Species trade and conservation

BIGLEAF MAHOGANY

This document has been prepared by a working group of the Standing Committee on the basis of document SC57 Doc. 36.

The Working Group recommends that the Standing Committee adopt the following text:

1. The Standing Committee took note of the information contained in document SC57 Doc. 36, including the Secretariat’s assessment of Peru’s progress in implementing the recommendations of SC55. The Committee also took note of the information provided by Peru on recent developments, including newly enacted legislation to strengthen implementation of CITES, and other efforts to implement the recommendations made at SC55 and advice provided by the Secretariat in the context of its mission to Peru in May 2008.

2. The Standing Committee recognized the considerable efforts that Peru has made to improve forest sector governance, management of concessions and other forest management areas, and the effectiveness of oversight mechanisms. The Committee welcomed Peru’s report that the Strategic Action Plan for Mahogany (PAEC) that had been adopted at the highest political level and encouraged Peru to implement the PAEC. The Committee also urged importing countries, relevant international organizations and others to fully support the efforts made by Peru to implement the PAEC and the Committee’s recommendations.

3. Regarding leftovers from harvesting and exports of 2007 and previous years, the Committee welcomed Peru’s assurance that there were no leftovers from years prior to 2007. The Committee also welcomed information provided by Peru on the manner in which the 2007 and 2008 export quotas had been established and were being managed. However, the Committee noted the need for further improvements in the communication of information on the implementation of the quota.

4. Regarding the leftovers of 2007, the Committee recommended that Peru should provide a “baseline” report on the remaining volume that can be authorized for export, and subsequent reports, on a quarterly basis, regarding the disposition of the remainder of the volume authorized for harvest in 2007. Information on the authorized and verified concessions and other forest management areas where the timber was harvested should be included on the CITES permit in box 5 (“special conditions”) and annexes.

5. As a positive step toward demonstrating implementation of the Convention, the Committee suggested that all Parties exporting mahogany consider including information on the authorized and verified concessions or other forest management areas where the timber was harvested on their CITES permits in box 5 and annexes.

6. The Committee welcomed Peru’s offer to continue including information on the volume of mahogany to be harvested from authorized and verified concessions or other forest management areas, the number of the concession or forest management area and the amount to be exported in the
communication of their annual export quota, which will be made available on the CITES website. It also welcomed Peru’s offer to include copies of its CITES export permits for mahogany in its annual reports to the Secretariat for 2008 and subsequent years.

7. To further enhance monitoring this trade, the Committee recommended that importers of mahogany from Peru should also report regularly, to Peru and to the Secretariat, on their imports of mahogany, including the CITES permit number, volume and quota year.

8. The Committee recommended that Peru continue the practice of establishing the annual volume of mahogany to be harvested based on the advice of the Scientific Authority, using only timber from authorized and verified concessions and other forest management areas.

9. Regarding the 2009 quota, the Committee welcomed Peru’s commitment to take into account the recommendations of the commission on timber yield coefficients, as one of the factors used to calculate the export quota based on authorized harvest.

10. The Committee reviewed all of the recommendations made at SC55 and noted that a number of them had now been addressed or had expired. However, the Committee recognized the continuing validity of recommendations c) i) and c) iii).

11. The Committee recommended that the Secretariat continue to provide assistance to Peru, in the context of CITES-ITTO cooperation, in order to support further improvements in Peru’s capacity to implement the requirements of the Convention for mahogany.

12. The Committee recommended that the Secretariat continue to support and monitor Peru’s progress in implementing the requirements of the Convention for mahogany and report at SC58.