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

Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Geneva (Switzerland), 17-28 August 2019

REPORT OF THE PRUNUS-AFRICANA RELATED DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE CITES TREES SPECIES REGIONAL MEETING FOR AFRICA (DECISIONS 17.25-17.252)

1. This document has been submitted by the Secretariat in relation to agenda item 80 on African cherry (*Prunus africana*).

2. The Annex of this document contains the report of the *CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Africa* in the United Republic of Tanzania from 11th to 15th of March 2019. During this meeting, range States who were awarded projects on *Prunus africana* presented the progress of their work in various contributions.

3. Furthermore, 1.5 days of the meeting were dedicated to complete the *Prunus africana*-related decisions 17.250 to 17.252. The agenda of the workshop can be found on pages 28 to 32 of the annexed report, the detailed minutes of the 1.5 days of *Prunus africana*-related discussions in English and French can be found on pages 33 to 42, and *Prunus africana*-related recommendations can be found on pages 14-16.

Report on Africa Regional meeting, CITES Tree Species Programme (CTSP) March 10-15, 2019, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Rapporteur: Ian Thompson

Meeting opening:

Participants were welcomed by Mr. Frederick Legate, CITES Management Authority from the host country of Tanzania, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, who thanked everyone for giving their time to attend this important meeting. He expressed the hope that advances could be made for CITES-listed tree species in trade through this meeting and the CITES Programme. He particularly noted the trade bans imposed on *Prunus africana* and *Osyris lanceolata*, two species that are of importance regionally, and especially in Tanzania. He highlighted the joint project on *Osyris* among Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda, who all share common issues with the species.

Opening Remarks - CITES

Ms. Milena Sosa-Schmidt, under whose capable direction the CITES Tree Species Programme (CTSP) is being administered, further welcomed participants. As the Programme Coordinator, she noted that, over the last 10 years, the number of tree species included in CITES has continued to increase following every Conference of the Parties. She then discussed the meeting purpose: to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions related to Appendix II for CITES tree listed species. During the meeting, information about how CITES works on tree species would be presented, including updates on the CITES Tree Species Programme work, notably of the progress made in Africa. There would be presentations on regional tree species products trade patterns in Africa and presentations from Burundi, Cameroon, Gabon, Nigeria, Togo, Benin, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Madagascar, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Côte d'Ivoire, explaining progress in the work on their respective project proposals. She explained that working groups would discuss in depth the topics of non-detriment findings, marking, traceability, products identification and capacity building and governance. Ms. Sosa-Schmidt noted that the priority for this meeting is to make progress on coordination of future work and finalize those proposals that still need revisions. She related the tremendous efforts and tireless support from the CITES Management Authority of Tanzania for this meeting, and especially thanked Mr. Joseph Otieno and Ms. Margareth Thadei. She also thanked Mr. Steve Johnson and Ms. Ishii Kanako, from the ITTO Secretariat, for leading the organization of the meeting, for liaising with Mr. Jean Lagarde, Africa Programme Coordinator, and colleagues from Tanzania, while also assisting many participants with the travel arrangements. Ms. Ishii organized the production of many materials to be used during the meeting, as well. She thanked Mr. Ian Thompson for his contribution to ensure that project proposals are robust and can be eligible for funding under the CTSP. In conclusion, Ms. Sosa-Schmidt invited Parties to share views on the value of this programme and on expressed the hopes that the CITES Tree Species Programme can become a permanent programme hosted by the CITES Secretariat with the continued collaboration with ITTO. She closed by asking for opinions about this concept from participants during these days in Dar-es-Salaam, and wishing all great success during the meeting.

Opening remarks – ITTO

On behalf of ITTO, Mr. Steve Johnson welcomed participants and thanked the host country, Tanzania, for making the meeting possible. He noted the great success of the 10 years of work under the ITTO-

CITES Programme for CITES tree species. He explained that their programme had also been funded primarily by the EC and the USA, and implemented through the ITTO Secretariat. The ITTO-CITES Programme spent more than $US15 million to assist countries to develop work on CITES-listed tree species, over its two phases. He noted that there is still a great lack of capacity in many developing countries to deal with the ever-increasing number of endangered and CITES-listed tree species, and especially those that are listed at the genus level. Mr. Johnson stressed the good working relationship between ITTO and CITES and noted that he expected the relationship to continue as the CITES Tree Species Programme (CTSP) develops further. He closed by saying that he looked forward to further progress in work on CITES-listed trees through this new CTSP.

Introduction of participants and adoption of the agenda

Following the welcoming and opening remarks, the session chair, Mr. Legate, requested the participants to self-identify including their agency and country (Appendix 1: attendees). Following these introductions, Mr. Legate then asked if there were any changes to be suggested to the agenda that was provided by CITES. There were no changes and the agenda was adopted (Appendix 2: agenda).

Session 1: Tree species in CITES and overview of the CITES Tree Species Programme in Africa

Chair: Mr. Steven Johnson, ITTO, Yokohama, Japan

Presentation 1: Overview of recent CITES developments on tree species listed in CITES
Ms. Milena Sosa-Schmidt, CITES Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland

In this presentation, Ms. Sosa -Schmidt explained how plants are treated by CITES, including definitions and the manner in which species, subspecies, and populations can be regulated under CITES. It was noted that for Appendix ll, plant parts had to be explicitly included if necessary. Any plants listed under Appendices l or ll require export permits, which can be extended from 6 months to 1 year, if necessary. There are now >800 tree species listed by CITES, of which >600 are traded for timber. The history of listings and the most recent listing were provided during the presentation, by the CoP number for when they were listed. Despite the large interest in endangered trees however, there remains a broad institutional weakness for dealing with listed tree species, including often a lack of scientific authorities or management authorities for many species in many countries. There also remains the problem of very weak data for most of the tree species. It was noted that the Conference of the Parties (CoP) to CITES has provided advice on the making of non-detrimental findings reports (NDFs). The advice can be found in Annex 2 of document CoP 16.3, available at: HTTP://www.cites.org/eng/cop/15/doc/E15-16-03.pdf. The importance of population data and the use of proper conversion factors in the processing of wood are needed to properly estimate export quotas. There are now many Resolutions and around 45 Decisions addressing the work on listed species currently in effect following CoP 17. Current important species under regulation in Africa include the following examples:

- *Pterocarpus erinaceus* – Muninga
- *Prunus africana* – African Cherry
- *Dalbergia* spp. – Rosewoods and palisanders
- *Dyospiros* spp. – Ebonies
- *Osyris lanceolata* - African sandalwood
- *Guibourtia* spp. – African rosewood, Bubingas
- *Pericopsis elata* – Afrormosia, Assamela

Presentation 2: Introduction to the CITES Tree Species Programme
Ms. Milena Sosa-Schmidt, CITES Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland

This presentation was meant to inform participants about the origin, extent and processes for the CITES Trees Programme. Ms. Sosa-Schmidt illustrated the 3 regions in which the Programme is operating, Central and South America and the Caribbean, Southeast Asia, and Africa, each with a regional coordinator reporting to the CITES Secretariat. She explained that the CITES Secretariat in 2006 had teamed with the Secretariat of ITTO and helped to implement the work of the of ITTO-CITES Programme that lasted 10 years and ended in 2016. She discussed how those 10 years of joint work with ITTO had provided the CITES Secretariat with a robust basis for launching the CTSP following the interest of the EU to fund this programme now through the CITES Secretariat. She further stressed the strong collaboration that endures between the two Secretariats. Most projects during the previous ITTO-CITES Programme were meant to assist countries to develop NDFs for main CITES listed tree species in trade.

The new CTSP, funded by the EU through the European Commission (EC) at 7 million euros, has the following objectives: 1.) to ensure the sustainable management of rare and valuable tree species and their products through improved technical and technological capacity; 2.) to contribute to legal and traceable trade in products from these tree species including technological advances in identification; 3.) to help improve and strengthen forest governance, policies for forest management, and enforcement capacity and ensure benefit from long-term support for forest management in areas with CITES species; and 4.) to promote rural development in often remote areas, sustainable economic growth at country level, a healthy private sector, and long-term poverty alleviation. The main focus for the CITES Tree Species Programme is to assist countries with developing NDFs for CITES listed species. From Africa, 39 proposals were received and, from those, Ms. Sosa-Schmidt expected that 8 will be finally funded shortly, following an earlier review process that involved screening by two scientific advisers. Although the CTSP is implemented by the CITES Secretariat, the collaboration and close work with the ITTO Secretariat will continue, for example the ITTO Secretariat has done an excellent job in organizing the three regional workshops and is also leading the production of the three regional studies on trade routes involving target CITES listed tree species. While originally scheduled to end in 2021, CITES will ask for a 1-year extension to end the Programme in 2022. Ms. Sosa-Schmidt noted that there are challenges in running the programme, including the protracted UN procedures to provide funding to projects. In that sense, she encouraged all Parties to be highly reactive and respond promptly to any requests for information or documentation related to their respective projects

Questions and answers based on presentations 1 and 2

Nigeria asked Ms. Sosa-Schmidt to elaborate on why an export permit validity could be changed from 6 to 12 months.
Steve Johnson and Ms. Sosa Schmidt explained that extensions could be obtained to enable time for transport of shipments that were delayed in ports and to account for obtaining a proper address for the permit. They noted that transit shipments are sometimes held for a period of time before re-routing.

Nigeria asked when will be the mid-term review take place, given the delays in programme implementation?
Ms. Sosa-Schmidt answered that it will also be delayed and be further planned once all contracts have been signed and dates of implementation of each project can be mapped out, in order to plan the

evaluation itinerary. She also noted that bank statements must be correct, because if not, then CITES cannot pay out the funds until this issue is clarified, further slowing project implementation. If a bank account is changed, then a project will be delayed because the contract has to be amended. Mr. Johnson added that, when a review is done, perhaps it might just review selected certain projects, and that they may also consider doing a terminal evaluation instead of mid-term review.

DRC asked about timelines once a contract is signed, when does the 2 years start? They also asked about the term "legal ownership" being used by CITES and why not use "legal origin"?
Ms. Sosa-Schmidt stated that the time starts from the date when the contract is signed. She followed that CITES uses the term "legal acquisition" but that she couldn't elaborate on the reasons to use this term and there were still ongoing discussions about it, for example again being discussed in a workshop on CITES and legal matters that was organized in Brussels in late 2018, with the aim to throw light on the use of this terminology. Mr. Johnson further added that "acquisition" means in compliance with laws of the country.

Tanzania asked when CITES regulates trade we say "timber", but wood products may be traded not as timber, for example as bark, so how does the regulation apply? They then asked how accountability will be assessed for jointly funded contracts among three countries, but where the funding is originally provided to one country, and what to do about overhead in those 2nd or 3rd countries?
Ms. Sosa-Schmidt answered that CITES regulations apply to all parts of "tree species as specified in the listing in Appendix ll through the use of an annotation". She noted that under the previous ITTO-CITES Programme, the title was changed from a "timber programme" to "tree species programme" and that was used during the 2nd phase from 2012 to 2016, to account for this issue.
For the second question, a contract is with one country and so that country is responsible to CITES; within a project, leading countries will have to arrange any secondary accountability and, in some cases, they may want to use sub-contracts when jointly implementing the project work with other Parties. For the issue of overhead, only 5% can be taken as administrative assistance, so if all 3 countries want the full 5%, then 15% would be required and this was not permitted. Kenya intervened to say that they understood no overhead could be charged and therefore overhead was waived in their case. CITES also noted that Governments were expected to also contribute and overhead should be a part of this in-kind contribution.

Gabon asked if the CITES focal points can be changed? They then asked what language to use for a contract; is there a problem with using French, for example, if it is the official language for the country?
Ms. Sosa-Schmidt responded that focal points can be changed but the lead focal point of the project in that country needs to inform the CTSP team immediately (please inform the Regional Coordinator, the Programme Coordinator, and the Programme Assistant).
For the second question, she answered that the contract with Gabon is to be in French, as that is the official UN language used to communicate with that country.

Presentation 3: An Overview of the CITES Tree Species Programme in Africa
Mr. Jean Lagarde-Betti, Regional Programme Coordinator for Africa, Yaoundé, Cameroun

This presentation related the global CITES Tree Species Programme to the African regional context. Mr. Lagarde stressed the importance of information and application of the following logical steps: 1.) knowledge of the resource/products (state of the art, identification, inventories); 2.) management measures (species or simple management plans, control, tracking system, possibility, export quota); 3.)

non-detriment findings (combination of results obtained from 1 and 2); and 4.) implementation of guidelines contained in management plans and NDFs (harvesting inventories, research with view to refine management parameters and setting harvesting norms).
The African component received 39 proposals and selected 8 (from 12 countries) for funding. The list of proposals to be funded is as follows (assuming all obligations can be met):

- **Benin-Nigeria-Togo:** Plan d'action et renforcement des capacités pour la gestion durable de *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (Fabaceae) au Bénin, Nigeria et Togo; **12 months**;
- **Burundi :** Renforcement des capacités des parties prenantes en vue d'une gestion durable de *Prunus africana,* **18 months;**
- **Cameroun :** Projet de plan d'action et d'actualisation de l'avis de commerce non préjudiciable en vue de la gestion durable de *Prunus africana*, espèce d'arbre listée en annexe II de la CITES au Cameroun, **24 months;**
- **Côte d'Ivoire:** Projet de sauvegarde de *Pericopsis elata* (Assamela) et de *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (bois de vêne) en Côte d'Ivoire, **24 months**;
- **Democratic Republic of Congo:** Projet de gestion de trois espèces d'arbres commercialisables inscrites dans l'annexe II de la CITES (*Pericopsis elata*, *Guibourtia demeusei* et *Prunus africana*) en République Démocratique du Congo, **24 months**;
- **Gabon:** Assessing the ecological dynamics, conservation status, and trade traceability of Kevazingo (*Guibourtia spp/G. tessmannii; G. pelegriniana*) timber species as first step for making non-detriment findings (NDFs) in Gabon, **24 months**;
- **Kenya-Tanzania-Uganda**: Conservation and sustainable management of *Osyris lanceolata* for economic development in East Africa, **24 months;**
- **MG (Madagascar)** Gestion durable de la population de *Prunus africana* de Madagascar: évaluation de stock, agroforesterie, technique de prélèvement et cadre règlementaire, **24 months.**

Presentation 4: Launching implementation of projects in Africa under the CITES Tree Species Programme
Ms. Milena Sosa-Schmidt, CITES, and Jean Lagarde-Betti, Regional Programme Coordinator for Africa

This presentation covered administration of the CTSP, due diligence (legal requirements), and focal points for the Africa projects. Ms. Sosa-Schmidt outlined the 21 steps to move funding from CITES to a project country and stressed the importance of rapid response to questions and the importance of establishing a separate bank account to receive and track the funds. She then related issues of due diligence and legality with establishing a contract to carry out the work.

Questions and answers following Presentations 3 and 4:

Togo asked if it was possible to provide a preferred template for NDF?
Answer: While there is no set format for an NDF, there is a weblink (see above) with several templates. Steve Johnson said that regardless of no common template, any NDF still needs a management plan, a map showing distribution of the species, physiological characteristics for an annual allowable harvest, rules for cutting, and an inventory, all of which leads to a quota; in other words, a forest management plan.

Cote d'Ivoire asked about the validation of proposals and funding and the document for a contract. Could they see the list of requirements because there is apparently a problem with Cote d'Ivoire contract?
Answer: What he can do is work on an email reply and request that the contract to be sent forward. Jean Lagarde noted that Cote d'Ivoire needs a bank account statement, and that there was also poor communications with the key person in Cote d'Ivoire. It has been unclear how the account was to be opened, as the contract will be under UNDP. Steve Johnson added that they (CTSP) just need to open an account, that is, a separate account for a CITES project.

Session 2: Expected projects in Africa under the CITES Tree Species Programme – organizing work and next steps

Chair: Mr. Jean Lagarde-Betti, Africa Regional Coordinator, CITES Tree Species Programme,

Presentation 5: An overview of regional tree species products trade patterns in Africa
Mr. Steve Johnson, ITTO, Yokohama, Japan

Mr. Johnson stated that ITTO has been carrying out regional trade studies on products from CITES listed tree species under CITES Trees Program. The objective is to analyze availability and reliability of existing trade statistics at national and international level and to estimate level of trade that may be occurring outside annotations where relevant. The species level data that are available at the international level are limited and the CITES trade database (based on permits) has various issues affecting the reliability of the data. Africa exports about $4 billion a year in wood and wood products, but of this, the trade in the CITES listed species is very low. For example, while there are about 4 million m^3 of logs exported annually, only 10,000 m^3 are *Pericopsis elata*, the trade in which declined precipitously after listing under CITES. Following listing, the trade in *Dalbergia* also declined and the latest figures show that only two species (*D. baronii* and *D. melanoxylon*) account for 85% of reported African *Dalbergia* trade. Mr. Johnson noted, however, that the statistics, particularly in the CITES database are somewhat unreliable. He showed data indicating the reported export and import data did not match very well, especially for CITES-listed species. CITES Parties that submit data in annual reports on trade in listed species generally deviate from CITES guidelines for reporting. The resulting deficiencies in the database are apparently caused by: 1.) the nature of the data presented is not clear (the actual quantity traded or the maximum amount allowed in the permits issued); 2.) origin of the material and the purpose of the trade is not included, or in cases where it is included, is ambiguous or contradictory; 3.) often standard units are not used (mixed or missing units makes trade analysis difficult); 4.) information on confiscated timber or confiscated specimens is frequently omitted or provided in insufficient detail; 5.) manufactured products information is lacking; 6.) product definitions are poorly defined or redundant/overlap (e.g., "timber" and "logs"; "extract" and "oil"); and 7.) no value information is requested or reported. Mr. Johnson made several recommendations, such as improved reporting to CITES in standard units, and concluded that ITTO's regular project program will continue working to support countries in general, to strengthen statistical capacity and that collaboration continues with the CTSP to improve statistics on CITES-listed tree species in trade.

Questions and answers following presentation 5

Cote d'Ivoire commented that a lack of training leads to mis-identification of data sent to CITES. Further that they train staff and then these people move and the expertise is gone.
Answer from Mr. Johnson: It is best if they could have continual training with a regular budget.

Democratic Republic of Congo stated that their data for 2017 and 2018 is complete and was sent to CITES. After 2017, DRC reformed their reporting and main issues of poor data were improved, and their data now complies with CITES requirements.

Tanzania commented that this was a good presentation and very helpful for their work. He highlighted the need for training in standard measurement units. From the presentation, he did not clearly understand recorded trade of wood vs. the actual figures exported.
Mr. Johnson noted that the main issue with these data seemed to be reporting of quotas instead of the actual export figure.

Session 3: Expected projects in Africa under the CITES Tree Species Programme – organizing work and next steps

Chair: Mr. Joseph Nicolao Otieno, Tanzania Department of Resources Management, Dodoma, TZ

The following 8 presentations were made by countries (and country groups) to explain their proposals, and the expected work that would be accomplished once the funding is received.

Burundi (Jean Rushmeza)
Title: Renforcement des capacités des parties prenantes en vue d'une gestion durable de *Prunus africana* (Capacity building of stakeholders for sustainable management of *Prunus africana*)
Main activities:

- Conduct a socio-economic survey of the local populations in Kibira NP and Bururi NWA;
- To educate the local population about the advantages of the introduction of *P. africana* in village production systems;
- Organize groups in the pilot project communities into *P. africana* production groups, with a special emphasis on women's participation;
- Establish nurseries and supervise production groups in pilot towns and plantations;
- Produce awareness tools;
- Conduct six education sessions about the socio-economic importance of *Prunus africana* for administrators and pilot communities.

Discussion:
Democratic Republic of Congo asked if working in a park might be a problem?
Answer: Under the first two phases, they learned how to do an NDF, so they can get stock and data from the park that will show that, because there is such a high growth of human populations outside the park, their effects on this species will be very apparent. That way, if the government then can understand that there is value in the forest, they will put more emphasis on the species, and apply these project results elsewhere in the country.

Cote d'Ivoire asked if they will put fertilizer and seedlings inside the park?
Answer: No, this is for outside protected areas only.

Cameroun (Daniel Amendé}
Title: Projet de plan d'action et d'actualisation de l'avis de commerce non préjudiciable en vue de la gestion durable de *Prunus africana*, espèce d'arbre listée en annexe II de la CITES au Cameroun (Draft

plan of action and update of the non-detriment finding for the sustainable management of *Prunus africana*, a tree species listed in Appendix II of CITES in Cameroun)
Main activities:

- Develop a report of the current state of research, current operating, management and processing procedures for *Prunus africana* at the environmental and socio-economic levels with an action plan;
- Update the NDF documents previously written for the different sites;
- Conduct research on topics related to the development of the *P. africana* harvesting standards;
- Synthesize studies and develop standards for the sustainable exploitation of *P. africana* both in natural and planted environments;
- Develop a summary of information on traceability systems for *P. africana* bark;
- Ensure the dissemination of project results; and
- Train stakeholders on standards for implementation and traceability systems.

Gabon (Donald Iponga)
Title: Assessing the ecological dynamics, conservation status, and trade traceability of Kevazingo (*Guibourtia spp/G. tessmannii; G. pelegriniana*) timber species as first step for making non-detriment findings (NDFs) in Gabon
Main activities:

- Conduct specific research on relevant topics related to the biology and ecology of Kévazingo tree species.
- Conduct a detailed state of the art document on conservation, management, harvesting regimes, transport, and trade regulation (control and traceability) of Kévazingo tree species and products.
- Draft a preliminary NDF and a realistic action plan/roadmap detailing activities to be conducted for making a final NDF.
- Organize a national workshop for the validation of the action plan and roadmap for the way forward

Discussion:
Tanzania asked why do you use two common names?
Answer: Common names differ between Cameroun and Gabon, so it is important that both understand what species we are dealing with. Jean Lagarde noted that there are currently three species of *Guibourtia* that are listed: *G. demeusei* (red bubinga), *G. tessmannii* and *G. pelegreniana* (pink bubinga); but in Cameroun, what gets cut is not always exported, but the two species are very similar (i.e., *G. tessmannii* and *G. pelegreniana*).

Benin-Togo-Nigeria (Sossa Barmabé, Benin)
Title: Plan d'action et renforcement des capacités pour la gestion durable de *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (Fabaceae) au Bénin, Nigeria et Togo (Action Plan and Capacity Building for the Sustainable Management of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (Fabaceae) in Benin, Nigeria and Togo)
Main activities :

- Review and validate the distribution, potential, management, exploitation, and commercialization of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* products;
- Develop and validate an action plan for the conservation of *Pterocarpus erinaceus*;
- Organize a sub-regional workshop to harmonize the methodology for project implementation

- Disseminate the action plan with a view to involving all stakeholders in the value chain for its implementation;
- Develop a preliminary non-detriment finding (NDF) of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* based on the current state of knowledge;
- Implement the NDF action plan and recommendations;
- Develop a national project for each country on *Pterocarpus erinaceus* during a second phase
- Organize a second regional workshop to report project results.
- Develop the final report of the project and the consolidated regional project.

Discussion:
Tanzania asked if language was an issue?
Answer (from Nigeria): No, it was not because we had translators and so we all understood what have to do.

Kenya-Tanzania-Uganda (Beatrice Khayota, Kenya)
Title: Conservation and Sustainable Management of *Osyris lanceolata* for Economic Development in East Africa
Main outputs:

- Status (research, management, ecological, and exploitable, control and monitoring, including ABS) of *O. lanceolata* in each country are well established
- Research relevant to management, such as standing stock and quota setting, for some selected sites are well defined
- Mechanisms for Identification/verification and, traceability are established
- Silviculture and domestication of *O. lanceolata* is well known
- An NDF report and realistic action plan well are developed and implemented.

Discussion:
Benin noted that the species regenerates slowly and there is a high demand, so at end of the project, will you have measures to ensure its proper regeneration?
Answer: The various Departments of Forests all have initiatives on propagation already so, yes we plan to develop these measures.

Gabon stated that there seems to be little data on this species and yet it was listed in but in Appendix ll, so how was the decision taken if there are no data?
Answer: All countries have illegal trade data showing that a lot is being traded, so we have much data suggesting declines.

Steve Johnson added that he had reviewed all of the listing proposals, and found no legal trade data but a lot of illegal trade data. So, if there is that much illegal trade, there must have been restrictions already in place that were being ignored. He asked if there was any information on where the markets are for *Osyris*?
Answer: They do not know. Uganda added that since the listing is 2013, they now have clients coming forward looking for permits to export, whereas previously this did not happen.

End of Day 1.

Day 2. Expected projects in Africa under the CITES Tree Species Programme – organizing work and next steps, continued from Day 1

Chair: Mr. Joseph Nicolao Otieno, Tanzania Department of Resources Management, Dodoma, TZ

Madagascar (Radanielina Tendro)

Title: Gestion durable de la population de Prunus africana de Madagascar : évaluation de stock, agroforesterie, technique de prélèvement et cadre règlementaire (Sustainable management of the *Prunus africana* population of Madagascar: stock assessment, agroforestry, harvesting technique and regulatory framework)

Main activities:

- Develop an inventory of harvesting
- Produce an inventory of the current management tools and identify any issues
- Produce an inventory of research at all levels
- Write an action plan
- Organize a feedback and validation workshop for the action plan
- Conduct research on targeted themes to propose standards for harvest and sustainable management
- Organize a summary workshop of the studies carried out
- Develop operating and management standards
- Organize a workshop to review and validate operating and management standards
- Collect and organize information on biology and ecology
- Identify and demarcate production sites
- Understand the production potential in each production site.
- Develop management plans and implement for each production site
- Develop and adopt an NDF document
- Organize an extension and training workshop for the staff of the MA and SA on monitoring of harvests
- Organize extension and training workshops for farmers and the local communities on harvest and sustainable management
- Organize a feedback workshop on the results of the project.

Discussion:

Tanzania asked since this was not their first assessment and trade was suspended in 2008, so now after 10 years, have there been some efforts to increase the species or some other efforts to conserve the species? And, secondly, what part of *Prunus* is harvested?

Answer: There is export of the bark but, before the ban, the local communities were also cutting trees for the wood. There were no real concrete conservation actions taken after the ban except a few studies from universities on the ecology only.

Democratic Republic of the Congo (Andy Mutoba)

Title: Projet de gestion de trois espèces d'arbres commercialisables inscrites dans l'annexe II de la CITES (*Pericopsis elata, Guibourtia demeusei* et *Prunus africana*) en République Démocratique du Congo (Project to manage three commercial tree species listed in CITES Appendix II (*Pericopsis elata, Guibourtia demeusei* and *Prunus africana*) in the Democratic Republic of Congo)

Main activities:

For *Pericopsis elata*:

- Conduct an in-depth study on the systematic conversion of volumes of processed products to equivalent volumes of roundwood using an appropriate conversion rate.
- Develop a fourth NDF.

For *Guibourtia demusei*:

- Develop an NDF and disseminate results to stakeholders.

For *Prunus africana*:

- Update NDFs in areas that previously had them.
- Develop NDF s for new areas in the north.

Discussion:

DRC comment that there are challenges *for P. africana*. Sometimes the terrain makes harvesting difficult, but they also have plantations in these areas in some local communities. In conflict areas in the north, local universities can collect data for the agencies. They already have some studies and previous NDFs and this project will update these and develop new ones for other areas. They have noted bark differences among areas, in terms of thicknesses.

Cameroun asked them to clarify the major risk; he noted that the area is landlocked and that security and distance from Kinshasa are a problem.
Answer: DRC realizes that these are challenges and there are difficulties to work with. But, while there are many challenges to deal with, the implementing agency is working with local groups and universities to overcome these sorts of problems.

Nigeria asked what makes bark of *P. africana* Important? And does the bark differ in thickness and why?
Answer: There is a difference in thickness among areas in mountains in the north (Kivu for example), but in lowlands, the species has thicker bark than in these upland areas. They do not know why, but these differences may result from soil conditions, leading to nutrient problems in mountainous areas. They are doing studies that will help understand this issue. *Prunus* contains active ingredient beneficial in humans to combat benign hypertrophy of the prostate gland in men.

Togo asked if anyone has ever tried to synthesize these compounds?
Answer: Yes, in Europe and Asia where the processing is done but it seems to be unsuccessful, although. it would be also useful to have local laboratories in order to keep value from processing in country.

Burundi added that pharmaceutical companies have told them that synthesis requires combining several varieties of *P. africana*, and so it is a problem making it almost impossible to synthesize all of the compounds in the right amounts.

Tanzania noted a study from 2011 indicating that leaves and bark have the same compounds, perhaps scaling this up might lead to an understanding of which are the active ingredients and if leaves could substitute for bark. Another similar species of tree in Tanzania that may have same compounds is *Oliana* sp.

Kenya asked if this a single project on three species, or three separate projects? And, if it is one project, how they intended to organize the three teams logistically?
Answer: This is a single combined project. Each species has own SA and different teams under each. However, there is a combined committee to oversee and direct the project.

Tanzania asked that because the DRC is a very large country, would this be a problem for implementation? And, further, if there are armed militias, is there any illegal exploitation going on, or perhaps are militias actually helping to protect the resource by keeping extractors out?
Answer: Work on *Prunus* is a security issue in the north (Kivu), and there is exploitation by LCs. But the logistical problems will be solved by using locals to do the sampling. Foreigners have issues being in the area but not the locals.

Cote d'Ivoire (Affi Boniface Roth)
Title: Projet de sauvegarde de *Pericopsis elata* (Assamela) et de *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (bois de vêne) en Côte d'Ivoire. (Project to protect *Pericopsis elata* (Assamela) and *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (bois de vêne) in Côte d'Ivoire)
Main activities :

- To conduct an inventory and mapping of stands of both species.
- To conduct stand improvement in some stands of both species
- To develop a management plan for each stand that is validated by all stakeholders
- To produce identification guides for *Pterocarpus erinaceus* and disseminated them.
- To develop NDFs for *Pterocarpus erinaceus*.
- CITES international regulation on both species is popularized
- To strengthen the capacities of forest and customs control services staffs.
- To form a Scientific Committee and strengthen its capacity to manage these species
- To conduct meetings among the stakeholders.

Discussion:
DRC stated that they did not talk much about *Pericopisis* in the presentation. So, is it not important or does an NDF exist?
Answer: *Pericopsis* is endangered and needs rehabilitation of populations, as is *Pterocaropus*, and there are no NDFs for either species.

Cameroun asked, when you talked about results, you said that the project will allow training of the Scientific Authority (SA), so does that mean that there is no SA now? Further, if not, how did you manage to do a proposal when there is no SA?
Answer: There is a SA, but we need experts on various other aspects as well. Teams for project will be multidisciplinary but, as yet, they do not well understand CITES. So, these people will require some training. In Cote d'Ivoire, forest research was handicapped by a competitive research system until the 80s, which was replaced now by new institutes that have very little forest focus. From now, we will start to enable more prominence for forest science by reviving research on these two species in particular.

Session 4: NDFs for CITES tree species and Decisions adopted on *Prunus africana* and *Osyris lanceolata*
Chair: Steven Johnson, ITTO, Yokohama, Japan

Presentation 6: Non-detrimental Findings for CITES tree species
Ms. Milena Sosa-Schmidt, CITES Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland

NDF reports are used by the CITES Scientific Authority (SA) to inform the Management Authority (MA) about proper management and when establishing harvest and export quotas for a given CITES-listed species. NDFs involve developing maps and inventories for a species, understanding its biology and ecology, setting quotas, monitoring harvest levels, and following a chain of custody through the exports

of products (CITES specimens). The Conference of the Parties to CITES has not agreed that Parties must implement a standard procedure when formulating their NDFs. However, the Conference of the Parties has indeed encouraged the Parties to follow the guidance provided to formulate an NDF and that is contained in the document CoP15 Doc. 16.3 Annex 2 on *NON-DETRIMENT FINDINGS FOR TIMBER, MEDICINAL PLANTS AND AGARWOOD - Principles for Non-detriment Findings (NDF) for TREES* (https://www.cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/cop/15/doc/E15-16-03.pdf). Ms. Sosa-Schmidt closed the presentation with the important point that, in order to establish a quota, detailed knowledge about a species' population is required.

Discussion:
Tanzania noted that CITES requests an NDF on a case by case basis, for example even for a separate export of samples of *Dalbergia*. Is there a mechanism that you can give for dealing with all EU countries to avoid the necessity for a case by case basis?
Answer: Individual Parties can have stricter rules or measures than the ones agreed by the CITES Conference of the Parties. But, there can be an annual NDF that can be used over and over again during that calendar year when, for example, using export quotas as a tool for administration. Nevertheless, the NDF should be updated annually, if those export quotas continue to be in use and, in any case, the NDF needs to be a reliable (trustworthy) report. Perhaps your MA can discuss this issue with the EU, noting that it is impossible to have a new NDF every time the MA issues an export permit for exporting tree species specimens or products.

ITTO: The best way forward is to talk to EU about an annual quota. So, there may be an ongoing correspondence, but the EU is fair if you can respond reliably.
Kenya made the comment that they have issues with sawn wood for manufacturers but not with wood carvings.

Cameroun asked, you said that there are no standards for an NDF, but in terms of procedure when the SA drafts an NDF, is there some sort of a formal validation procedure for these NDFs? For example, does CITES evaluate and comment?
Answer: There are several methodologies available, in some cases there are internal national committees that validate NDFs, while others do not validate at all. Each country works differently. I (Milena) did reviews up to 2017 and sent many NDFs back to countries for clarification. So, sometimes NDF reports, submitted to justify requested export quota volumes, are not acceptable and in those instances the CITES Secretariat can send those reports back with questions in order to further discuss with the Management Authority concerned. Otherwise there is no formal validation procedure.
Steve Johnson said one thing that is closely reviewed is any big change in quotas over time or even annually, then questions will be asked. So, while there may be no formal review, the NDFs will be looked at closely by importing countries.

DRC asked that, while there is no uniform procedure on NDFs, in training they were given steps (a 9 steps procedure) as the means to do an NDF, and how to go through all of the steps to provide a scientific NDF. But the training was very brief and we did not have enough practice. My question is: does the Secretariat try to develop a standard procedure, and will it show the required steps and then use steps as a basis for evaluation?
Answer: First of all, there is no mandatory template and the 9 steps procedure is just one of several guidance documents that are available to Parties. There is no obligation whatsoever to use the 9 steps format or any other format, for that matter. For example, the guidance mentioned and available in CoP15 Doc.16.3 Annex 2 is also not an obligation but rather a reference in case Parties find it useful.

Parties are sovereign, and the CoP cannot impose on them a procedure to follow, the current CoP15 guidance remains only a recommendation. The Secretariat's job is to implement the decisions of CoP that are directed to it. There is, however, a current recommendation to evaluate efficiencies of the various ways to develop NDFs.

Gabon stated that the workshop in question (i.e., noted by DRC above) was an initiative of Germany. Steve Johnson said they have funded several projects to develop guidelines as well as country projects on NDFs. However, In the end, all NDFs involve the same key points: – a management plan, an inventory, a quota, and a tracking system. In any case, parties are sovereign and need to show that they have a proper NDF but these formats may differ. Jean Lagarde reminded the group that an NDF is not a static procedure – it needs to be based on on-the-ground realities.

Decision at CoP and establishing working groups:
Chair: Martin Hitziger, CITES Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland

At this meeting, two working groups were formed to deliberate on certain CoP Decisions. These specific Decisions were: CoP17.250-17.252 for *Prunus africana* and Decision CoP16.153 (Rev. CoP17) to 16.154 (Rev. CoP17) on *Osyris lanceolata*. These Decisions provided the mandates for the working groups.

Assignment of Working Groups
Chair Mr. Martin Hitziger, CITES Secretariat, Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. Hitziger provided information for the 2 working groups, one on *Prunus* and the other on *Osyris*. The mandate for the *Prunus* group is given in – Decisions 17.250-17.252: mandate the Secretariat to hold workshops on methods for inventory, harvesting, monitoring/tracing and plantations. Parties have a mandate to provide information. Then, work will be compiled into a report with recommendations. He noted that there would be a side event on Day 3 evening on livelihoods from *Prunus*, and how to make trade more beneficial to LCs

For the working group on *Osyris*, the mandate is given in 16.153 to review and gather information on trade and to assess impacts. In other words, is there trade? If so, is it all illegal, etc.? What is impact of the trade? There should be a report to CoP on results. Decision 16.174 – indicates a need for consultative meetings, but that will not be done here.

Mr. Hitziger suggested that participants could choose whichever working group they wished, but that the *Prunus* group would have translation, while the *Osyris* group would be in English only. Working Group 1 on *Prunus* would be chaired by Cameroun, and Working Group 2 on *Osyris* by Kenya.

Discussion:
There followed a discussion to clarify group membership and the issue about a lack of scientists. Mr. Hitziger noted that for *Prunus*, there would be two scientific presentation via Skype.
Kenya asked if there is a reporting template?
Steve Johnson replied that the main concern is to address CoP decisions. Milena Sosa-Schmidt added that there is no format. Working Group chairs were asked to limit the recommendations to a few only.

Following this discussion, the participants broke into working groups, to report back to plenary with reports and recommendations by Day 3 and 15:30.

End of Day 2.

Day 3.

Working Group Reports for *Prunus* and *Osyris*
Chair: Jean Lagarde, Africa Programme Coordinator

The reports of the two groups are appended to this report (see Appendix 3 and 4). There was no discussion among participants of the reports by the rapporteurs from either working group.

Recommendations from Working Group 1 on *Prunus africana*:
Chair: Daniel Amendé, Cameroun

The report is appended as Appendix 3. Except where specified, recommendations are for Parties.

Three recommendations were made on inventory methods:

- A systematic grid-based design is the recommended method for inventory as follows:
    - For management inventories, a systematic grid-based design should be used at the level of the sampling plot (0.5 ha); but the classical method which consists of systematically counting all stems found in all sampling plots is required;
    - For logging or harvesting inventories, a systematic grid-based design should be used at the level of the annual harvesting plot (i.e., 50 ha, 100 ha, or 200 ha).
- Importing countries are encouraged to work with range States on resource inventories to build confidence and avoid criticisms about the validity of the methods applied.
- Inventories should include surveys of cultivated resources or agroforestry resources of *Prunus africana* (e.g., in plantations). Due to the small extent of most plantations, inventories should include sampling of all the trees.

Six recommendations were made on sustainable harvesting techniques:

- On the basis of a precautionary approach, it is recommended to use rotations of 7 years for half rotation and 14 years for a complete rotation. If applicable, the duration of the rotation period should be based on local studies and adapted according to the recovery rates observed.
- The minimum diameter at breast height (dbh) for harvesting a tree should be 30 cm. The bark must be harvested 1 m above ground up to the level of the first large branch.
- The harvest should not destroy the cambium of the tree.
- The recommended harvesting method is to harvest two quarters of the bark on opposite sides of the trunk. Follow-up studies should verify if this method is detrimental to tree survival in certain climates.
- In plantations or agroforestry, the bark of the trunk should be protected by adequate means, such as soil mixed with cow dung, manufactured products, or other suitable products to protect against insects or infections.
- Studies should determine harvest seasons that are least harmful to trees.

Four recommendations were made on marking and traceability systems:

- Long-term scientific studies based on representative sampling plots should be used to assess rotation periods for sustainable harvesting methods and to monitor the impacts of harvesting.

- The Scientific Authorities should regularly inspect harvesting concessions and plantations or agroforestry systems of *Prunus africana* to monitor the impacts of harvesting and compliance with recommended harvesting practices.
- Parties should use appropriate and cost-effective technologies and methods, such as bar codes, star dusts, or genetic approaches, in combination with standardized packaging to effectively label and trace *Prunus africana* material from the harvest to the point of transforming it.
- Donors, including CITES and ITTO, are urged to support continued sampling efforts of *Prunus africana* populations, as a prerequisite for rigorous genetic tracing of bark material.

Five recommendations on plantations and agroforestry:

- Regeneration in the wild should take priority over agroforestry systems, which in turn are preferable to monoculture plantations.
- Management of the species in the wild requires funding, such as from regeneration or reforestation fees collected by certain range States. Parties should, however, ensure that funds from these taxes benefit the regeneration of the species in the wild.
- More attention should be paid to the informal and future small-scale use of *P. africana* resources in private plantations or community forests. Parties should consider these resources in their inventories and management plans and gather basic information on these resources.
- If landowners or communities receive information, market access, and opportunities to obtain export permits, resources from these sources could support local livelihoods and conservation. The working group recommends exploring mechanisms for providing such information, access and authorizations, such as registration and labeling, and small professional farms or community associations.
- Parties should consider exploring the possibility of developing national processing capacity for added value before the first export of products.

Recommendations from Working Group 2 on *Osyris lanceolata*

Chair: Ms. Beatrice Khayota, Kenya

The working group's report is attached as Appendix 4. All recommendations are for the CITES Secretariat and ITTO, jointly through the CTSP or other means.

Conservation and ecology:

- Development and capacity building are needed for DNA level technology to distinguish *Osyris* from look-alike species and to detect within species variation.

Distribution:

- Maps of distribution should be updated to be current.

Habitat:

- Studies are required to better understand host species and possible specificity among various *Osyris* spp. and sub-species.
- Research is needed to improve the ecological understanding of the species, including the role that it plays in ecosystems.
- There is a need to understand present and past amounts of habitat with mapping.

Population:

- There is a need for population census, including structure and age to provide baseline values for proper management.

Threats:

- There is a need to develop mechanisms for mitigation of habitat loss relative to the various threats.

Use and trade:

- The is a need for mechanisms and techniques for traceability and to enable chain of custody.
- Countries should consider listing this species (and others) under new or existing endangered species legislation.

Habitat conservation:

- There is a need for population census, monitoring, and modelling
- There is a need to improve capacity to propagate the species
- Areas should be gazetted for protecting the species.

Other recommendations to assist in developing NDFs and management:

- There is a need to develop best practices for harvesting and regeneration based on a better understanding of the ecology and population dynamics of the species.
- There is a need to broadly apply the precautionary principle until improved information on population is available and management plans are prepared and implemented

In plenary, there was no substantive discussion of the recommendations from either working group.

End of Day 3.

Day 4:

Establishing four working groups on: NDFs, Marking and traceability, Tree species product identification, and Capacity building and governance.

Ms. Sosa-Schmidt divided the participants into the above four working groups. The groups went to separate rooms to discuss their tasks, with reports from each scheduled for Day 5 morning in plenary.

End of Day 4.

Day 5:

All four working groups provided their reports in plenary
Chair: Mr. Jean Lagarde-Betti, African Programme Coordinator, CTSP

Recommendations from the Working Group on NDFs:
Chair: Mr. Bakut Ayuba Turman, Nigeria

The working group's report is attached as Appendix 5. The working group made the following recommendations:

- Parties should bring together, under the auspices of CITES SAs, all relevant agencies and local communities to participate in NDF processes for each identified species of concern, to share information, relevant techniques and to discuss NDF formulation.
- CITES, Parties, and ITTO should undertake training (capacity building) of Border Control officers, Customs officers, Police, Phytosanitary Agencies, and other relevant regulatory authorities on

NDF processes, including identification of traded materials, control and verification of trade permits and the basis for species listing in CITES Appendices.

- National Laws and regulations should be the basis of a sound NDF, therefore Parties need to define the objective of the NDF based on resource governance.
- There is need to enhance capacity building for Parties in development of NDFs through:
  - Designating at least one Scientific Authority per species;
  - Designated SA(s) to strengthen their working relations with other relevant and competent authorities including Customs agents and also involving local communities;
  - Training on NDF procedures for both MAs and SAs.
- Parties should involve rural/local communities in the NDF process and build their capacities in sustainable harvesting techniques and methods.
- Parties should share and disseminate results of NDFs for appreciation of recommendations thereof and as necessary, develop intervention measures for the subject species (*Prunus africana, Osyris lanceolata, Pterocarpus erinaceus, Pericopsis elata*, among other species) both CITES and Non-CITES Listed.
- Parties are encouraged to formulate their NDFs, determine and set respective voluntary annual quotas for subject species and communicate to the Secretariat early enough (latest 31st January) for publication of the same.

Discussion:
Kenya commented that, as a regional representative on the CITES Plants Committee, they have made many recommendations for NDFs but these are never implemented due to lack of funds. She noted that ITTO partners with only member countries, but CITES is not so restricted and so this programme is excellent for non-ITTC members. NTFPs are important as well as is timber. This needs to be a continuous process, because the number of listed species is only increasing. So, in conclusion, the CTSP is an important programme.

DRC noted that he saw no recommendation that NDFs are important for trade. Most parties cannot develop NDFs, so we need a recommendation to help countries to develop NDFs because without one exporting cannot be done. NDFs needs to be participatory, as well, to ensure that we are not missing aspects.
Jean Lagarde indicated that it is not just timber species, products can be extracts, parts, etc. An NDF is a sovereign report, but always dependent on external funding. However, countries themselves need to consider having a fund to develop NDFs, after all this is about trade and so there is considerable money involved. In Cameroun for example, they have now a special fund to deal with NDFs. So countries should have internal funding as a recommendation. The CTSP is about capacity building, so it is not just about NDF funding; the idea is to provide the ability to conduct an NDF and not just funding for all NDFs.
Steve Johnson said that many countries are not in ITTO, and so they cannot work with those countries. This is a good reason for work at CITES, but it is not hard to join ITTO. He agrees that countries should pay for their own NDFs, but recognizes that this is not always possible. Studies are important and need funding as well. So, countries should consider joining the ITTO who can then assist member countries. He stressed that the Africa payment is low, only $US 50-60 K/year and certainly countries get funds back in project assistance. Under the first phases of the ITTO-CITES Programme, many projects involved NDFs; maybe in the future, it would be worthwhile to look at commonalities among past NDFs and what were the challenges.
Milena Sosa Schmidt agreed with this last point and suggested that a recommendation might be made to have ITTO produce a summary study from past work done under the ITTO-CITES Tree Programme on NDFs.

Recommendations from the Working Group on Marking and Traceability:
Chair: Mr. Midoko Ipongo, Gabon

The working group report is attached as Appendix 6. The working group made the following recommendations:

- CITES should provide guidance on traceability/marking systems for different categories of products from listed tree species.
- The CTSP should prioritize future funding for traceability/marking projects (including further development/implementation of genetic and other modern technologies) and assist in the establishment of a reliable traceability system for each CITES-listed species.
- Simple and effective systems for tracing/marking non-solid wood products should be developed and tested.
- Regulation of mills by Parties should be strengthened (including through chain of custody certification, where relevant) to allow better tracking of finished wood products.
- Tracking of products from CITES-listed tree species should continue to the final market/point of processing.
- Databases of the main legitimate importers of products from CITES-listed tree species should be developed.
- Measures should be taken to ensure that officials responsible for forest traceability systems and monitoring in general have high integrity (e.g., reasonable salary, good working conditions, oath of office, harsh punishment for corruption, etc.).
- Governments should have overall responsibility for forest monitoring and regulation, including traceability/marking systems. However, the effectiveness of traceability/marking systems can be enhanced by involving suitable independent observers in their oversight and implementation.

Discussion:
Milena Sosa-Schmidt recalled that a compilation of techniques was done some time ago, but that perhaps it is time to redo this work. Does that publication not address your first recommendation? Steven Johnson said that guidance has limits because they do not talk about which are best for species or for various plant parts. Probably we need a new compilation, with case studies, for what worked and what did not. So, maybe we need a new recommendation for an expanded summary report on what tracking techniques are best for various products.

Recommendation from the Working Group on Identification:
Chair: Mr. Joseph Otieno, Tanzania

The working group report is attached as Appendix 7. The working group made the following recommendations:

- Continuous training of customs and technical staff in identification is required by Parties.
- The CTSP and ITTO should fund basic research to establish clear biological taxonomy of listed species.
- Parties should engage the World Customs Organisation to consider distinct trade codes for CITES-listed trees and their products.
- Parties should consider the use of advanced identification techniques, such as spectroscopy imaging and DNA analysis in identification of wood material, especially at customs points.
- Parties should develop and disseminate, with funding from the CTSP, identification manuals of CITES listed products at all border points for ease of basic identification.

- The CTSP and/or ITTO should conduct an assessment of which tools are available for identification of the different African tree species and their products and develop a summary report.
- Parties should put in place joint databases to address challenges on data sharing and material exchange.
- Parties should establish regional specialized laboratories for identification with different technologies and techniques.

Discussion:
Milena Sosa Schmidt said countries cannot always outsource their plant identification. Clearly what is needed is some centre of African expertise in these tree identification techniques. In other words, they need a laboratory here to do this kind of work. She noted that Madagascar has developed a wood anatomy laboratory, but is the only one that has done so. At a central lab, there would be a requirement for only one of any type of machine rather than many spread over several countries.
Uganda stated that they did talk about regional labs, but concluded that insufficient expertise and funding were available.
Madagascar stated that they have a national laboratory with DNA capacity, anatomy, and spectrophotometry. So, in fact, this could become a regional laboratory and centre of excellence.
Jean Lagarde noted that a regional centre would require some sort of joint regular funding.
Kenya suggested that if parties would be sending materials to regional labs, that the lab would need reference materials. So, a recommendation to exchange samples should be included.

Recommendations from Working Group on capacity building and governance:
Chair: Mr. Crispin Mahamba

The working group report is attached as Appendix 8. The working group made the following recommendations:

- The CTSP, ITTO and other donors should assist Parties to develop capacity for all stakeholders in project planning, monitoring, and evaluation.
- Parties need to strengthen the regulatory framework for the harvesting and trade of CITES-listed species.
- The CTSP should organize and fund regional experience sharing workshops.
- The CTSP should fund the organization of a mid-term evaluation workshop for each project.
- Parties should establish a national and/or regional committee to combat illegal trafficking in species, the purpose of which would be to share data and information and coordinate activities.
- There is a need for the establishment of identification laboratories for CITES species and their products.
- Parties and the CTSP should provide increased capacity building for customs and enforcement officers in intelligence techniques.

Discussion:
Jean Lagarde asked what is their reason for mid-term review recommendation?
Answer: it was meant to review the projects to determine if there are issues and to see if they can be corrected before the final reports. They were thinking of regional workshops but realize that there are financial issues.

Cote d'Ivoire suggested that regional governance requires a platform for regional identification.
Jean Lagarde said there would be a need for a major regional project to run a regional set of laboratories with some form of secure long-term funding arrangement. He suggested that such a global or regional project should be scheduled for at least 5 years, to better assess the dynamic features and the effect of harvesting of the resource. One cannot, in 2 years, come out with robust results for management parameters.
Gabon noted that there are some existing laboratories already, but maybe little or no collaboration has been occurring.
Cote d'Ivoire said they have worked on wood anatomy, but if there was regional cooperation, this would be much better. There is also a need to understand what information exists and where it is located now.

Session 6: Future Work
Co-Chairs Mr. Steve Johnson and Ms. Milena Sosa-Schmidt

The co-chairs opened this final session by asking if there were any suggestions from participants, on future work that that is needed, for example to implement CITES or the CTSP. They clarified that there is no new funding, but recommendations are for the future.

Steve Johnson noted the need for joint work between ITTO and CITES to provide good case studies on NDFs and traceability of CITES-listed tree species for guidance to parties.

DRC stated that we should see how joint projects could be arranged to work on the same species simultaneously among several countries, also that a mid-term evaluation of projects is important. Perhaps at mid-term, the Programme Coordinator could do the project reviews.

Steve Johnson recommended that the final report clean up the working group recommendations to reduce overlap and that recommendations should go into main body of report.

Gabon supported this idea to have recommendations in main body of report. He went on to suggest that there should be a final regional project workshop, but if no resources are available, then we can do mid-term reviews and make changes if needed.

Jean Lagarde agreed with Gabon, even if there is a funding issue, there could still be a regional workshop. Probably better as a mid-term recommendation and also use the event as a capacity building meeting.

Steve Johnson suggested that perhaps CITES or ITTO might try to raise some funds to do a final workshop meeting, or perhaps, CITES might use the currently allocated mid-term review funds to hold final regional workshops instead. Nevertheless, if CITES could hold a mid-term meeting, after a year, it would be a very good idea.

Kenya suggested that, for CoP18, attendees could plan to meet and share information, and that this would be one available opportunity, at least.

Steve Johnson agreed and said that there will be a CITES-ITTO side event on the programme for this CoP, as well as CITES Tree Programme Advisory Committee meeting. So, it would be effective to take advantage, wherever possible, at meetings to share information.

Steve, Milena, Jean agreed that at CoP 18 in May, it is important for this group to be as involved as possible, and *to please let Jean Lagarde know of you plan to attend*. They stated the importance of country feedback at the CoP to inform delegates from other Parties and donors about the importance and relevance of continuing the assistance to Parties to strengthen capacities in implementing CITES for CITES-listed tree species. Also, to please speak up if you think that asking the CoP to continue the collaboration between ITTO and CITES is important.

In summary the **recommendations** arising from the discussions on future work and endorsed by the regional meeting were:

- To hold an African regional meeting after one year.
- If there are insufficient funds, then to use mid-term funds to allow countries to share experiences or, if not, instead to use electronic communications, such as via an online meeting.
- To endorse all of the working group recommendations by including them in the main body of the report.
- To share information among Parties as opportunities arise, such as at regional or international meetings, such as CITES CoP 18.
- That collaboration between CITES and ITTO is important to continue and well-appreciated by the Parties, and that this point should be stressed to the upcoming CoP.
- That the CTSP consider funding a summary study from past work done under ITTO-CITES on NDFs
- That the CTSP consider funding a summary report on identification techniques for specific tree species.

Meeting closing:
Speakers: Milena Sosa-Schmidt, Steve Johnson and Joseph Otieno.

Ms. Sosa-Schmidt thanked all participants for attending, for their hard work, and while it was a long week, much good work was well accomplished. She expressed the hope that all participants enjoyed the meeting. She noted that ITTO provided funding and the well-done organizing of this workshop. She then thanked interpreters for their excellent work.

Mr. Johnson said that he both enjoyed and was inspired by meeting. He hoped that some countries might now be willing to join ITTO. He then wished all a safe trip home. He thanked Ms. Kanako Ishii for her tireless work and especially for dealing with the many cancelled flights, as a result of the tragedy at Ethiopian Airlines earlier this week.

Mr. Otieno said that he appreciated that the organizers had selected Tanzania for this meeting. It was a wonderful time to meet new colleagues from Africa that had he not met previously. Tanzania is not a member of ITTO but, now, he will discuss joining with the appropriate people in his Ministry. He closed the meeting by wishing that all participants have a safe flight home.

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1. List of participants.

List of participants
CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Africa
11-15 March 2019, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

as of 14 March 2019

Party participants (sponsored)				
NO	**COUNTRY**	**NAME**	**TITLE/INSTITUTION**	**EMAIL ADDRESS – TEL.**
1	Benin	Mr. SOSSA Barnabé	MA – Membre de l'organe de gestion CITES Directeur des Politiques, du Contrôle de l'Exploitation Forestière et du Contentieux, Membre de l'Organe de Gestion CITES-Bénin Direction Générale des Eaux, Forêts et Chasse.	E-mail: sossbarn@yahoo.fr
2	Burundi	Mr. Jean RUSHEMEZA	Project Lead – Autorité Scientifique CITES Burundi	Tel: 257 77756707 E-mail: rushemj1@yahoo.fr
3	Cameroon	Mr. AMENDÉ Daniel	Ingénieur des Eaux et Forêts, Deputy Director/Sous-directeur des Agréments et la Fiscalité Forestière Forest Department/Direction des Forêts, Cites Flora National Autority/Organe de Gestion Cites Flore, FLEGT-VPA Managment Authority Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife/Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune, Yaoundé-Cameroun	Tel: +237 699 51 59 09 Email: danielpipiyes@yahoo.fr
4	Côte d'Ivoire	Mr. AFFI Boniface Roth	MA – Ingénieur des Eaux et Forêts Direction de la Faune et des Ressources Cynégétiques, Ministère des Eaux et Forêts , Côte d'Ivoire.	Tel: 225 49002868 - 01385604 Email: bonifaceroth@hotmail.fr; dfrcminef@yahoo.fr
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6	Gabon	Mr. MIDOKO IPONGA Donald	Project Lead – Chargé de Recherche (Cames) Institut de Recherche en Ecologie Tropicale (IRET) Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique et Technologique (CENAREST), Libreville, Gabon,	Tel: 241 05 68 44 50 E-mail: dmiponga@gmail.com
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			Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities.	
19	Uganda	Mr. Issa Katwesige	Project Lead – Department of Wildlife Conservation, Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities.	E-mail: issakatwesige@gmail.com
Participants sponsored separately although with funds of the CITES Tree Species Programme				
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22	CITES	Mr. Martin Hitziger	Plant Species Officer, Scientific Services	Martin.Hitziger@un.org
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25	Rapporteur	Mr. Ian Thompson	Consultant for ITTO and CITES Tree Programmes	ian.thompsonforest@gmail.com

Appendix 2. Agenda adopted of the meeting.

CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Africa

11-15 March 2019
Dar es Salaam Serena Hotel
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Agenda

DAY 1 – Monday, 11 March 2019	
TIME	***Event* - CITES Tree Species Programme Regional Meeting for Africa**
8:00 – 9:00	**Registration**
9.00 – 10.00	**Welcoming Address**
Milena Sosa Schmidt – CITES *Steve Johnson – ITTO* *(EU Representative tbc)*	
Opening Remarks	
- Frederick Ligate - CITES Management Authority of Tanzania	
Introduction of Participants and Adoption of the Agenda	
CITES Management Authority of Tanzania	
10:00 – 10:25	***Photo Session and Coffee Break***
10:25 – 11:45	**Session 1: Tree species in CITES and Overview of the CITES Tree Species Programme in Africa.**
Chair: *Steve Johnson, ITTO*	
Overview of Recent CITES Developments on tree species listed in CITES - Milena Sosa Schmidt, CITES.	
Introductory Session on the CITES Tree Species Programme - Milena Sosa Schmidt, CITES.	
An Overview of the -CITES Tree Species Programme in Africa. – *Jean Lagarde, Regional Coordinator for Africa*	
Launching implementation of projects in Africa under the CITES Tree Species Programme.	
- Milena Sosa Schmidt – CITES and Jean Lagarde, Regional Coordinator for Africa	
11.45 – 12.30 Open discussion	
12:30 - 14:00	***Lunch***
14:00 – 15:00	**Session 2: Expected projects in Africa under the CITES Tree Species Programme – organizing ongoing work and next steps.**
Chair: *Jean Lagarde, Regional Coordinator for Africa*	
An Overview of Regional Tree Species Products Trade Patterns in Africa.	
Progress report on regional trade study - Steve Johnson – ITTO	
15:00 – 16:00	**Session 3: Expecting projects in Africa under the CITES Tree Species Programme – organizing ongoing work and next steps.**

Chair: *Joseph Otieno, Scientific Authority for Tanzania*	
Burundi: Renforcement des capacités des parties prenantes en vue d'une gestion durable de *Prunus africana.*	
- Jean Rushemeza*; Project Team Leader /Implementing Agency*	
Cameroon: Projet de plan d'action et d'actualisation des avis de commerce non préjudiciable en vue de la gestion durable des espèces d'arbres listées en annexe II de la CITES au Cameroun**.**	
- Daniel Amen*dé*, *Project Team Leader /Implementing Agency*	
Gabon: Assessing the ecological dynamic, conservation status, and trade traceability of Kewazingo (*Guibourtia* spp.) timber species as first step for making non-detriment findings (NDFs) in Gabon.	
- Donald Midoko Iponga*; Project Team Leader /Implementing Agency*	
16:00 – 16:15	***Coffee Break***
16:15-17:15	**Session 3: Expecting projects in Africa under the CITES Tree Species Programme – organizing ongoing work and next steps. (continues)**
Nigeria, Togo and Benin: Sensibilisation et renforcement des capacités pour la gestion durable de *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (Fabaceae) au Bénin, Nigeria, et Togo.	
- Barmabé Sossa (Benin)/Balakyèm Awesso (Togo)*; Project Team Leader /Implementing Agency*	
Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda: Conservation and sustainable management of *Osyris lanceolata* for economic development in East Africa.	
- Beatrice Khayota (Kenya)/Joseph Nicolao Otieno (Tanzania)/Issa Katwesige (Uganda)*; Project Team Leader /Implementing Agency*	
18:00	***Welcome dinner at "Kivukoni 2"***

DAY 2 – Tuesday, 12 March 2019	
9.00 – 10.00	**Session 3: Expecting projects in Africa under the CITES Tree Species Programme – organizing ongoing work and next steps. (continues)**
Madagascar: Gestion durable de la population de *Prunus africana* de Madagascar : évaluation de stock, agroforesterie, technique de prélèvement et cadre règlementaire.	
- Tendro Radanielina*; Project Team Leader /Implementing Agency*	
Democratic Republic of the Congo: Avis de Commerce Non Préjudiciable de *Pericopsis elata*, *Guibourtia demeusei*, et *Prunus africana* en République Démocratique du Congo.	
- Crispin Mahamba Kamate; Project Team Leader /Implementing Agency	
Côte d'Ivoire: Projet de sauvegarde de *Pericopsis elata* (Assamela) et de *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (Bois de vêne) en Côte d'Ivoire.	
- Tchidé Antoine Augou*; Project Team Leader /Implementing Agency*	
10:00 – 10:15	***Coffee Break***
10:25 – 11:25	***Session 4: Non-detriment findings for CITES tree species and Decisions adopted at CoP17 on Prunus africana and on Osyris lanceolata***
Chair: *Steve Johnson, ITTO*	
Non-detriment findings for CITES tree species - Overview - Milena Sosa Schmidt, CITES.	
Decisions 17.250 to 17.252 African cherry *(Prunus africana*) and Decisions 16.153 (Rev. CoP17) to 16.154 (Rev. CoP17) East African sandalwood (*Osyris lanceolata*) - Martin Hitziger, CITES.	
Questions and discussion	

11:25 – 12:00	***Session 4: Decisions adopted at CoP17 on Prunus africana and on Osyris lanceolata* (continue).**
Working groups – Mandate and composition	
Establishment of Working groups on *Prunus africana and on Osyris lanceolata*	
Chair: - *Martin Hitziger, CITES*	
12:00 – 12:30	***Session 4: Decisions adopted at CoP17 on Prunus africana and on Osyris lanceolata* - Working groups (continue).**
WG 1 : Chair*: Daniel Amendé* **Working group 1: *Prunus africana*: implementation of Decision 17.250: produce recommendations, among others, on methodologies to be used for inventories (including regarding the sampling design and the inventory data set), sustainable harvesting techniques, monitoring and traceability systems, and perspectives in terms of developing plantations or agroforestry systems as a possible complementary mean of producing bark of *Prunus africana* in a sustainable manner, as well as any other relevant issues.**	
WG 2 : Chair*: Beatrice Khayota* **Working group 2: *Osyris lanceolata*: implementation of Decision 16.153 (Rev. CoP17): a) review the conservation status of, trade in and use of Osyris species and look-alike species and, assess their impact in the conservation status of *Osyris lanceolata*; b) assess the data required to make non-detriment findings following the existing guidance; c) identify mechanisms to help build capacity to carry out non-detriment findings for currently-listed populations; and contribute with latest information to the e) report for the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.**	
12:30 - 14:00	***Lunch***
14:00 – 17:30	**Session 4: Working groups on *Prunus africana and on Osyris lanceolata* (continue).**
DAY 3 – Wednesday, 13 March 2019	
TIME	***AGENDA ITEM***
9:00 – 10:45	**Session 4: Working groups on *Prunus africana and on Osyris lanceolata* (continue).**
10.45 – 11.00	***Coffee Break***
11.00-12.30	**Session 4: Working groups on *Prunus africana and on Osyris lanceolata* (continue).**
12:30 - 14:00	***Lunch***
14:00 – 15:30	**Session 4: Working groups on *Prunus africana and on Osyris lanceolata* (continue).**
15:30 – 17:30	**Session 4: Working groups on *Prunus africana and on Osyris lanceolata* – Working group reports.**
Chair*: - Martin Hitzinger, CITES*	
	Working group 1 - *Prunus africana*: report.
	Working group 2 - *Osyris lanceolata*: report.
Questions and discussion	
18:00 – 19:00	**Side event - *Prunus africana – Sustainable management and livelihoods***

DAY 4 – Thursday, 14 March 2019	
TIME	***AGENDA ITEM***
9:00 – 10:30	**Session 5: CTSP - Working groups.**
Working groups – Mandate and composition	
Establishment of Working groups	
Chair: **-** *Milena Sosa Schmidt – CITES*	
10.30 – 10.45	***Coffee Break***
10.45-12.30	**Session 5: Working groups (continue).**
WG 1 : Chair*: Bakut Ayuba Turman, Nigeria* **Working group 1: Non-detriment Findings (NDF): Identification of gaps and lessons learned and recommendations of follow-up activities, including new target species and work lines. Towards the formulation of a NDF at the end of your CITES tree species project.**	
WG 2 : Chair*: Donald Iponga, Gabon* **Working group 2: Marking and traceability: Identification of gaps and lessons learned and recommendations of follow-up activities, including new target species and new work lines and activities. Towards the implementation of a new system at the end of your CITES tree species project.**	
WG 3 : Chair*: Joseph Otieno, Tanzania* **Working group 3: Tree species product identification: Identification of gaps and lessons learned and recommendations of follow-up activities, including new target species and new work lines and activities. Towards the identification of the target tree species products at the end of your CITES tree species project.**	
WG 4 : Chair*: Crispin Mahamba Kamate, DRC* **Working group 4: Capacity building and Governance: Identification of gaps and lessons learned and recommendations of follow-up activities, including new target species and new work lines and activities. Towards ensuring that your CITES tree species project has created or strengthened capacities for the long term.**	
12:30 - 14:00	***Lunch***
14:00 – 17:30	**Session 5: Working groups (continued).**

DAY 5 – Friday, 15 March 2019	
9.00 – 10.30	**Session 5: Working group reports.**
Chair*: - Jean Lagarde, Regional Coordinator for Africa*	
	Working group 1: report.

	Working group 2: report.
	Working group 3: report.
	Working group 4: report.
10:30 – 10:45	***Coffee Break***
10:45 – 12.30	**Session 6: Future work and closure of meeting.**
Co- Chairs: *Steve Johnson, ITTO and Milena Sosa Schmidt, CITES*	
Identification of priority areas of work for a successful implementation of national projects funded under the CITES Tree Species Programme.	
All (open to debate and discussion)	
Preparation of the regional meeting report with conclusions and recommendations of the meeting.	
All	
Closure of the meeting - *CITES Secretariat* - *ITTO Secretariat* - *Mr. Joseph Otieno, Tanzania*	
12:30 – 14:00	***Lunch***
Afternoon	***Departure of participants***

Appendix 3. Report of the Working Group on *Prunus africana*.

English **Report of Working Group on *Prunus africana***

Working group on Sustainable management of *Prunus africana* – international workshop as requested by Decisions 17.250 – 17.252 (12-13 Mars 2019)

Participants of the workshop:

Daniel **Amende**	(Cameroon), Chair
Andy **Mutoba**	(DR Congo), Rapporteur
Crispin Mahamba **Kamate**	(DR Congo)
Jean **Rushemeza**	(Burundi)
Barmabé **Sossa**	(Benin)
Ayuba **Bakut**	(Nigeria)
Solomon **Kyalo**	(Kenya)
Boniface Roth **Affi**	(Cote d'Ivoire)
Tschide Antoine **Augou**	(Cote d'Ivoire)
Eric Jose **Robsomanitrandrasana**	(Madagascar)
Radanielina **Tendro**	(Madagascar)
Balakyèm **Awesso**	(Togo)
Issa **Katwesige**	(Uganda)
Donald **Mikodo Iponga**	(Gabon)
Margareth **Thadei Mwakilasa**	(Tanzania)
Jean **Lagarde**	(CTSP Regional Coordinator for Africa)
Martin **Hitziger**	(CITES Secretariat)

The workshop started at March 12, at 12am. The Chair assigned Mr. Mutoba the role of a rapporteur and introduces the schedule of the workshop. The first session is dedicated to four input presentations:

1. Dr. Ingram (Wageningen University, by videoconference) introduces her latest research on sustainable management of *P. africana*. Ms Ingram emphasised governance aspects, in particular complementarities and conflicts between various bodies of institutions and practices that influence *P. africana* management. According to her research, *P. africana* management is influenced in decreasing order by statutory regulation and international standards, project-based activities, corruption, customary regulation, and voluntary or market standards. Ms. Ingram also presented outcomes of her research that challenge current management assumptions: outdated inventory data, existence of cultivated *P. africana* populations, levels of national trade in the species, appropriate harvest methods, and levels of national use of the species. Ms. Ingram concluded with a call to raise awareness of the need of pluralistic and multi-sectoral governance approaches, *P. africana* cultivation, and international inventory and harvest standards.
2. Mr. Jean Lagarde, regional coordinator for Africa and researcher from Cameroon, presented his research on dendrological parameters, compliance with harvest regulations, growth and regeneration parameters, and harvest impact on *P. africana populations* in Cameroon. They

found only 7.5% of *P. africana* trees in exploitable diameter classes larger than 30cm. However, more than 30% of all trees were harvested, with breast height diameters averaging only 23cm. Compliance with the recommended two quarters technique was found at a minority of all inventoried trees, while major numbers were debarked entirely or on one complete half of their trunks. Overall, they found 91% of the inventoried trees to be harvested without respect to the recommended norms. Mr Lagarde presented growth rates as 0.5cm per year for the diameter class below 10cm, which rises up to 2.7cm per year for the diameter class beyond 30cm. Bark thickness at unharvested trunk quarters rises from 3.8com in the diameter class below 10cm to 7.5cm in the diameter class beyond 30cm. Bark regeneration rates varied by the inventoried sites, ranging from 0.6cm per year to 2.2cm per year. Regeneration rates decreased with the diameter class, which however was not a statistically significant effect. The regeneration rate varied with the applied harvesting technique and the climatic humidity. Based on the average bark regeneration rate of 2.15cm per year in an area similarly humid as on Mt Cameroon, Mr Lagarde suggested that rotation time in the Mount Cameroon area should be determined at 5.5 years. This rotation time would allow for regrowth of more than 11.5cm of bark, which is higher than average bark thickness at the same site. This recommendation is in contradiction to findings published in scientific literature (Cunningham et al. 2016). Mr Lagarde also emphasized a common misunderstanding of the rotation time, since the suggested 5.5 years refer to the half-rotation, after which two quarters are harvested which were left standing after the previous harvest. It is only after two half-rotation periods, that full rotation, i.e. harvest of the same two quarters that were initially harvested, occurs.

3. Martin Hitziger, from the CITES Secretariat, contextualized the management of *P. africana* with CITES work on medicinal plant species. He emphasized that medicinal products derived from wild-harvested species are a growing market that encompasses about 3000 internationally traded species. More than 1000 plant species in the CITES Appendices are registered as medicinal plant species in international databases, and contribute to the health care for substantial parts of the world's population. Many medicinal plants have characteristics in common, which also apply to *P. africana*. In particular, online trade in products from such species seems large, growing and mostly beyond the purview of the Convention, as demonstrated by some research done by the Secretariat with support from Korea and Germany. Furthermore, much of such trade uses multiple combinations of non-timber forest products in long and complex trade chains, which poses challenges in terms of identification, traceability and enforcement. Finally, traditional knowledge on the uses, properties and ecological characteristics of such plants has been locally collected over large time spans, and can provide relevant clues for sustainable management of such species. Mr. Hitziger continued to present elements of potential draft decisions and a workplan, which the Secretariat considers to propose to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
4. Daniel Wolf, from the German Scientific Authority, presented on challenges of *P. Africana* management from the perspective of an importing Party, elaborating areas in which importing Parties see need to improve management approaches. Mr. Wolf suggested that Inventories should use grid-based systematic designs, rather than adaptive cluster sampling, due to potential overestimations of available resources when using the latter

approach. To calculate bark harvest volumes per tree, he suggested the Burkhart equation. He emphasized that the two quarters method seemed to be appropriate despite suggestions that it might lead to tree die-off under certain climates or circumstances, but also indicated that an adaptive approach would allow to learn over time. As a precautionary approach, Mr. Wolf suggested half-rotation cycles of 8 years, and full rotation periods of 16 years. Monitoring should focus on effects of harvest on individual trees and their populations, as well as of trade chains. If done properly, such monitoring can inform adaptation and learning. Finally, governance issues were pointed out as crucial to ensure compliance with best harvest practice, legal acquisition, and traceability.

After concluding the four input presentations, the workshop continued with facilitated discussions of four thematic areas. A specific session was dedicated to each thematic area. Information from previous presentations, scientific sources, and personal expertise and experience of workshop participants were taken into account to elaborate recommendations to improve *P. africana* management in range States.

1. **NDF I: Methodologies for inventories**

   The discussion of this thematic area focused on two issues. Range State representatives carefully assessed the available information on inventory methodologies and cultivated resources of *P. africana*. Representatives also mentioned to have observed instances of mistrust towards NDF's and resource inventories on behalf of importing Parties. Therefore, participants agreed on three recommendations to improve resource inventories.

   - The grid based systematic design is the recommended method for inventory methods.
   - Importing countries are invited to collaborate with range States on resource inventories to build trust and avoid doubts about the validity of applied methods.
   - Inventories should include surveys of cultivated resources or agroforestry resources of *Prunus africana* (e.g. in gardens). Due to small extension, this should include complete sampling of 100% of trees.

2. **NDF I: Sustainable harvesting techniques**

   The discussion of this thematic area focused on available evidence of on-compliance with recommended harvesting techniques, and partially contradicting evidence for bark regeneration and rotation times. Representatives appreciated all received inputs, and contributed their own experience, and chose to take a precautionary and adaptive approach due to the lack of conclusive information. Representatives also mentioned issues off tree die-off due to insect infestations after harvesting in dense stands, such as gardens or cultivated areas.

   - Based on a precautionary approach, it is recommended to use long rotation times of 7 years for a half rotation, and 14 years for a full rotation. If available, the length of the rotation time should be based on local studies and adapted according to observed recovery rates.
   - Minimum harvested breast height diameter should be 30cm. The bark should be harvested from one meter above ground to the level of the first branches.
   - Harvest should not destroy the cambium of the tree.

- The recommended harvest method is to harvest two quarters of the bark at opposite sides of the trunk. Monitoring studies should ascertain whether this method is detrimental to the survival of the tree under certain climates.
- In plantations or agroforestry, debarked parts of the trunks should be protected by adequate means, such as soil mixed with cow dung, manufactured or other adequate products, to protect against insect infections.
- Studies should determine harvest seasons that minimize detriment to the trees.

3. Monitoring and traceability

The discussion of this thematic area focused on monitoring approaches to enable long-term adaptation of regulations and management of *P. africana* harvest and trade.

- Long-term, scientific studies on representative sampling plots should and assess which harvesting methods rotation periods are sustainable and monitor harvesting impacts.
- Scientific Authorities should regularly inspect harvest concessions and plantations or agroforestry systems of *P. africana* in order to monitor harvest impacts and compliance with recommended harvest practices.
- Parties should use suitable and cost-effective technologies and methods, such as physical or plastic barcodes, stardust paint or genetic approaches, in combination with standardized packaging to efficiently label and trace *P. africana* material from harvest to the point of further processing.
- Donors are urged to support the continuation of sampling efforts of *P. africana* populations, as precondition to enable rigorous genetic tracing of bark material.

4. Plantations and agroforestry

The discussion of this thematic area focused on the lack of attention, that has been previously paid to cultivated *P. africana* resources. A second emphasis was on the potential contributions of *P. africana* cultivation towards the livelihoods of rural populations, which so far lack market access.

- The working group recommends that the regeneration in the wild should take precedence to agroforestry systems, which in turn are preferable to monocrop plantations.
- Management of the species in the wild requires funding, such as regeneration or reforestation taxes collected by certain range States. However, Parties should ensure that the funds derived from such taxes are benefitting the regeneration of the species in the wild.
- More attention should be paid to ongoing or future informal, small-scale, use of *P. africana* resources, in private gardens or community forests. Parties should consider these resources in their inventories and management plans and gather basic information on such resources.
- If owners or communities are provided with information, market access, and possibilities to acquire export permits, resources from these origins could support local livelihoods and conservation. The working group recommends to explore mechanisms to provide such information, access and permits, for example registration and labelling, and professional smallholders or community associations.

- The working group recommends to explore national processing to achieve added values before the first export of the products.

The workshop concluded with a presentation and general discussion of the recommendations to all four thematic areas through the rapporteur of the working group.

The workshop was complemented by a side event in the form of a panel discussion on the sustainable management and *P. africana* and livelihoods (not part of the official workshop, chaired by Mr Hitziger from the CITES Secretariat). During the panel discussion, Cameroon, DR Congo, Uganda, and Madagascar presented their efforts and experiences in making the harvest and trade in *P. africana* beneficial to the livelihoods or rural populations.
Cameroon described the gradual transformation of national forest legislation towards increased participation and inclusion of local populations. Challenges remain, such as low benefits to local harvesters and sellers despite high export value of their collected products. However, Cameroon emphasized that Mt. Cameroon can serve as a model area of the implementation of the revised national forest legislation.
DR Congo presented their experiences in involving local populations as field assistants, researchers and knowledge sources for five NDF's (all on *P. africana*).
Uganda contributed successful experience with agroforestry and small-scale plantations to enhance livelihood benefits to rural populations.
Madagascar described that it was lacking substantive experience in any of these approaches, since no exports were currently taking place, while the trade in the species before the current trade suspension was largely illegal. However, it remarked that it was intending to work towards lifting the suspension, and was eager to learn from other Parties.
The Panel discussion concluded with a summary of successes, challenges, and lessons learnt.

French version - Groupe de travail sur la gestion durable de *Prunus africana* - Atelier international demandé par les décisions 17.250 à 17.252 (12-13 mars 2019)

Membres:

Daniel Amende	(Cameroon), Chair
Andy Mutoba	(DR Congo), Rapporteur
Crispin Mahamba Kamate	(DR Congo)
Jean Rushemeza	(Burundi)
Barmabé Sossa	(Benin)
Ayuba Bakut	(Nigeria)
Solomon Kyalo	(Kenya)
Boniface Roth Affi	(Cote d'Ivoire)
Tschide Antoine Augou	(Cote d'Ivoire)
Eric Jose Robsomanitrandrasana	(Madagascar)
Radanielina Tendro	(Madagascar)
Balakyèm Awesso	(Togo)
Issa Katwesige	(Uganda)

Donald Mikodo Iponga	(Gabon)
Margareth Thadei Mwakilasa	(Tanzania)
Jean Lagarde	(CTSP Regional Coordinator for Africa)
Martin Hitziger	(CITES Secretariat)

L'atelier a débuté le 12 mars à 12h. Le président a attribué à M. Mutoba le rôle de rapporteur et présente le programme de l'atelier. La première session est consacrée à quatre présentations:

1. Mme Ingram (Université de Wageningen, par vidéoconférence) présente ses dernières recherches sur la gestion durable de *P. africana*. Mme Ingram a mis l'accent sur les aspects de gouvernance, en particulier les complémentarités et les conflits entre divers organes d'institutions et pratiques qui influencent la gestion de P. africana. Selon ses recherches, la direction de P. africana est influencée par ordre décroissant par la réglementation statutaire et les normes internationales, les activités basées sur des projets, la corruption, la réglementation coutumière et les normes volontaires ou du marché. Mme. Ingram a également présenté les résultats de sa recherche qui remettent en question les hypothèses de gestion actuelles: données d'inventaire obsolètes, existence de populations cultivées de *P. africana*, niveaux de commerce national de l'espèce, méthodes de récolte appropriées et niveaux d'utilisation nationale de l'espèce. Mme Ingram a conclu en appelant à sensibiliser à la nécessité d'adopter des approches de gouvernance pluralistes et multisectorielles, la culture de P. africana, ainsi que des normes internationales en matière d'inventaire et de récolte.

2. M. Jean Lagarde, coordinateur régional pour l'Afrique et chercheur camerounais, a présenté ses recherches sur les paramètres dendrologiques, le respect des réglementations en matière de récolte, les paramètres de croissance et de régénération et l'impact de la récolte sur les populations de P. africana au Cameroun. Ils ont trouvé seulement 7,5% des arbres *de P. africana* dans des classes de diamètre exploitables supérieures à 30 cm. Cependant, plus de 30% de tous les arbres ont été récoltés, avec un diamètre de hauteur de poitrine moyen de 23 cm seulement. La conformité à la technique recommandée des deux-quarts a été constatée chez une minorité de tous les arbres inventoriés, tandis que des nombres importants étaient écorcés entièrement ou sur une moitié complète de leurs troncs. Dans l'ensemble, ils ont trouvé que 91% des arbres inventoriés avaient été récoltés sans respecter les normes recommandées. M. Lagarde a présenté des taux de croissance de 0,5 cm par an pour la classe de diamètre inférieure à 10 cm, ce qui atteint 2,7 cm par an pour la classe de diamètre supérieure à 30 cm. L'épaisseur de l'écorce aux quartiers du tronc non récoltés passe de 3,8 à 3 cm dans la classe de diamètre inférieure à 10 cm à 7,5 cm dans la catégorie de diamètre au-delà de 30 cm. Les taux de régénération de l'écorce variaient selon les sites inventoriés, allant de 0,6 cm par an à 2,2 cm par an. Les taux de régénération diminuent avec la classe de diamètre, ce qui ne constitue toutefois pas un effet statistiquement significatif. Le taux de régénération variait en fonction de la technique de récolte appliquée et de l'humidité climatique. Sur la base d'un taux moyen de régénération de l'écorce de 2,15 cm par an dans une zone aussi humide que celle du Mt Cameroun, M. Lagarde a suggéré que la durée de rotation dans la région du mont Cameroun soit fixée à 5,5 ans. Ce temps de rotation permettrait une repousse de plus de 11,5 cm d'écorce, ce qui est supérieur à l'épaisseur moyenne de l'écorce sur le même site. Cette

recommandation est en contradiction avec les résultats publiés dans la littérature scientifique (Cunningham et al. 2016). M. Lagarde a également souligné un malentendu courant concernant la durée de la rotation, puisque les 5,5 années suggérées se réfèrent à la demi-rotation, après quoi deux récoltes sont laissées qui ont été laissées après la récolte précédente. C'est seulement après deux demi-périodes de rotation que se produit la rotation complète, c'est-à-dire la récolte des deux mêmes trimestres qui ont été récoltés initialement.

3. Martin Hitziger, du Secrétariat CITES, a contextualisé la gestion de P. africana avec les travaux de la CITES sur les espèces de plantes médicinales. Il a souligné que les médicaments dérivés d'espèces récoltées dans la nature constituaient un marché en pleine croissance qui englobait environ 3000 espèces faisant l'objet d'un commerce international. Plus de 1 000 espèces de plantes inscrites aux annexes CITES sont enregistrées comme espèces de plantes médicinales dans des bases de données internationales et contribuent aux soins de santé fournis à une partie importante de la population mondiale. De nombreuses plantes médicinales ont des caractéristiques communes, qui s'appliquent également à P. africana. En particulier, le commerce en ligne de produits de ces espèces semble important, en croissance et dépasse largement le cadre de la Convention, comme le montrent certaines recherches effectuées par le Secrétariat avec le soutien de la Corée et de l'Allemagne. En outre, une grande partie de ce commerce utilise des combinaisons multiples de produits forestiers non ligneux dans des chaînes commerciales longues et complexes, ce qui pose des problèmes d'identification, de traçabilité et d'application. Enfin, les connaissances traditionnelles sur les utilisations, les propriétés et les caractéristiques écologiques de telles plantes ont été collectées localement sur de longues périodes et peuvent fournir des indices pertinents pour la gestion durable de ces espèces. M. Hitziger a continué à présenter des éléments de projets de décisions et un plan de travail potentiels, que le Secrétariat envisage de proposer à la 18e session de la Conférence des Parties.

4. Daniel Wolf, de l'autorité scientifique allemande, a présenté les défis de la gestion de *P. africana* du point de vue d'une partie importatrice, en précisant les domaines dans lesquels les parties importatrices jugent nécessaire d'améliorer les méthodes de gestion. M. Wolf a suggéré que les inventaires utilisent des conceptions systématiques basées sur une grille, plutôt que l'échantillonnage par grappes adaptatif, en raison de la surestimation potentielle des ressources disponibles lors de l'utilisation de cette dernière approche. Pour calculer les volumes de récolte d'écorce par arbre, il a suggéré l'équation de Burkhart. Il a souligné que la méthode des deux trimestres semblait appropriée, en dépit des suggestions suggérant que cela pouvait conduire à la disparition des arbres dans certains climats ou circonstances, mais a également indiqué qu'une approche adaptative permettrait d'apprendre avec le temps. Par précaution, M. Wolf a suggéré des demi-cycles de huit ans et des périodes complètes de 16 ans. Le suivi devrait être axé sur les effets de la récolte sur les arbres individuels et leurs populations, ainsi que sur les chaînes commerciales. Si cela est fait correctement, un tel suivi peut éclairer l'adaptation et l'apprentissage. Enfin, les questions de gouvernance ont été soulignées comme cruciales pour assurer le respect des meilleures pratiques de récolte, l'acquisition légale et la traçabilité.

Après avoir terminé les quatre présentations d'apport, l'atelier s'est poursuivi avec des discussions animées sur quatre domaines thématiques. Une session spécifique a été consacrée à chaque domaine thématique. Les informations provenant d'exposés précédents, de sources scientifiques, ainsi que l'expertise personnelle et l'expérience des participants à l'atelier ont été prises en compte pour élaborer des recommandations visant à améliorer la gestion de P. africana dans les États de l'aire de répartition.

1. NDF I: Méthodologies pour les inventaires

La discussion de ce domaine thématique a porté sur deux questions. Les représentants des États de l'aire de répartition ont soigneusement évalué les informations disponibles sur les méthodologies d'inventaire et les ressources cultivées de *P. africana*. Des représentants ont également mentionné avoir observé des cas de méfiance à l'égard des FND et des inventaires de ressources au nom des Parties importatrices. Par conséquent, les participants ont convenu trois recommandations pour améliorer les inventaires de ressources.

- Design La conception systématique basée sur une grille est la méthode recommandée pour les méthodes d'inventaire.
- Les pays importateurs sont invités à collaborer avec les États de l'aire de répartition sur les inventaires de ressources afin d'instaurer un climat de confiance et d'éviter les doutes sur la validité des méthodes appliquées.
- Les inventaires devraient inclure des enquêtes sur les ressources cultivées ou les ressources agroforestières de Prunus africana (par exemple dans les jardins). En raison de la petite extension, cela devrait inclure un échantillonnage complet de 100% des arbres.

2. NDF: Techniques de récolte durables

La discussion sur ce domaine thématique s'est concentrée sur les preuves disponibles de la conformité aux techniques de récolte recommandées, ainsi que sur des preuves partiellement contradictoires concernant la régénération de l'écorce et les temps de rotation. Les représentants ont apprécié toutes les contributions reçues et ont apporté leur propre expérience. Ils ont choisi d'adopter une approche de précaution et d'adaptation en raison du manque d'informations concluantes. Les représentants ont également mentionné les problèmes de destruction des arbres dus à l'infestation par des insectes après la récolte dans des peuplements denses, tels que des jardins ou des zones cultivées.

- Sur la base d'une approche de précaution, il est recommandé d'utiliser des durées de rotation longues de 7 ans pour une demi-rotation et de 14 ans pour une rotation complète. Le cas échéant, la durée de la période de rotation doit être basée sur des études locales et adaptée en fonction des taux de récupération observés.
- Le diamètre minimal de la hauteur de la poitrine (DBH) récoltée doit être de 30 cm. L'écorce doit être récoltée à 1 m du sol, jusqu'au niveau de la première grande branche.
- La récolte ne devrait pas détruire le cambium de l'arbre.
- La méthode de récolte recommandée consiste à récolter les deux quarts de l'écorce sur les côtés opposés du tronc. Les études de suivi doivent vérifier si cette méthode est préjudiciable à la survie de l'arbre sous certains climats.

- Dans les plantations ou en agroforesterie, les parties écorcées du tronc devraient être protégées par des moyens adéquats, tels que le sol mélangé à de la bouse de vache, des produits manufacturés ou d'autres produits adéquats, pour se protéger contre les infections et des insectes.
- Les études devraient déterminer les saisons de récolte qui nuisent le moins possible aux arbres.

3. Suivi et traçabilité

La discussion de ce domaine thématique a été axée sur les approches de suivi permettant une adaptation à long terme de la réglementation et la gestion de la récolte et du commerce de *P. africana*.

- Des études scientifiques à long terme sur des parcelles d'échantillonnage représentatives devraient permettre d'évaluer les périodes de rotation des méthodes d'exploitation durables et de surveiller les impacts de l'exploitation.
- Les autorités scientifiques devraient inspecter régulièrement les concessions de récolte et les plantations ou les systèmes agroforestiers de P. africana afin de surveiller les impacts de la récolte et le respect des pratiques de récolte recommandées.
- Les Parties devraient utiliser des technologies et des méthodes appropriées et rentables, telles que des codes à barres physiques ou plastiques, une peinture à la poudre d'étoile ou des approches génétiques, en combinaison avec un emballage standard pour étiqueter et tracer efficacement le matériel de *P. africana* de la récolte au point de le transformer
- Les donateurs sont instamment invités à soutenir la poursuite des efforts d'échantillonnage des populations de *P. africana*, condition préalable à un traçage génétique rigoureux du matériel d'écorce.

4. Plantations et agroforesterie

La discussion de ce domaine thématique a mis l'accent sur le manque d'attention, qui avait été précédemment porté sur les ressources cultivées de *P. africana*. Un deuxième accent a été mis sur les contributions potentielles de la culture de *P. africana* aux moyens de subsistance des populations rurales, qui n'avaient jusqu'à présent pas accès au marché.

- Le groupe de travail recommande que la régénération dans la nature prenne la priorité sur les systèmes agroforestiers, qui sont préférables aux plantations en monoculture.
- La gestion de l'espèce dans la nature nécessite des financements, tels que des taxes de régénération ou de reboisement perçues par certains États de l'aire de répartition. Les Parties devraient toutefois veiller à ce que les fonds provenant de ces taxes profitent à la régénération de l'espèce dans la nature.
- Une plus grande attention devrait être accordée à l'utilisation informelle et future, à petite échelle, des ressources de *P. africana*, dans les jardins privés ou les forêts communautaires. Les Parties devraient prendre en compte ces ressources dans leurs inventaires et leurs plans de gestion et rassembler des informations de base sur ces ressources.

- Si les propriétaires ou les communautés reçoivent des informations, un accès au marché et des possibilités d'obtenir des permis d'exportation, les ressources provenant de ces origines pourraient soutenir les moyens de subsistance et la conservation locaux. Le groupe de travail recommande d'explorer les mécanismes permettant de fournir ces informations, accès et autorisations, par exemple l'enregistrement et l'étiquetage, ainsi que les associations professionnelles de petits exploitants ou de la communauté.
- Le groupe de travail recommande d'explorer le traitement national pour obtenir des valeurs ajoutées avant la première exportation des produits.

L'atelier s'est terminé par une présentation et une discussion générale des recommandations adressées aux quatre domaines thématiques par l'intermédiaire du rapporteur du groupe de travail.

L'atelier a été complété par un événement parallèle sous la forme d'une table ronde sur la gestion durable, *P. africana* et les moyens de subsistance (ne fait pas partie de l'atelier officiel, présidé par M. Hitziger du Secrétariat CITES). Au cours de la table ronde, le Cameroun, la RD Congo, l'Ouganda, et Madagascar ont présenté leurs efforts et leurs expériences pour que la récolte et le commerce de *P. africana* soient bénéfiques pour les moyens de subsistance ou les populations rurales.
Le Cameroun a décrit la transformation progressive de la législation forestière nationale vers une participation et une inclusion accrues des populations locales. Des problèmes subsistent, tels que des avantages limités pour les exploitants et les vendeurs locaux, malgré la valeur élevée à l'exportation des produits collectés. Cependant, le Cameroun a souligné que le mont. Le Cameroun peut servir de zone modèle pour la mise en œuvre de la législation forestière nationale révisée.
La RD Congo a présenté ses expériences en matière d'implication des populations locales en tant qu'assistants de terrain, chercheurs et sources de connaissances pour cinq FND (tous sur *P. africana*).
L'Ouganda a apporté une expérience fructueuse en matière d'agroforesterie et de plantations à petite échelle afin d'améliorer les moyens de subsistance des populations rurales.
Madagascar a indiqué qu'il manquait d'expérience concrète dans l'une ou l'autre de ces approches, car aucune exportation n'était en cours, alors que le commerce de l'espèce avant la suspension du commerce en cours était en grande partie illégal. Toutefois, il a fait remarquer qu'il avait l'intention de travailler à la levée de la suspension et était désireux d'apprendre des autres Parties.
La discussion en table ronde s'est terminée par un résumé des succès, des défis et des leçons apprise.

Appendix 4. Report of the Working Group on *Osyris*

WG 2: Report on *Osyris lanceolata*

Composition of the Working Group

- The Working Group was chaired by Ms. Beatrice Khayota, Kenya (KE)
- Group Members included:
  - Tanzania (TZ), Mr. Frederick Legate
  - Tanzania (TZ), Mr. Joseph Otieno
  - Uganda (UG), Mr. Stephen Okiror
  - Nigeria (NG), Ms. Omovoh Adafe
  - Ms. Milena Sosa-Schmidt, CITES representative
  - Mr. Ian Thompson, rapporteur

Discussion on the terms of reference

The terms of reference come from CoP Decisions:

- 16.153: 1. Conservation status, 2. Trade in *Osyris* and its look-alikes – what is impact on species, 3. what is needed for an NDF; 4. do we have enough capacity, and 5. what are the needs
- 16.154 – how to share and exchange data
- Most of the group's time was spent on 16.153

Brief overview of the species

- Ms. Sosa Schmidt noted that the CITES Secretariat has very little information about the species
- The whole shrub is used including the heartwood for oils and the rest may be chipped for strandboard. Products are from oil essence, e.g., perfumes
- Is a shrubby species that is semi-parasitic.
- It grows to about 2 m and takes about 40-50 years to mature
- There are look-alike species (e.g., Sandalam) that are imported to use for oils

Discussion of how to conduct the work

- Format was taken from Resolution CoP 9.24 (Rev. 17)-Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II

For an NDF, the group felt that the best advice was from the NDF method for trees in: CoP 15 Doc. 16.3 Non-Detriment Findings for Timber, Medicinal Plants and Agarwood, from the NDF method for trees in: www.cites.org/eng/CoP/15/doc/E15-16-03.pdf annex 2

Discussion about information available on *Osyris* in the 3 range states present

1. Conservation

Taxonomy:

UG: taxonomy is known

TZ: taxonomy is known but probably need to investigate ecotypes and varieties. TZ expressed a need for some DNA work for look-alikes from Asia and Australia.

KE: taxonomy is known.

Recommendation: Development and capacity building is needed for DNA level technology to distinguish from look-alike species and for within species variation – Short term

2. Distribution:

KE: distribution is well-known, found in arid and semi-arid lands, 7 of 8 species are in national parks
TZ: distribution is known, most are woodland spp. outside of PAs and spread over the country
UG: widespread, but predominantly along border with Kenya; they only have detailed distribution from one study from 2010, and while it has been reported elsewhere it was not formally recorded; they suspect it is very widespread but this is uncertain.
DRC (via email): none so far as was known by representatives here, but they will check further.
Recommendation: Maps of distribution should be updated to be current – Short term

3. Habitat
KE: hilly rocky places, dry forests, savannah, in association with host spp. Have not had high success rates of artificial propagation.
UG: found especially in mountainous areas and basal woodlands, drylands, and savannahs; not in rainforest so far as they know
TZ: same habitats as in as UG – but pointed out that the host spp. have not been identified
Recommendation: Studies are required to better understand host species and possible specificity among various *Osyris* spp. – Short term

-Role in ecosystem
General role such as protection against soil erosion but no specific role is known. Uncertain if it kills hosts and if is host-specific. Need to better understand pollination (which species of beetles?) and physiology.
Recommendation: Research is needed to improve the ecological understanding of the species including the role that the species plays in ecosystems – Short term

-Habitat trends
KE: Habitat is lost from destructive harvesting, conversion for agriculture, and quarry mining.
UG: Has the same issues for habitat loss, although fewer areas are lost to agriculture, there is substantial limestone and marble quarrying; and the general population increase results in conversion for settlement and charcoal
TZ: Habitat lost through animal grazing, and harvesting for medicine.
Recommendation: There is a need to understand present and past amounts of habitat with mapping – Short term

4. Population size:
TZ: no data
UG: no data, one study area census
KE: very few young plants seen in studies, population is very sparse and disjunct – probably indicating harvesting
-Population structure:
KE: No real data but mostly finding old trees; regeneration is very slow; replacement most likely less than rate of loss
UG: one study shows a normal population structure
TZ: no data
-Population trends
UG – no data; one study showed good distribution in ages
KE: disjunct and seems poor regeneration
TZ: no data
-Geographic trends

Uncertain towards the north areas in Africa (e.g., Ethiopia, Sudan)
Recommendation: There is a need for population census, including structure and age to provide baseline values – Short term

5. Threats
KE: Harvesting, destructive harvesting of older plants, inefficient harvesting especially along coast, slow growth, habitat destruction, illegal harvesting, no certification system, no IUCN listing yet, quarrying, agriculture, diseases and pests
TZ: Overexploitation, for example one factory affected local population in north, but then it closed due to few remaining plants; perhaps association with hosts may be an issue; grazing,
UG: threat varies by area, in some cases limestone quarrying, lack of awareness of Osyris among local communities who harvest the plat.
Recommendation: There is a need to develop mechanisms for mitigation of habitat loss – Short term

6. Use and trade
National use/legal use:
KE: no legal trade, local use only for firewood and charcoal; trade only from propagated trees,
Illegal use is for oil
UG: legal local extraction of oils; and there are 2 farms doing legal business – one imports from outside of Africa; UG issues both import and export permits.
TZ: no legal use – but import from Burundi and UG for oils, no use of local plants.
Traceability appears to be an issue, as is chain of custody.
-Parts in trade:
KE: heartwood for oil, stem timber and carving; remaining wood chipped for transport and use in chipboard
UG: same
TZ: same
-Illegal trade:
KE: Yes started in about 2004, a lot of seized material and is stockpiled have data for seizures
TZ: have found illegal cases, but did not have data at this meeting.
UG: no confiscation, and is in legal trade; some small amount of illegal trade transiting through Kenya
Disposition of confiscated material varies among countries.
-Trade impacts (actual or potential)
KE, UG, and TZ: Overexploitation has led to declined populations in these countries leaving little room for legal trade
Estimated 1000 tonnes used per year in east Africa.
Product is largely going to India, Arab States, Indonesia and Australia
Countries are aware of movement but the issues of origin remain unknown.
Recommendation: The is a need for mechanisms and techniques for traceability and to enable chain of custody - Short term

7. Legal instruments:
National
KE and TZ has legislation to protect the spp
UG has laws but no specific protection for the species
Domestic CITES rules
So the 3 range states have general legislation
KE and TZ have degrees to control trade

International
CITES; East Africa Customs Act
Recommendation: Countries should consider listing this species (and others) under new endangered species legislation Long term

8. Species management
8.1 Management measures
None but plans to do status assessment in TZ and KE
8.2 Population monitoring
No monitoring
8.3.1 Control
International via CITES
Domestic – see above for legislation
8.4 Propagation
Some initiative in KE but not very successful, but further research is ongoing
8.5 Habitat conservation
KE: most species' range in PAs
UG and TZ – little area protected
Recommendation 1: need population census, monitoring, and modelling – short term and ongoing
Recommendation 2: need to improve capacity to propagate the species – short term
Recommendation 3: gazette area for protecting the species – long term

Information available to develop NDFs
1. Range:
National and current distribution
- KE: range known, and basic mapping is available but incomplete and requires updating
- TZ: and UG: Have maps for vegetation cover and forest types but these are not specifically for sandalwood.
- Ecosystem maps: all countries have ecosystem-level maps, although these are not specific to sandalwood
- NFI: all 3 countries have inventories but these do not cover sandalwood because it is a shrub species
- Herbarium:
KE has specimens from all of east Africa: KE yes,
TZ: has all species in specimen
UG: they have specimens of all species but was uncertain if they are geo-referenced or not
- Existing and potential PAs
KE: most sandalwood is in protected areas
TZ and UG: uncertain but would only be randomly related to sandalwood
- Subnational databases on distribution: not available for any countries
- FMU: yes in many cases but these are not relevant to *Osyris*

Element 2 Population
Pop structure:
- No data for any country except from a few specific studies (e.g., a 2010 study UG)
-Pop dynamics
- no data for any country

Element 3 Management systems and harvest rates
- harvest operations: no best practices available and none specific to sandalwood
- Silviculture: no information of how to regenerate the species; KE has been able to propagate the species but results have not been highly successful
- harvest rate evaluation: none
Recommendation: need to develop best practices for harvesting and regeneration based on a better understanding of the ecology and population dynamics of the species. - Short and longer term

Element 4: Monitoring and verification
- there is no certification procedure; no monitoring; no chain of custody; and no quotas except for UG that has domestic quotas that have no basis in population assessment

Element 5: conservation and precautionary principle
- no conservation measures other than harvest closures are specific to the species
- KE has a seedbank
Recommendation: need to broadly apply the precautionary principle until improved information on population is available. - Long-term.

What capacity development or mechanisms are needed to develop NDFs:
The Working Group identified the following needs for capacity development:
- skills in developing NDFs
- diagnostic and taxonomic skills
- development of a data management system
- botanical researchers
- development of DNA technology and equipment
- population modelling, and
- developing techniques for propagation

Appendix 5. Report of the Working Group on NDFs

Report of the Working Group on NDFs

Members:

Radanielina TENDRO	(Madagascar)
Awesso BALAKYAN	(Togo)
Mutoba ANDY	(DR Congo)
Augou ANTOINE	(Cote d' Ivoire)
Amende DANIEL	(Cameroon)
Rushemeza JEAN	(Burundi)
Sossa BARNABE	(Benin)
Bakut AYUBA	(Nigeria) - Chair
Solomon KYALO	(Kenya)

Working group on Non-detriment Findings (NDF): Identification of gaps and lessons learned and recommendations of follow-up activities, including new target species and work lines. Towards the formulation of a NDF at the end of your CITES tree species project.

Case Experiences
Cameroon: CITES MA and CITES SA (ANAFOR) have set up a scientific panel (National Scientific Committee) to draft NDF to the MA for decision –making

Recommended framework for undertaking NDFs already exist: Res. Conf.16.7 (Rev. CoP17)

- Science based assessment to verify whether proposed trade is detrimental or not to the survival of the species; a rigorous scientific study on a species to determine whether trade may be allowed or not, considering the survival of the species
- NDF studies carried by SA to advise the MA on issuance of trade permits

Key elements:
- Biology and distribution of the species in the country need to be known
- Species Presence and densities (occurrence and no. of trees /ha) Inventory
- Yields (for of *P. africana*, quantity of bark to be harvested per tree)
- Volumes of trade both legal and illegal accounted for

Details are elaborated in the Guiding Principles (as covered in suggested framework formulated in Cancun NDF Workshop and by Germany and now simplified in Res. Conf. 16.7 (Rev CoP17)

- Species biology and life-history characteristics;
- species range (historical and current);
- population structure, status and trends (in the harvested area, nationally and internationally);
- threats;
- historical and current species-specific levels and patterns of harvest and mortality (e.g. age, sex) from all sources combined;
- management measures currently in place and proposed, including adaptive management strategies and consideration of levels of compliance;
- population monitoring; and

- conservation status; (Volume of legal trade and illegal trade (known, inferred, projected, estimated)

Lessons Learned:

- NDF Studies is key in ensuring any trade in a given species is conducted at sustainable levels, the CITES Trees Programme should be continued until the African countries have fully built their capacities
- For an effective NDF on Tree species, there are technical considerations that call for involvement of the Forest authorities (expertise)
- Collaboration with other relevant agencies is critical, e.g. Customs (for purposes of ensuring traceability and monitoring of trade volumes)

Challenges/Recommendations:

- **Need to bring together under auspices of CITES SA, all relevant agencies and local communities to participate in NDF process for an identified species of concern;**
- **Undertake training (capacity building) of Border Control officers-Customs, Police, Phytosanitary Agencies and other relevant regulatory authorities on NDF processes including identification of traded materials, control and verification of trade permits and the basis for Species listing in CITES Appendices;**
- **National Laws and regulations should be the basis of a sound NDF hence Parties need to define the objective of the NDF based on the resource governance;**
- **There is need to enhance Capacity building for Parties in development of NDFs through:**

  - Designating at least one Scientific Authority;
  - Designated SA(s) to strengthen their working relations with other relevant and competent authorities including Customs and also involving local communities;
  - Training on NDF processes for both MAs and SAs

- **Need to involve rural/local communities in the NDF process and build their capacities in sustainable harvesting techniques and methods;**
- **Need to share and disseminate results of NDFs for appreciation of recommendations thereof and as necessary, development of intervention measures for the subject species (*Prunus africana, Osyris lanceolata, Pterocarpus erinaceus, Pericopsis elata* among other species both CITES and Non-CITES Listed) ; and**
- **Parties are encouraged to formulate their NDFs, determine and set respective voluntary annual quotas for subject species and communicate to the Secretariat early enough (latest 31st January) for publication of the same.**
- **Donors and Parties are requested to provide technical and funding resources to support undertaking NDFs on African tree species**
- **The CITES/ ITTO Trees Programme should be continued until the African countries have fully built their capacities in NDFs**

Appendix 6. Report of the Working Group on marking and traceability

Report of the Working Group on marking and traceability

Participants
Mr. Donald Midoko Iponga, Gabon (chair)
Mrs. Blessing Odafe Omovoh, Nigeria
Mr. Stephen Okiror, Uganda
Mr. Steve Johnson, ITTO

Overview/lessons learned
Participants in Working Group 2 reviewed their experiences with marking and traceability of forest products, with a focus on products from CITES-listed tree species. There were few lessons learned to be shared since the implementation of such systems was either non-existent or relatively recently introduced in all participating countries.

In Gabon log tracking using bar codes had been successfully implemented. Uganda used a system of regional (district) stamps to mark logs/timber products but some newly established districts do not have a stamp. Of the countries participating in the working group, only the project to be implemented by Gabon under the CTSP included activities/ funds for developing a tracking/marking system. Nonetheless, the working group identified several gaps and made recommendations for follow-up activities related to marking and traceability of products from CITES listed tree species which are presented in the following sections. The working group also supported all of the recommendations on traceability/ marking that were developed by the separate working group focused on *Prunus africana,* particularly the recommendation that cost effective and currently available tracking/ marking systems should be implemented wherever possible now while work continues to develop more rigorous systems based on DNA and other technologies.

Identification of gaps
- Lack of guidance on traceability/marking systems appropriate for products from CITES listed tree species;
- Lack of funding for traceability/marking projects;
- No traceability/marking systems for non-solid wood products (bark/chips; oil/extracts);
- Mixing of species in processing mills and lack of tracking/marking of manufactured wood products from mill to market;
- Lack of knowledge of importers/final market;
- Poor oversight/implementation of forest regulations including traceability systems.

Recommendations for follow-up activities
- CITES should provide guidance on traceability/marking systems for different categories of products from listed tree species;
- The CTSP should prioritize future funding for traceability/marking projects (including further development/implementation of genetic and other modern technologies);
- Simple and effective systems for tracing/marking non-solid wood products should be developed and tested;
- Regulation of mills should be strengthened (including through chain of custody certification where relevant) to allow better tracking of finished wood products;

- Tracking of products from CITES listed tree species should continue to the final market/point of processing;
- Databases of main legitimate importers of products from CITES listed tree species should be developed;
- Measures should be taken to ensure that officials responsible for forest traceability systems and monitoring in general have high integrity (e.g. reasonable salary, good working conditions, oath of office, harsh punishment for corruption, etc.);
- Governments should have overall responsibility for forest monitoring and regulation, including traceability/marking systems. However, the effectiveness of traceability/marking systems can be enhanced by involving suitable independent observers in their oversight and implementation.

Appendix 7. Report of the Working Group on Identification of wood products

Working Group on Identification of wood products:
Members:
Joseph Otieno, TZ, Chair
Beatrice Khayota, KE
Stephen Okiror, UG
Martin Hitziger, CITES
Ian Thompson, consultant

Topic: Tree Species Product Identification: Identification of gaps and lessons and recommendations for follow up activities, including new target species and new work lines and activities. Towards the identification of the target tree species products at the end of your CITES tree species project

1. **Species**:
    i. *Pterocarpus erinaceus*,
    ii. *Prunus africana*,
    iii. *Dalbergia spp*,
    iv. *Dyospirosis spp*,
    v. *Osyris lanceolata*,
    vi. *Guibourtia spp*,
    vii. *Pericocsis elata* (Afromosia)

Look alike

i. *Prunus africana* look alike, *Olinia rochetiana* – Morphology, Use
ii. *Osyris lanceolata*; Santalum spp – Morphology, Use
iii. *Guibourtia tessmannii, Guibourtia pellegriniana,- Pink and Gibourtia demeuseii*- Red Look alike Ebiara (especially Red Gibourtiana)– Sawn wood and logs;
iv. *Pericopsis elata look alike*: Acosmium spp., Tabebuia spp.
v. Others ?

2. **Products (Logs, chips, powder, concoctions, curvings, bark, derivatives**)
    i. *Prunus africana* – Bark, timber, charcoal, handles, fruits/food;
    ii. *Pterocarpus erinaceous* – Sawn wood, carvings/mouldings, logs
    iii. *Dalbergia* spp. – Sawn wood/veneers, logs, music instruments, furniture, carvings, charcoal – Annotation 15 proposal at **CoP18** for amendment to reduce threshold from 10 kgs to 500 gms or 0.
    iv. *Dyospirosis* spp – Logs, sawn wood, flooring, furniture
    v. *Osyris lanceolata* – Oils, carvings, spent dust, local roots/leaves for medicine.
    vi. *Pericopsis elata* – Sawn wood, logs, furniture
    vii. *Guibourtia* spp. – sawn wood, logs, furniture

3. Methods of identification

Taxonomic identification; reference keys, expert identification (conventional and traditional), field guides, online tools (www.plantlist.com, etc), herbaria collections (anatomy, digitisation) CITES Wood ID, molecular identification, Organoleptic methods through taste and smell.

Many online references: e.g., Best practice guide book for forensic timber identification by UN Office on Drugs and Crime; CITES and Timber Guide to Listed Tree Species

Status of Identification Methods Available for African Cites tree species

Species	**Visual taxonomic***	**Wood anatomy**	**DNA/Molecular**	**Spectroscopy**
Prunus africana	Yes		Yes	
Pterocarpus erinaceous	Yes			
Dyospiros sp	Yes			
Dalbergia sp	Yes	Some /MDG/KEN	Yes MDG	Yes MDG
Guiboutia sp	Yes			
Pericopsis elata	Yes		Yes (?)	
Osyris lanceolata	Yes		Yes	

*Needs updating

4. **Challenges**
   i. Data sharing and exchange of identification specimen, DNA information to allow identification between countries;
   ii. Inadequate expertise (human and infrastructure);
   iii. Outdated/out of stock reference materials;
   iv. High turnover of trained staff;
   v. Deliberate fraud/illicit trade (e.g. disguised wood products, collusion of border officials;
   vi. Challenges in reporting trade due to pooled customs coding of products

5. **Recommendations**
   i. Continuous training of customs and technical staff in identification;
   ii. Basic research to establish clear biological taxonomy of listed species;
   iii. Engage the World Customs Organisation to consider distinct trade codes for CITES listed tree products;
   iv. Consider use of advanced identification techniques such as spectroscopy imaging and DNA analysis in identification of wood material at customs points;
   v. Dissemination of identification manuals of CITES listed products at all border points for ease of basic identification;

vi. Conduct an assessment of which tools are available for identification of the different African species and their products and develop a summary report;
vii. Put in place joint databases to address challenges on data sharing and material exchange.
viii. Establish regional specialised labs for identification with different technologies and techniques

Appendix 8. Report of the Working Group on capacity building and governance

Working Group on Capacity and governance
Members:
M. Crispin Mahamba KAMATE (RDC) (Chair)
M. Eric José ROBSOMANITRANDRASANA (Madagascar)
M. Boniface Roth AFFI (RCI)

Gaps in capacity building:

- Insufficient knowledge of the species (Identification, biology and ecology, distribution in the natural environment, uses, inventory) to give a precise population estimate of a species in the field
- Lack of knowledge about intelligence and enforcement techniques in relation to CITES crime
- Lack of knowledge of good practices (reforestation, harvesting, ...)

Lessons learned:

- Confusion in the identification of species;
- Increased fraud rate
- Decrease of the resource

Recommendations on capacity-building:

- Capacity building of all stakeholders and agency staff in the identification of CITES species;
- Establishing identification laboratories for CITES species and their products
- Capacity building for customs and enforcement officers in intelligence techniques
- Dissemination of good reforestation practices, and establishment of village nurseries.

Gaps in governance:

- Lack of planning
- Lack of communication
- Absence of, or poor implementation of projects
- Absence or insufficient monitoring and evaluation systems
- Regulations not favourable to sustainable management
- Insufficient controls on CITES products, especially at border crossings
- Insufficient traceability
- Insufficient training of decentralised CITES-related departments
- Corruption and impunity in the trade of CITES products

Lessons learned:

- Problems noted in the implementation of most CITES projects that do not reach completion;
- Over-exploitation of the resource due to uncontrolled sampling;
- Difficulties in coordinating actions to meet the requirements of CITES
- Multitude of cases of fraud and corruption detrimental to the survival of species.

Recommendations:

- Strengthening the regulatory framework to control the exploitation and trade of CITES-listed species
- Organization of regional experience sharing workshops

- Organization of a mid-term evaluation workshop for each project
- Establishment of a reliable traceability system
- Establishment of a National and / or Regional Committee to Combat Illegal Trafficking in Species