

CoP17 Prop 57 [Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, European Union, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal and Togo]

Inclusion of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* in Appendix II, without annotation

This species is widely used locally throughout its range and has a high socio-cultural importance. The timber is exported to China as *Hongmu* (“redwood”) timber for furniture-making. In the last six years, the trade has been very heavy, reaching 700 000 m³ in 2014. The heartwood is highly priced, and can only be found in trees above a certain diameter class that are targeted, potentially leading to commercial extinction of the species. Current levels of timber harvest are likely to be unsustainable. Despite at least seven range States imposing either total export or harvesting bans, the species continues to be heavily traded internationally, indicating that much of the trade is unauthorized or illegal.

The proposal is without any annotation – this would allow for monitoring and regulation of specimens other than primary products in trade due to the possibility of annotations being used to circumvent trade controls.

CITES, ITTO and donor countries should be encouraged to provide support to the range States for the effective implementation of this listing and assist them in developing methodologies for preparing forest management plans and conducting non-detriment findings, especially to balance the extensive use of the species with the need for revenue generation. In addition, an Appendix II listing would encourage co-operation of non-range States in the implementation of existing regulatory measures.

Senegal listed all populations of the species in Appendix III, which came into force from May 9, 2016, while the 22nd Plants Committee in October 2015 recommended the inclusion of *P. erinaceus* in Appendix II.

ACCEPT