

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA



Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Johannesburg (South Africa), 24 September – 5 October 2016

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

A. Proposal

Amendment of the annotation to the listings of *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* as follow:-

Delete the current annotation #5 Logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets.

Replace it with annotation #4 that reads as follows:

#4 All parts and derivatives, except:

- a) seeds (including seedpods of Orchidaceae), spores and pollen (including pollinia). The exemption does not apply to seeds from Cactaceae spp. exported from Mexico, and to seeds from *Beccariophoenix madagascariensis* and *Neodypsis decaryi* exported from Madagascar;
- b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained in vitro, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers;
- c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants;
- d) fruits, and parts and derivatives thereof, of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genus *Vanilla* (Orchidaceae) and of the family Cactaceae;
- e) stems, flowers, and parts and derivatives thereof, of naturalized or artificially propagated plants of the genera *Opuntia* subgenus *Opuntia* and *Selenicereus* (Cactaceae); and
- f) finished products of *Euphorbia antisyphilitica* packaged and ready for retail trade.

B. Proponent

Thailand^{*}:

C. Supporting statement

1. Taxonomy

- 1.1 Class: Magnoliopsida
- 1.2 Order: Fabales
- 1.3 Family: Fabaceae (Leguminosae)

^{*} *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat (or the United Nations Environment Programme) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

Subfamily: Papilionoideae

1.4 Genus, species or subspecies, including author and year: *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* Pierre 1898

1.5 Scientific synonyms: *Dalbergia cambodiana* Pierre

1.6 Common names: English: Rosewood, Siamese rosewood, Thailand rosewood, Vietnamese rosewood or Trắc wood
French: -
Spanish: -

Trade name: "Redwood", "Hongmu" (in Chinese) or "Cảm Lai" (in Vietnamese)

1.7 Code numbers: -

2. Rational

Siamese rosewood had been listed as "vulnerable" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature since 1998. At its 16th meeting (CoP16, Bangkok 2013), the Conference of the Parties to CITES agreed to the inclusion of the Siamese rosewood population (*Dalbergia cochinchinensis*) in Appendix II, with an annotation restricting the listing to "log, sawn wood and veneer sheets" or annotation #5.

The intent of the listing is to cover the major products in trade that pose a conservation threat to the species in the wild. Since the Appendix II listing in March 2013, the large shipment of timber has been intercepted while being exported illegally from Thailand. Between October 2012 and September 2013, there were 1,619 cases regarding the illegal trade of *D. cochinchinensis* with a quantity of 1,116 cubic metres. Furthermore, during October 2013 and September 2014, there were 2,767 cases of illegal trade of this species with a quantity of 1,858.60 cubic metres. These seizures reflect the large scale of the illegal trade in *D. cochinchinensis*.

A review of the trade in *D. cochinchinensis* has been carried out and it shows that the trade of this species includes parts and derivatives not regulated under the current annotation #5. This species has a high market value and on-going demand in trade for all parts of the tree other than those covered under the current annotation #5 (i.e. log, sawn wood and veneer sheets).

Range states of *D. cochinchinensis* have implemented domestic legislation to prohibit the harvest and export of this species, in particular as primary timber products, such as logs. An analysis of the exports from *D. cochinchinensis* range states and the imports by major importing/ processing Parties shows that a large portion of the trade in "rosewood" species is currently in the form of secondary processed products, particularly furniture. The traders can crudely process the timber in the source country and then export it as furniture to circumvent the control. Increasingly large volumes of illegal Siamese rosewood are found to be traded in this way.

Regarding the high demand of market for many different forms of this species, the illegal trade from range states is also of concern. A Notification to the Parties was issued in July 2014 (Notification No. 2014/032) requesting all Parties to assist Thailand in regulating the illegal trade. As an emergency response to this illegal trade, this species was discussed at the Regional Dialogue on Siamese Rosewood and illegal logging (Bangkok, Dec.2014) and it was noted at the 11th meeting of the Association of the South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Experts Group on CITES (AEG on CITES) in Brunei (May 2015) that a change in the annotation to the *D. cochinchinensis* listing would assist in the regulation of the trade.

Amendments to annotations may be necessary when clarification is required as to the intent of the annotation, when trade patterns shift or when they do not regulate the products in trade that are of conservation concern (as seen with other CITES listed species e.g. *Cistanche deserticola*, *Hoodia* spp. and *Aniba rosaeodora*). The annotations #5 and #6 have frequently been used for CITES-listed tree species [see Resolution Conf. 10.13 (Rev. CoP15)], but where appropriate other annotations have been used. For example the genus *Gonystylus* (ramin) was listed at CoP13 (Bangkok, October 2004) with annotation #4.

3. Consultations

On March 24, 2016, the Management Authority for Flora of Thailand sent consultation letters to the CITES Authorities in Cambodia, Laos PDR and Vietnam as well as seven organizations, with regard to a potential CoP17 by Thailand to amend the annotation to *D. cochinchinensis*.

Having been received the supporting letters from CITES Management Authority of Vietnam and ITTO by date April 4, and April 15, 2016 respectively.