest Based Solutions, International Wood Products Association, Martin Guitar, Species Survival Network, and World Resources Institute.

Additionally, the Plants Committee agreed to select as members of the working group on neotropical tree species up to:

- i) Two scientific experts with significant experience in Neotropical tree species;
- ii) Two experts from two non-governmental organizations with experience in the activities mentioned in Decision 16.159 (Rev. CoP17);
- iii) Two representatives from organizations of exporters from the two major exporting countries of the relevant products of these species that are regulated by CITES; and
- iv) Two representatives from organizations of importers from the two major importing countries of the relevant products of these species that are regulated by CITES;

4. At its 24th meeting (PC24, Geneva, July 2018), the Plants Committee considered document [PC24 Doc. 22 \(Rev. 1\)](#) on the report of the intersessional working group on neotropical tree species. The report represents a detailed and updated analysis of implementation of the Convention from twelve neotropical range States' and for the following taxa: *Aniba rosaeodora*, *Bulnesia sarmientoi*, *Cedrela odorata*, *Dalbergia* spp., and *Swietenia macrophylla*. The Plants Committee noted the document and agreed to propose the draft decision included in Annex 1 to the present document.

Recommendation

5. The Conference of the Parties is invited to:
- a) adopt the draft decision on Neotropical tree species included in Annex 1 to the present document; and
 - b) delete Decision 16.159 (Rev. CoP17) since it has been implemented.

COMMENTS OF THE SECRETARIAT

Draft decisions on Neotropical tree species¹

18.XX Directed to the Plants Committee

The Plants Committee shall:

- a) re-establish the intersessional working group on neotropical tree species to work by electronic means to:
 - i) exchange experiences, information and skills between countries in the neotropical tree species' range on sustainable use and management, especially to support the countries that are in any stages of the Review of Significant Trade; and
 - ii) report on progress made in the management and conservation of and trade in neotropical trees, as well as on lessons learned, including on the generation of studies on the status of the populations of neotropical trees, with an emphasis on those recently listed in the CITES Appendices; implementation of traceability and chain of custody systems, which strengthen the transparency and sustainable trade in timber species; and creation of materials for identification and training in the different existing methods, with an emphasis on those that can be used easily by authorities; and
- b) review the progress reported by the intersessional working group and make recommendations to the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP19), as appropriate.

¹ Draft decision as agreed by the Plants Committee at its 24th meeting ([PC24 Com. 9](#))

TENTATIVE BUDGET AND SOURCE OF FUNDING
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS OR DECISIONS

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 authors of this document propose the following tentative budget and source of funding.