



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2018/039

Geneva, 23 April 2018

CONCERNING:

East African sandalwood (*Osyris lanceolata*) and CITES Cactaceae checklist

1. This Notification is being published at the request of the Plants Committee.

***Membership of the intersessional working group on East African sandalwood (*Osyris lanceolata*)***

2. At its 17th meeting (CoP17, Johannesburg, 2016), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decisions 16.153 (Rev. CoP17) and 16.154 (Rev. CoP17) on East African sandalwood (*Osyris lanceolata*) as follows:

**16.153 (Rev. CoP17)**

***Directed to the Plants Committee and the Eastern African range States for *Osyris* species***

*The Plants Committee and Eastern African range States of *Osyris* species shall:*

- a) review and gather further information on 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;*
- d) report to the 24th meeting of the Plants Committee on the outcomes and recommendations of the workshop organized under Decision 16.154 (Rev. CoP17) b); and*
- e) report on their work at the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.*

**16.154 (Rev. CoP17)**

***Directed to the Secretariat***

- a) The Secretariat shall assist in obtaining external funding for the implementation of Decision 16.153 (Rev. CoP17); and*
- b) Subject to the availability of funding, the Secretariat shall organize a consultative meeting of *Osyris lanceolata* range States to bring together relevant representatives of CITES Management Authorities and Scientific Authorities to share and exchange data, information, intelligence and law enforcement measures, in combating illegal trade in the species.*

3. Pursuant to these Decisions, an intersessional working group on East African sandalwood was established by the Plants Committee at its 23rd meeting (Geneva, July 2017), with the following mandate:

*Draft a realistic work plan with appropriate milestones designed to carry out the mandate under Decision 16.153 (Rev. CoP17) intersessionally, including a process for gathering further information under part a) and for assessing data required under part b) of Decision 16.153 (Rev. CoP17); and to provide advice to the Secretariat on the consultative meeting described in part b) of Decision 16.154 (Rev. CoP17).*

4. The membership of the intersessional working group on East African sandalwood was decided as follows:

Co-chairs: the representative of Africa (Ms. Koumba Pambo) and the alternate representative of Africa (Ms. Khayota);

Parties: Cameroon, Kenya, South Africa and United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: American Herbal Products Association and TRAFFIC.

5. Other Parties, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations are hereby invited to indicate their interest in joining this intersessional working group by informing the Secretariat (at [karen.gaynor@un.org](mailto:karen.gaynor@un.org)) by **11 May 2018** at the latest.

#### **CITES Cactaceae checklist**

6. At CoP17, Decision 17.314 on *Nomenclature (CITES Cactaceae checklist)* was adopted as follows:

##### **17.314 Directed to Parties**

*The Parties shall inform the Secretariat of their experiences of using the CITES Cactaceae Checklist (3rd edition) and of any issues that may arise as they apply the list.*

7. Parties are hereby invited to inform the CITES Secretariat (at [karen.gaynor@un.org](mailto:karen.gaynor@un.org)) of their experiences of the application and use of the [CITES Cactaceae checklist \(3rd Edition\)](#) by **11 May 2017** at the latest, so that this feedback and any comments received from Parties can be made available to the Plants Committee for its review at its 24th meeting (PC24, Geneva, July 2018).