

TRAFFIC Recommendations on the Proposals to Amend the CITES Appendices at the 16th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties

Proposal #/ Proponent	Species covered by the proposal	Proposal	RECOMMENDATION
# 58 Madagascar	<i>Diospyros</i> spp. Malagasy ebony	Inclusion of the populations of Madagascar in Appendix II, and limited to logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets by an annotation	<p>Malagasy Ebony <i>Diospyros</i> spp. have been subject to intense levels of uncontrolled and illegal international trade in recent years, despite the introduction by Madagascar of legislation banning the export of precious woods in 2010. Some species are known to have restricted distributions and one, <i>D. perrieri</i>, is thought to have disappeared from western Madagascar. Given the large scale deforestation occurring in Madagascar, apparently high rates of harvesting of ebony-producing trees and the generally long generation times of ebony-producing trees, it is possible that some species meet these criteria for listing in Appendix II. There is a convincing case that listing would greatly strengthen Madagascar's efforts to reduce trade threats.</p> <p>Accurate methods to identify Malagasy Ebony at species level are not yet available and the listing of the whole genus would facilitate implementation of an Appendix II listing. Nevertheless, effective implementation of this listing would require the development of identification manuals for the species and capacity building for countries trading the genus. Madagascar would also require substantial assistance to ensure that it has a consistent legislative framework and adequate monitoring and enforcement capacity to implement the listing.</p> <p>ACCEPT</p>