



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2018/007

Geneva, 15 January 2018

CONCERNING:

### MADAGASCAR

Recommendation to suspend commercial trade from Madagascar of specimens of *Diospyros* spp. (populations from Madagascar; annotation #5) and *Dalbergia* spp. (annotation #15)

1. At its 69th meeting (SC69, Geneva, November 2017), the Standing Committee considered the trade from Madagascar in CITES-listed ebonies (*Diospyros* spp.), and palisanders and rosewoods (*Dalbergia* spp.), based on reports submitted by the Secretariat and Madagascar. At that meeting, the Standing Committee

*agreed to maintain the recommendation for Parties not to accept exports or re-exports for commercial purposes from Madagascar of specimens of *Diospyros* spp. (populations from Madagascar; annotation #5) and *Dalbergia* spp. (annotation #15) until Madagascar has complied with the provisions in Decision 17.204, paragraphs e) and f), by:*

- i) significantly strengthening control and enforcement measures against illegal logging and export at the national level, including seizures, investigations, arrests, prosecutions, and sanctions, including towards high-level offenders;*
  - ii) submitting an audited inventory of at least a third of the confiscated and declared stockpiles of logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets of species of *Dalbergia* spp. and *Diospyros* spp. from Madagascar for consideration and approval of the Committee; and*
  - iii) submitting a use plan that is revised as recommended in page 11, paragraph d) of document [SC69 Sum. 10 \(Rev. 1\)](#), for consideration and approval of the Committee;*
2. The Secretariat reminds the Parties that, on 11 June 2017, the Standing Committee had already decided by postal procedure to

*acknowledge that finished products of *Dalbergia* spp. that were produced, packaged, ready for retail trade and duly registered and authorized for export in Madagascar prior to 2 January 2017 are not covered by the recommendation to suspend trade. Consequently, exports of those registered specimens can take place in accordance with the relevant special provisions of the Convention related to trade in pre-convention specimens.*

3. The Secretariat draws attention of the Parties that, at SC69, in recommendations b), h) and i), the Standing Committee also:

*b) invited countries that seized large consignments of CITES-listed rosewood and ebony originating in Madagascar to share information in support of investigations and prosecutions in Madagascar; and to request the assistance from the International Consortium to Combat Wildlife Crime (ICWC) in undertaking these investigations;*

*h) urged Parties and relevant partners to provide technical and financial assistance to support the implementation of Decisions 17.203 to 17.208 and the finalization and implementation of the use plan; and*

- i) *invited transit and destination Parties to implement Decision 17.203 and follow guidance provided in Resolution Conf. 17.8 on Disposal of illegally traded and confiscated specimens of CITES-listed species, in particular paragraphs 2 and 8 therein, and to report progress to the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee (Sochi, 1 to 5 October 2018).*

4. This Notification replaces Notification to the Parties No. 2017/047 of 27 June 2017.