



# Overview of recent developments on tree species listed in CITES

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# Tree species in CITES

- In this presentation we will look at:
  - CITES provisions for plant species
  - Annotations
  - CITES permits and special provisions for timber species
  - Tree species listings
  - NDF and quotas
  - CITES and ITTO - an enduring partnership
  - Dec. and Res. valid since the CoP17
  - Towards the CoP18



# CITES and Plants

- Are plants treated differently than animals under CITES?  
...YES
  - Definition of ‘species’, with respect to readily-recognizable parts and derivatives (“*...any readily recognizable part or derivative thereof specified in Appendices II and III in relation to the species*”)
  - Definition of ‘artificially propagated’
  - Treatment of hybrids
  - Use of phytosanitary certificates
  - Permits for timber species
  - Exemptions for seedlings and tissue cultures *in vitro, solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers*



# CITES and Plants

The Convention defines **species** as meaning *any species, subspecies, or geographically separate population thereof*

This means that inclusion of plant species under CITES control can be done at the level of **species, subspecies, or geographically separate populations** thereby excluding others from CITES controls.

# CITES and Plants

- The Convention states that a plant, whether alive or dead, can be a CITES specimen
  - For plant species included in Appendix I, any readily recognizable part or derivative is included
  - For plant species included in Appendices II and III, any specified readily recognizable part or derivative is included

# CITES and Plants

	Appendix I	Appendix II	Appendix III
Animal parts and derivatives	Always included	Always included	Included if specified
Plant parts and derivatives	Always included	Included if specified	Included if specified

- Annotations to the listings for plants in Appendix II, and for Appendix III species, determine which parts and derivatives are included (*The Parties have agreed that for plant species included in Appendix II, the absence of an annotation relating to that species indicates that all readily recognizable parts and derivatives are included*)

# Annotation example

***Dalbergia spp.* #15 (except for the species listed in Appendix I) (Proposal 55 CoP17) 304 species #15**

All parts and derivatives are included, except:

- a) Leaves, flowers, pollen, fruits, and seeds;
- b) Non-commercial exports of a maximum total weight of 10 kg. per shipment;
- c) Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, which are covered by Annotation # 4;
- d) Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia spp.* originating and exported from Mexico, which are covered by Annotation # 6.



# Plants and **permits** (different source and purpose codes than for animal spp.)

- Export permit
- Import permit (Appendix I only)
- Re-export certificate
- Export permit (Appendix III)
- Certificate of Origin (Appendix III)
- Pre-Convention certificate
- Artificial propagation certificate
- Phytosanitary certificate (*for export of artificially propagated Appendix-II specimens*)

# **Tree species in CITES (special procedures)**

- Resolution Conf. 12.3 (Rev. CoP17) on Permits and certificates specifies
  - The possibility to extend the validity of a permit to 12 months
  - This provision only applies to timber trade

# Tree species in CITES (History)

- On 1 July 1975, 18 tree species were included in the Appendices
- Most of the species that were not in trade have been deleted since, but some still remain from that time
- To date, more than 800 tree species are included in the CITES Appendices and of those more than 600 are traded for their timber

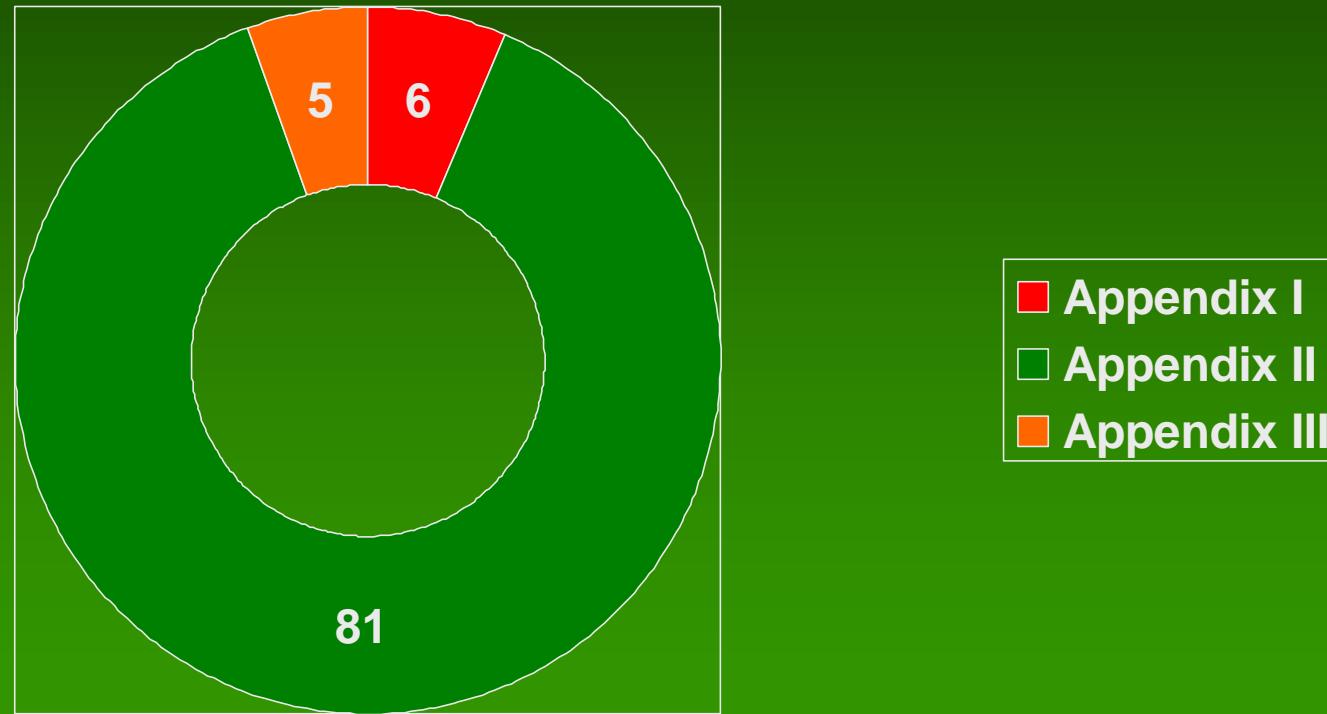
# Tree species in CITES (History)

The interest to include timber species in the Appendices increased in the beginning of the nineties. At that time, proposals to include timber species in Appendix II were fiercely opposed so Parties used Appendix III as an alternative.

# Tree species in CITES (History)

*Workshop on Management and Enforcement of the CITES Timber Trade in the European Region, Perugia, Italy-11-13 April 2005*

How many timber species were included in CITES at that time: 92.



Figures after CoP13, 2005 –  
Margarita Clemente, PC Chair

# At CoP16 (March 2013, Bangkok)

	Proponent	Species covered by the proposal	English common name (not official – for reference only)
1	Belize	<i>Dalbergia retusa</i> and <i>Dalbergia granadillo</i>	Black rosewood and Granadillo rosewood
2	Belize	<i>Dalbergia stevensonii</i>	Honduras rosewood
3	Brazil	<i>Aniba rosaeodora</i> (Modify annotation)	Brazilian rosewood
4	China, Indonesia, Kuwait, Thailand	<i>Aquilaria</i> spp. and <i>Gyrinops</i> spp (Modify annotation)	Agarwood
5	Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania	<i>Osyris lanceolata</i>	East African sandalwood
6	Madagascar	<i>Dalbergia</i> spp. (spp of MG)	Madagascan rosewood
7	Madagascar	<i>Diospyros</i> spp. (spp of MG)	Madagascan ebony woods
8	Thailand, Viet Nam	<i>Dalbergia cochinchinensis</i>	Thailand rosewood

# At CoP17 (Sep-Oct-2016, Johannesburg)

The following tree taxa are included in Appendix II of the Convention:

## LEGUMINOSAE

Fabaceae                    *Dalbergia* spp. #15

(All parts and derivatives are included, except:

- a) Leaves, flowers, pollen, fruits, and seeds;
- b) Non-commercial exports of a maximum total weight of 10 kg. per shipment;
- c) Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, which are covered by Annotation # 4;
- d) Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia* spp. originating and exported from Mexico, which are covered by Annotation # 6.)

# At CoP17 (Sep-Oct-2016, Johannesburg)

The following tree taxa are included in Appendix II of the Convention:

## LEGUMINOSAE

*Guibourtia tessmannii*, *Guibourtia pellegriniana* and *Guibourtia demeusei* #<sup>15</sup> (All parts and derivatives are included, except:

- a) Leaves, flowers, pollen, fruits, and seeds;
- b) Non-commercial exports of a maximum total weight of 10 kg. per shipment;
- c) Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, which are covered by Annotation # 4;
- d) Parts and derivatives of *Dalbergia* spp. originating and exported from Mexico, which are covered by Annotation # 6.)

*Pterocarpus erinaceus*

MALVACEAE      *Adansonia grandieri* #<sup>16</sup>

Seeds , fruits, oil and live plants

# At CoP17 (Sep-Oct-2016, Johannesburg)

## The following decisions were taken with regard to tree species annotations:

# THYMELAEACEAE

## Aquilariacaceae      *Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp. #14

**Amendment of the existing annotation #4 related to the above taxon to read as follows:**

**All parts and derivatives, except:**

- a) seeds and pollen;*
  - b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers;*
  - c) fruits;*
  - d) leaves;*
  - e) exhausted agarwood powder, including compressed powder in all shapes;*
  - f) finished products packaged and ready for retail trade, this exemption does not apply to wood chips, beads, prayer beads and carvings.*



# After CoP17 - 2017

**More than 250 high-value tree species were included at CoP17 in Appendix II and we expect more to follow.**

**With these listings, more than 800 tree species are included in CITES, and at least 600 are valuable timber species.**



# Tree species in CITES

- Some Parties are trying to implement new regulatory systems for timber species, e.g. adopting new regulations and national laws on export of semi-finished or finished timber products
- In many cases these new systems are highly complex and are at first the object of strong opposition from the private sector especially when including temporal bans



# Tree species in CITES

- One of the biggest problems remains being the institutional weakness and many Parties do not have a designated SA for tree species
- The communication between MA and SA is often very weak
- Frequently the scientific information to allow the development of management programmes is not available or up to date

# Some tools to strengthen the control and monitoring of the harvest and exports

- Setting Harvest and Export quotas
- Use yield rates
- The use of conversion factors link the harvest volumes approved by the Scientific Authority, to the export shipments
- Maintenance of national registers and production of accurate annual reports are the basis for sound statistics and monitoring

# Towards CoP18 (2019, Sri Lanka)

The new listings of tree species in CITES have a great impact on the joint work between CITES, ITTO and between them and other potential partners concerned with global Sustainable Forest Management

In February 2018 CITES became a new member of the CPF

# Tree species in CITES

e.g. *Swietenia macrophylla*

Appendix II requires making a non-detriment finding, requires the assurance of the legal origin of the timber, and has fostered international cooperation (ITTO-CITES cooperation program; BO, BR and PE have benefited greatly).

# Tree species in CITES

e.g. *Cedrela fissilis*

Appendix III does not require making a non-detriment finding, requires the assurance of the legal origin of the timber, and does not foster international cooperation since the aim for the listing country (Plurinational State of Bolivia, Brazil) is: to monitor its exports.

# Tree species in CITES

International Workshop on CITES Legal  
Acquisition Findings

Brussels, Belgium (13-15 June 2018)



# Making and NDF for a tree species

**Res. Conf. 16.7(Rev. CoP17) on Non-detriment findings provides general guidance on NDF**

For trees: if removal of the specimen results in the death of the tree, then adherence to comprehensive guidelines (encompassing information available, possible methodologies, etc.) is required.

The current guidance available in CITES to assist the SAs on formulating NDF for tree species, is available in Annex 2 of document CoP15 Doc. 16.3

<http://www.cites.org/eng/cop/15/doc/E15-16-03.pdf>



# Logging and processing

- Establishing quotas necessarily implies an accurate knowledge of the populations
- When quotas are established without knowledge of populations and based solely on commercial and pre-commercial stocks, it is impossible to ensure the impact that exports will have on the populations. This is the usual example of over-estimated export quotas

# Logging and processing

- The analysis of harvesting/export quotas must be based on the available yield studies (i.e., methodology proposed by Dr. James Grogan), so as to reflect losses inherent to processing round wood into sawn timber; export quality percentage; stem/bole quality (holes or poor condition) in order to identify physical and pathologic defects, and elements such as bark thickness, stem shape and others relating to size and age.
- Failure to take these values into consideration will probably result in an overestimation of export quotas.

# Resolutions on or concerning tree spp., in effect after CoP17

Resolution	Title
4.25 (Rev. CoP14)	Reservations
9.24 (Rev. CoP17)	Criteria for amendment of Appendices I and II
9.25 (Rev. CoP17)	Inclusion of species in Appendix III
10.3	Designation and role of the Scientific Authorities
10.4 (Rev. CoP14)	Cooperation and synergy with the Convention on Biological Diversity
10.13 (Rev. CoP15)	Implementation of the Convention for timber species
11.1 (Rev. CoP17)	Establishment of committees
11.11 (Rev. CoP17)	Regulation of trade in plants
11.21 (Rev. CoP17)	Use of annotations in Appendices I and II

# Resolutions on or concerning tree spp., in effect after CoP17

Resolution	Title
12.3 (Rev. CoP17)	Permits and certificates
12.11 (Rev. CoP17)	Standard nomenclature
14.4	Cooperation between CITES and ITTO regarding trade in tropical timber
14.7 (Rev. CoP15)	Management of nationally established export quotas
16.4	Cooperation of CITES with other biodiversity-related conventions
16.6 (Rev. CoP17)	CITES and livelihoods
16.7(Rev. CoP17)	Non-detriment findings
16.8 (Rev. CoP17)	Frequent cross-border non-commercial movements of musical instruments
16.10	Implementation of the Convention for agarwood-producing taxa
17.1	World Wildlife Day

# Decisions on or concerning tree spp., in effect after CoP17

At least 45 Decisions on tree species or concerning conservation, management and trade in those species, were adopted at the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

# Example of key tree species in Asia currently reported as seriously affected by deforestation, illegal logging and poor management regims

- *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* – Siamese Rosewood
- *Pterocarpus santalinus* – Red Sandalwood
- *Taxus spp.* – Yew wood
- *Aquilaria spp.* – Agarwood
- *Gyrinops spp.* – Agarwood
- *Gonystylus spp.* – Ramin



# Some final matters to further consider...

- How can we contribute to strengthen the implementation of CITES for tree species?
- Which would be your proposed priorities and target species and why?
- Please take the opportunity of your participation in this meeting to establish good contacts and to share your experiences.



Mahogany tree; picture of J. Grogan

[www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org)

Thank you!

