

Conf. 14.4

Cooperation between CITES and ITTO regarding trade in tropical timber

RECOGNIZING that CITES aims to ensure the protection of certain species of wild fauna and flora against over-exploitation through international trade;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that CITES can play a positive role in promoting the conservation of timber species through trade in accordance with the requirements of Articles III, IV and V of the Convention;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the objectives of the International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA), 1994, include providing an effective forum for consultation, international cooperation and policy development with regard to all relevant aspects of the world timber economy and promoting trade in tropical timber from sustainable sources;

NOTING the important role that the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) has played and continues to play with respect to international trade in tropical timber species;

WELCOMING the increase in cooperation between CITES and ITTO and especially the support provided by ITTO for meetings of the Bigleaf Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*) Working Group, the International Experts Workshop on Non-detriment Findings for Bigleaf Mahogany, the Expert Meeting on the Effective Implementation of the Uplisting of Ramin (*Gonystylus* spp.) to Appendix II of CITES, as well as the assistance provided by ITTO to its members to enhance their capacity to implement CITES listings of tropical timber species;

WELCOMING the ITTO project to support capacity building in range States for the implementation of CITES timber listings for *Gonystylus* spp., *Pericopsis elata* and *Swietenia macrophylla* as an important tool for increased cooperation between CITES and ITTO;

ALSO WELCOMING the successful conclusion to the negotiation of a successor agreement to the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994;

THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION

URGES Parties that are also party to ITTA, 1994, or its successor agreement, and that intend to submit proposals for listing of tropical timber species, to consult ITTO as part of the consultation process recommended in Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP14) on Implementation of the Convention for timber species;

RECOMMENDS that CITES Parties that are also party to ITTA, 1994, or its successor agreement, bring to the attention of the International Tropical Timber Council any concerns regarding the effects of international trade on tropical timber species;

WELCOMES the work of ITTO in promoting transparent markets, trade in tropical timber from sustainably managed tropical forests and, in that context, promoting forest law enforcement;

ENCOURAGES Parties to support and facilitate the work of ITTO and CITES to build increased capacity and improve implementation of CITES timber listings;

URGES Parties to support and contribute to work, guided by the CITES Plants Committee, to develop appropriate listing proposals based on the best available science to ensure the conservation of timber species and help ensure that trade does not threaten their survival;

DIRECTS the CITES Secretariat to cooperate closely with the Secretariat of ITTO on matters related to tropical timber species threatened by international trade and sustainable management of tropical timber producing forests; and

ENCOURAGES all Parties, CITES, ITTO and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to promote improved forest law enforcement.