

**CoP17 Prop. 53. [Thailand] Deletion of annotation #5 to the listings of Siamese Rosewood *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* and replace it with annotation #4**

This is a slow growing evergreen tree found sparsely in Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Thailand and southern Viet Nam. It is in demand internationally for its wood and is included in the Chinese "Hongmu" standard of high- quality hardwoods used for furniture and cabinet-making. At CoP16 it was listed in Appendix II with annotation #5 to restrict the listing to logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets.

Harvesting of this species is either restricted (Viet Nam) or banned (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand) within its range. A recent review indicates that a significant portion of the trade in this and similar species is currently in the form of secondary processed products, particularly furniture. By crudely processing timber in the source country and exporting as furniture, it is possible to circumvent the current annotation #5. Indeed, since the Appendix II listing, large shipments of timber believed to have been illegally harvested and exported in this way have been intercepted. This proposal seeks to amend the current listing with annotation #4 to include all parts and derivatives, except seeds and seedlings or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers, and cut flowers of artificially propagated plants. The intention of using this annotation is to regulate the products in trade that are of conservation concern, which would include all timber-related products including finished furniture.

It should be noted that such an annotation would not be necessary if CoP Prop. 55 proposing inclusion of the genus *Dalbergia* in CITES Appendix II is accepted.

**ACCEPT**