

## Delete annotation #5 to the listings of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* and replace it with annotation #4

### Proponents: Thailand

**Summary:** Siamese Rosewood *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* is a slow growing evergreen tree found sparsely in open semi-deciduous forests in Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Thailand and southern Viet Nam. It is in demand internationally for its wood. It 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 of the trade in *D. cochinchinensis* 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 to produce furniture it is possible to circumvent the current annotation #5. Since the Appendix-II listing, large shipments of timber believed to have been illegally harvested and exported in this way have been intercepted.

The proponents seek 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 in order to regulate the products in trade that are of conservation concern.

**Analysis:** International trade in *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* appears to include products not included in the current annotation to the listing. This has been demonstrated by the interception of shipments of crudely processed timber exported as furniture. Annotation #4 would include all timber-related products including finished furniture, which are those of evident conservation concern.

Prop. 55 seeks to include all species of *Dalbergia*, except those in Appendix I, in Appendix II with no annotation. Depending on the order in which proposals are taken, if Proposal 53 is considered before Proposal 55, *D. cochinchinensis* would be included in the genus-level listing with no annotation if Proposal 55 were to be accepted, meaning that all readily recognisable parts and derivatives would be covered by the listing. There would be little practical difference between the two listings.