

CoP17 Prop 60 [USA] Amendment of the listings of *Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp. in Appendix II

The tree genera *Aquilaria* and *Gyrinops* are distributed from north-east India across Southeast Asia and parts of southern China, reaching the eastern extreme of their known range in Papua New Guinea. Resinous heartwood, known variously as agarwood, oudh, gaharu and eaglewood among other vernacular names, is produced inconsistently by some trees in the wild. Agarwood is traded in a variety of forms, including wood chips, powder and as an essential oil, for use as incense, perfume, and traditional medicine. The current bespoke annotation #14 governing trade in agarwood exempts from CITES controls wood chips that are packaged and ready for retail trade. This is reported to be inconsistently applied. Removal of the exemption would ensure that all agarwood chips, however packaged, would be subject to CITES controls (apart from those exempt under personal effects as specified in Res. Conf. 13.7 (Rev CoP16)). As wood chips are a significant component of the overall agarwood trade, this revised annotation is in line with ensuring CITES controls cover those commodities that first appear in international trade as exports from range States, and dominate the demand for the wild resource. This amendment would allow for more consistent application of CITES controls.

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