



NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2018/084

Geneva, 1 November 2018

CONCERNING:

APPLICATION OF ARTICLE XIII IN NIGERIA

Recommendation to suspend commercial trade in West African rosewood (*Pterocarpus erinaceus*) and other recommendations

1. Pursuant to Article XIII of the Convention, the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting (SC70, Sochi, October 2018) adopted recommendations concerning Nigeria with respect to the management of trade in specimens of West African rosewood (*Pterocarpus erinaceus*), as follows:
 - a) *Parties shall suspend commercial trade in specimens of the species Pterocarpus erinaceus from Nigeria until the Party makes scientifically based non-detriment findings for trade in the species in the country to the satisfaction of the Secretariat and the Chair of the Plants Committee.*
2. The Secretariat hereby notifies Parties of the Standing Committee's recommendation to suspend commercial trade in specimens of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* from Nigeria with immediate effect. Parties are requested to inform their enforcement and customs authorities of this recommendation to suspend trade to avoid the inadvertent acceptance of specimens of species subject to such a recommendation. Parties that issue import permits for trade in specimens of Appendix-II species are also encouraged to consult the list when processing applications.
3. The Standing Committee further encouraged all importing Parties to inform the Secretariat about the volumes of timber of *Pterocarpus erinaceus* imported from Nigeria since the entry into force of the Appendix-II listing.
4. The Standing Committee also invited the importing Parties to share with the Secretariat the administrative, legislative and enforcement arrangements put in place to ensure that trade in specimens of this species only takes place when Parties are satisfied that it is in line with the requirements of the Convention, including any relevant stricter domestic measure to verify legality and ensure sustainability; and encouraged those Parties to consider inviting the Secretariat to conduct technical missions in order to strengthen cooperation between range States and importing countries and identify further recommendations to ensure that timber trade is conducted in accordance with the Convention.
5. Pursuant to Article XIII of the Convention, the Standing Committee finally adopted additional recommendations concerning Nigeria regarding legislation and enforcement; issuance of export permits and information systems; and handling and disposal of seized stockpiles. Nigeria was requested to report on the implementation of the recommendations to the Secretariat by 31 December 2019 for the Secretariat to convey the report and its comments as well as recommended follow-up measures in case of continued non-compliance to the 73rd meeting of the Standing Committee. The recommendations are contained in document SC70 Sum. 12, pages 1-3, available online at: <https://cites.org/eng/com/sc/70/sum/index.php>.
6. Parties are reminded that the complete list of Parties subject to a recommendation to suspend trade is available on the CITES website under [Documents/Trade suspensions](#).