

**COMMENTS ON CITES PROPOSALS FOR TREE SPECIES TO BE TABLED AT COP 18**

<i>Proposed Changes</i>	<i>Country-specific Comments</i>	<i>ITTO Position</i>
<p>1. Include <i>Cedrela spp.</i> In Appendix II</p>	<p><b>Guyana:</b> <i>Cedrela odorata</i> (Red Cedar) is currently harvested or commercial purposes in Guyana and in accordance with stipulations under Appendix III. Van der Hout (2015) found that the current sustainable forest management regime is not detrimental to populations of <i>C. odorata</i> in Guyana; and therefore there are no clear grounds for inclusion in Appendix II.</p> <p>There are currently no other species of the <i>Cedrela</i> genus that are of commercial value in Guyana; there are no recorded occurrences of <i>C. lilloi</i> or <i>C. fissilis</i> which are also CITES-Appendix III listed for other South American countries.</p> <p><b>Peru:</b> Peru considers that its production of <i>Cedrela odorata</i> comes from well-managed forests and does not support its listing in Appendix II.</p>	<p><u>Qualified support</u> for the listing proposal based on evidence of consultation with and support from other range states and if listing proposal is confined to neo-tropical region like the mahogany listing since <i>Cedrela</i> is planted widely around the world.</p> <p>ITTO's species trade database contains little recent information on trade of <i>Cedrela spp.</i>, primarily due to no species trade data being provided recently by Peru (main exporter). Ghana reported 2000-3000 m3 exports of sawnwood in 2015-16 at average FOB prices of over \$US800/m3 (see above comment about importance of plantations).</p> <p>The ITTO-CITES Program funded the following projects on <i>Cedrela</i> from 2007-2016 which have contributed to improved management of the species in several range states:</p> <p>Phase I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of cedrela populations in Peru</li> <li>• Market study of <i>Cedrela odorata</i> in Bolivia, Brazil and Peru</li> </ul> <p>Phase II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of mahogany (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i> King.) and cedar (<i>Cedrela spp.</i>) seed stands in a forest concession for the conservation of the Tahuamanu Seed Stand in the province of Tahuamanu, Madre de Dios, Peru</li> <li>• Enhancing the Sustainable Management and Commercial Utilization of the CITES-listed Species <i>Cedrela odorata</i> (Red Cedar) in Guyana</li> <li>• Application of silvicultural treatments to encourage the establishment of natural regeneration of mahogany (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i> King) and cedar (<i>Cedrela spp.</i>) in areas under forest management in the province of Tahuamanu in Madre de Dios, Peru</li> <li>• Estimating age, growth rate and periodicity in cedar trees (<i>Cedrela odorata</i>) through dendrochronological methods to implement sustainable forest management in the Peruvian Amazon (Peru)</li> <li>• Diagnosis in domestic trade for export of mahogany (<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i> King.) and cedar (<i>Cedrela odorata</i>) for inclusion in the Appendices of CITES (Peru)</li> </ul>

2. Amend annotation #15 for <i>Dalbergia</i> spp., <i>Guibourtia demeusei</i> , <i>Guibourtia pellegriniana</i> and <i>Guibourtia tessmanii</i>	<b>Guyana:</b> Of all species of the <i>Dalbergia</i> genus listed in CITES Appendix II, eleven (11) are listed as occurring within Guyana. There is currently no great commercial exploitation of these species, especially not for timber use.	<u>Support</u> the proposal to amend the annotation, primarily to exclude finished musical instruments from the coverage of the listing. This was subject to substantive discussions in a working group and in the CITES Standing Committee and should be adopted, preferably with provision for training of customs officials and others charged with implementing the listing. ITTO provided trade information and details of support under the ITTO-CITES program for these species in our comments on the original listing proposals for COP 17.
3. Delete <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> from Appendix II	None.	<u>Qualified support</u> for the proposal provided India and other range states can provide evidence of the ability to identify this species in products in trade.

<p>4. Include <i>Handroanthus</i> spp., <i>Tabebuia</i> spp. and <i>Roseodendron</i> spp. in Appendix II with annotation #6</p>	<p><b>Guyana:</b> Of these three, <i>Tabebuia</i> has several species that may be utilised in Guyana for timber and commercial purposes such as White Cedar (<i>T. insignis</i> var. <i>insignis</i>) and <i>Hakia</i> (<i>T. capitata</i>; <i>T. serratifolia</i>; <i>T. subtilis</i>); but these species are rarely harvested if at all.</p> <p>However, the main conflict with this proposal is timber species <b>Washiba</b> (<i>Handroanthus</i> spp. - formerly <i>Tabebuia</i>) which is of great commercial value. There are no known occurrences of <i>Roseodendron</i> in Guyana. It is instead suggested that, if natural populations of these species (<i>Handroanthus</i> spp. <i>Tabebuia</i> spp. and <i>Roseodendron</i> spp) are threatened in other endemic countries, consideration be given to listing in Appendix III so that Guyana can continue to harvest <i>Washiba</i> commercially within our sustainable management regime.</p> <p><b>Peru:</b> Peru considers that its production of <i>Handroanthus serratafolius</i> comes from well-managed forests and does not support its listing in Appendix</p>	<p><u>Qualified support</u> for the listing proposal based on evidence of consultation with and support from other range states.</p> <p>ITTO's species trade database shows exports of <i>Tabebuia</i> and <i>Handroanthus</i> spp. (often grouped as "ipe") from Brazil, Guatemala, Guyana and Suriname in recent years (all sawnwood except for a small volume of logs from Guatemala). Brazil is by far the biggest exporter, averaging about 50,000 m3 per year of ipe sawnwood exports from 2013-16 at an average FOB value of just under \$US800/m3. Other exporters are all well under 5000 m3 per year. No data on <i>Roseodendron</i> trade recorded.</p>
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<p>5. Expand the scope of the annotation for <i>Pericopsis elata</i> (currently #5) to include plywood and transformed as follows: "Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood and transformed wood"</p>	None	<p><u>Support</u> that scope of annotation for <i>P. elata</i> be expanded to include plywood and transformed wood.</p> <p>ITTO's trade database shows no trade of plywood or further processed products like moldings of <i>P. elata</i> in recent years. It will be important that the definition of "transformed wood" for the expanded annotation (HS code 44.09) be clearly explained to customs and other officials responsible for implementing CITES.</p> <p>The ITTO-CITES Program funded the following projects on <i>P. elata</i> from 2007-2016 which have contributed to improved management of the species in several range states:</p> <p>Phase I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable management of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in forest concessions in Cameroon</li> <li>• Rehabilitation of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> plantation in Cameroon</li> </ul> <p>Phase II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law enforcement and management of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in production forests in Cameroon</li> <li>• Sustainable Management of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> towards the implementation of the simple management plan of the Bidou II plantation, in the Kienke South Forest Reserve, Cameroon</li> <li>• Pilot implementation of a DNA traceability system for <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in forest concessions and sawmills in Cameroon and Congo</li> <li>• Development of non-detrimental findings for <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in Democratic Republic of Congo</li> <li>• Promotion of the sivilculture of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in North Congo</li> <li>• Support for ANAFOR for optimum operation of the database management of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> (Assamela) in Cameroon</li> <li>• Establishment of an observatory of the exploitation of <i>Pericopsis elata</i> in Congo</li> <li>• Improving Sustainable <i>Pericopsis elata</i> Conservation and Trade Regulation in Ghana</li> </ul>

6. Include <i>Pterocarpus tinctorius</i> in Appendix II	None	<u>Qualified support</u> for the listing proposal based on evidence of consultation with and support from other range states.  ITTO has no data on this species in its trade database.
7. Include <i>Widdringtonia whytei</i> in Appendix II	None	<u>Support</u> the listing proposal since it is endemic to Malawi which has submitted and supports the proposal.  ITTO has no data on this species in its trade database.