

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
# 63 Madagascar	<i>Dalbergia</i> spp. Malagasy rosewood	Inclusion of the populations of Madagascar in Appendix II, and limited to logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets by an annotation	<p>Malagasy rosewoods <i>Dalbergia</i> spp. are threatened by habitat destruction, degradation and illegal harvesting. The government of Madagascar issued a Decree in 2010 which unconditionally banned all harvest, transport or export of rosewood in Madagascar for the next 2-5 years. It is unclear if this ban is still in place. The timber from some species is highly valued and international trade has risen dramatically over recent years. In 1998, IUCN considered 36 of the 43 Malagasy <i>Dalbergia</i> species as threatened. Some rosewood-bearing <i>Dalbergia</i> species are known to have restricted distributions in areas that have been subject to intensive logging in recent years. Given the large increases in exports and the generally long-generation time of these trees, it is likely that some species at least meet the 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>Methods to identify Malagasy rosewood to species level are not yet available and the listing of the genus will facilitate implementation, as well as addressing the current taxonomic confusion over the species. 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>