

CoP17 Prop 59 [Algeria] Inclusion of Algerian Fir *Abies numidica* in Appendix I

The species is endemic to Algeria and is found in a restricted location. Populations are apparently declining and regeneration appears to be limited. However, the species is found widely outside of its range and is grown as an ornamental tree in parks and larger gardens. It is cultivated widely and easily hybridized with other *Abies* species. It is not exploited for its timber. Possibly seeds are collected in the wild, but there is no information to confirm this. Unless very substantial quantities were collected, or harvest was destructive (through felling of the trees) such trade would be highly unlikely to have an effect on the wild population. It is not clear therefore whether the species meets the criteria for inclusion in Appendix I and there does not appear to be any tangible conservation benefit of such a listing. Enforcement action needed to support this listing would also be challenging due to the high volumes of cultivated *Abies* species in trade.

REJECT