

# NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2023/083

Geneva, 17 July 2023

CONCERNING:

## Neotropical tree species

1. At its 26th meeting (PC26; Geneva, June 2023), the Plants Committee considered document PC26 Doc. 33 on *Neotropical tree species*. The Committee established an intersessional working group open to the range States of neotropical tree species with the mandate to consider the recommendations in document PC26 Com. 7 and to draft recommendations for the Plants Committee at its 27th meeting [see executive summary [PC26 Sum. 4 \(Rev. 1\)](#)]. The membership was decided as follows:

Chair: representative for Central and South America and the Caribbean (Mr. Belteton Chacon);

Parties: Belgium, Chile, Colombia, European Union, France, Germany, Netherlands, Panama, Peru, Portugal, United States of America; and

IGOs and NGOs: International Tropical Timber Organization, Center for International Environmental Law, International Society of Violin and Bow Makers, IPCI France Europe, Species Survival Network, TRAFFIC, World Wide Fund for Nature.

2. With regard to the composition of this working group and in accordance with the recommendations made by the Plants Committee at its 26th meeting, the Secretariat invites Parties to express an interest in joining the intersessional working group, noting that all range States of neotropical tree species are invited to be members of the working group. The final membership of the joint intersessional working group will be published in a Notification to the Parties.
3. With regard to the list of CITES-listed neotropical tree species available in the Annex to document PC26 Doc. 33, the Plants Committee agreed to **exclude** from the prioritization process the species *Araucaria araucana*, *Fitzroya cupressoides*, *Pilgerodendron uviferum* and *Abies guatemalensis*, *Podocarpus parlatorei*, *Balmea stormiae*; and noted that recommendations to establish priorities may be applied to other CITES-listed neotropical species that are priority species for Parties who are range States. In line with the Plants Committee's recommendations made at its 26th meeting, the Secretariat thus requests range States of neotropical tree species to:
  - a) consider whether or not to confirm the prioritized list prepared by the working group at the 26th meeting of the Plants Committee as described above; and

- b) submit information on priorities for strengthening implementation of the Convention with regard to neotropical tree species.
4. Parties are invited to respond to this Notification to Isabel Camarena ([isabel.camarena@cites.org](mailto:isabel.camarena@cites.org)) with the term “neotropical tree species” in the subject line by **31 July 2023**.