



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/071

Geneva, 19 June 2023

CONCERNING:

APPLICATION OF AN EXPEDITED PROCEDURE UNDER ARTICLE XIII FOR WEST AFRICAN ROSEWOOD, *PTEROCARPUS ERINACEUS*, FOR ALL RANGE STATES

Outcome of the seizure procedure implemented by Senegal regarding a stockpile of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Mali

1. This Notification to the Parties is published at the request of the CITES Management Authority of Mali, in consultation with Senegal.
2. In light of the results of the expedited procedure implemented pursuant to Article XIII for West African rosewood, *Pterocarpus erinaceus* (Notification to the Parties [No. 2022/045](#) of 8th June 2022), on 10th August 2022, the Management Authority of Senegal seized 124 containers (approximately 2480 m³) of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Mali for China. At Senegal's request, the Secretariat published Notification to the Parties [No. 2022/063](#) of 30th August 2022 regarding this matter.
3. As a reminder, Notification to the Parties [No. 2022/045](#) of 8th June 2022 reminded Parties of their general obligation to exercise due diligence [see Resolution Conf. 11.3 (Rev. CoP18)], and that they should not authorise the transit or import of any specimen if there is reason to believe that such trade infringes the laws of any country involved in the transaction or that the specimen accompanied by a CITES document might not have been traded in accordance with the provisions of the Convention. The Notification also specified that, in the case of shipments of specimens of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* that left the port of the exporting or re-exporting country with valid permits prior to publication of Notification to the Parties No. 2022/021 on 28 March 2022, it remains at the discretion of the importing Party to decide whether the trade is in accordance with the Convention, and to accept or reject the shipment accordingly.
4. Following this seizure by Senegal, the Secretariat invited the Management Authority of Mali to submit supporting documents to certify that the 124 containers (approximately 2480 m³) of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* had left Mali's borders prior to 28th March 2022. The Secretariat hereby informs the Parties that Mali has submitted this information.
5. It should be recalled that the expedited compliance procedure pursuant to Article XIII applies to Cameroon, Chad, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Togo and the Central African Republic. Following the recommendations adopted by the Standing Committee at its 74th meeting and included in [Notification No. 2022/021](#) of 28th March 2022, Parties were invited to suspend trade of specimens of the species *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from these seven range States as from 8th June 2022

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(publication date of Notification No. 2022/045). The recommendation to suspend trade covers exports, re-exports and imports involving the seven aforementioned Parties and will remain in place until such time as the following conditions have been met by the Party concerned:

- a) The Party has made a science-based non-detriment finding for the species at a national level, to the satisfaction of the Secretariat and the Chair of the Plants Committee, having regard to Resolution Conf. 16.7 (Rev. CoP17) and based on the outcome of the Review of Significant Trade process for this species; and
 - b) The Party has provided appropriate evidence of legal acquisition, to the satisfaction of the Secretariat and the Chair of the Standing Committee, having regard to Resolution Conf. 18.7 (Rev. CoP18).
6. The Secretariat welcomes the prompt diligence of the Management Authorities of the transit and importing countries regarding the species *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, and encourages all Parties concerned to promptly submit any information available on the export, transit, transshipment, import or re-export of stockpiles of this species by the Parties mentioned in paragraph 5 of this Notification.
 7. Mali calls the attention of the Parties to the fact that, since their release by the Senegalese authorities in 2022, the containers of rosewood remain in the port of Dakar ready for export. However, departure has been delayed because the shipping companies are reluctant to export the stockpiles because of the recommendation to suspend trade of specimens of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* made by the Standing Committee at their 74th meeting under the expedited procedure pursuant to Article XIII for West African rosewood, *Pterocarpus erinaceus*, for all range States.
 8. Stakeholders, including shipping companies, are informed that the “expedited procedure” underway does not apply to those stocks from Mali that left the port of the exporting or re-exporting country (Mali), with valid permits, prior to publication of Notification to the Parties No. 2022/021 of 28th March 2022.
 9. The CITES Management Authorities of Parties that are transit and importing countries are invited to take note of this notification as part of the measures to be adopted when authorizing trade of the relevant stockpiles of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Mali.