



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2024/100

Geneva, 9 September 2024

CONCERNING:

NIGERIA

Recruitment of a consultant for capacity-building and training on Legal Acquisition Findings (LAF)
for the CITES Management Authority of Nigeria

1. Pursuant to Article XIII of the Convention, at its 70th meeting (SC70; Sochi, October 2018), the Standing Committee adopted recommendations concerning Nigeria with respect to the management of trade in specimens of West African rosewood (*Pterocarpus erinaceus*). The Standing Committee agreed that Parties shall suspend commercial trade in specimens of the species *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Nigeria until the Party makes scientifically based non-detriment findings for trade in the species in the country to the satisfaction of the Secretariat and the Chair of the Plants Committee.
2. At SC70 (see summary record [SC70 SR](#)), the Standing Committee recommended that *regarding the issuance of export permits and information systems, Nigeria shall establish an efficient information system, preferably an electronic system resources permitting, to facilitate the issuance of permits and certificates and the verification of the legal acquisition of specimens in trade (verification of legal acquisition), while making the manipulation of CITES permits and certificates after issuance more difficult.*
3. In the light of the above, Nigeria seeks a reputable consultant, knowledgeable and with requisite experience in LAF processes and procedures in verification of the legal acquisition of specimens in trade accordance with CITES rules and regulations to:
 - a) develop guidance on preparing a Legal Acquisition Finding, focusing on the legality of specimens in trade in Nigeria; and
 - b) provide training for the CITES Management Authorities staff with the necessary documentation to support the issuance of permits and certificates and ensure that the specimens were not obtained in contravention of national laws and CITES regulations.
4. Detailed terms of reference are set out in the Annex to the present Notification. Interested candidates are invited to submit their CVs by email with the “**LAF consultant**” in the subject line of the email directly to the CITES Management Authority of Nigeria at boseolukanni@gmail.com with a copy to info@cites.org by **30 September 2024**.

Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

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TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDANCE ON LEGAL ACQUISITION FINDINGS FOR CITES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY IN NIGERIA:

LEGAL ACQUISITION FINDINGS TOR

1.0 Introduction

Application of Article XIII in Nigeria: Recommendation to suspend commercial trade in West African rosewood (*Pterocarpus erinaceus*) and other recommendations

1. Pursuant to Article XIII of the Convention, the Standing Committee, at its 70th meeting (SC70, Sochi, October 2018), adopted recommendations concerning Nigeria with respect to the management of trade in specimens of West African rosewood (*Pterocarpus erinaceus*), as follows:
 - a. *Parties shall suspend commercial trade in specimens of the species Pterocarpus erinaceus from Nigeria until the Party makes scientifically based non-detriment findings for trade in the species in the country to the satisfaction of the Secretariat and the Chair of the Plants Committee.*
2. The Secretariat hereby notifies Parties of the Standing Committee's recommendation to suspend commercial trade in specimens of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Nigeria with immediate effect. Parties are requested to inform their enforcement and customs authorities of this recommendation to suspend trade to avoid the inadvertent acceptance of specimens of species subject to such a recommendation....

In the light of the above, the Standing Committee in document SC70 Doc. 27.3.5 page 9, further recommend the following:

3. Regarding the issuance of export permits and information systems

- k) Nigeria shall establish an efficient information system, preferably electronic system resources permitting, to facilitate the issuance of permits and certificates and the verification of the legal acquisition of specimens in trade (verification of legal acquisition), while making the manipulating of CITES permits and certificates after issuance more difficult.

Consequently, the implementation of the Standing Committee recommendations SC70 Doc. 27.3.5 paragraph 52, 3(k) regarding the establishment of an efficient information system and verification of the legal acquisition of specimens in trade shall be carried out with the following objectives.

2.0 Objective

- i. Development of guidance on preparing a Legal Acquisition Finding, focusing on the legality of specimens in trade in Nigeria.
- ii. To provide training for the CITES Management Authorities staff with the necessary documentation to support the issuance of permits and certificates and ensure that the specimens were not obtained in contravention of national laws and CITES regulations.

2.1 Activities

Activities to be carried out by the consultant:

The scope of work includes, but is not limited to:

- a) **Legal Review:** Examination of the National laws and CITES regulations relevant to the species/specimens in trade, including wildlife protection, conservation, and trade laws.
- b) **Documentation Verification:** Review all documents related to the acquisition of the specimens, such as permits, licenses, harvesting records, and transportation documents.
- c) **Field Investigations:** If necessary, conduct field investigations to verify the circumstances under which the specimens were acquired.
- d) **Consultation:** Engage with relevant stakeholders, including local authorities, conservation organizations, and indigenous communities, to gather information on the acquisition process.
- e) **Analysis and Reporting:** Analyze findings to determine whether the acquisition was legal and compile a detailed report.

3.0 Provisional timeline

- a. Submission of an Executive Summary and report to the Management Authority of Nigeria and CITES Secretariat: 1 Month from starting date.

4.0 Responsibilities

- a) **Consultant:** Conduct the review, field investigations, and analysis. Prepare and submit reports on time.
- b) **CITES Management Authority:** Provide all necessary documentation and support for the investigation and facilitate access to relevant stakeholders and sites.