



## NOTIFICATION TO THE PARTIES

No. 2018/083

Geneva, 1 November 2018

CONCERNING:

### APPLICATION OF ARTICLE XIII IN THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

#### Recommendation to suspend commercial trade in rosewood (*Dalbergia* spp.) and other recommendations

1. Pursuant to Article XIII of the Convention, the Standing Committee at its 70th meeting (SC70, Sochi, October 2018) adopted a recommendation concerning the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) with respect to the management of exports of *Dalbergia* spp., as follows:
  - a) *Parties shall suspend commercial trade in specimens of the genus Dalbergia spp., including finished products, such as carvings and furniture, from the Lao People's Democratic Republic until Lao PDR makes scientifically based non-detriment findings for trade in the relevant species, including D. cochinchinensis and D. oliveri in the country to the satisfaction of the Secretariat.*
2. The Secretariat hereby notifies Parties of the Standing Committee's recommendation to suspend commercial trade in specimens of *Dalbergia* spp., including finished products such as carvings and furniture from the Lao People's Democratic Republic with immediate effect.
3. 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.
4. The Standing Committee, at its 70th meeting, also adopted additional recommendations concerning Lao PDR with respect to: national legislation; CITES Scientific Authorities, enforcement; monitoring of wildlife farms and related trade; and public awareness raising. Lao PDR was requested to report on the implementation of the recommendations to the Secretariat by 1 February 2019 for the Secretariat to convey the report and its recommendations to the next meeting of the Standing Committee (SC71, Colombo, May 2019). The recommendations are contained in document SC70 Sum. 2, pages 1-3, available online at: <https://cites.org/eng/com/sc/70/sum/index.php>.
5. The Standing Committee further invited Parties, CITES Secretariat, international non-governmental organizations and development partners to make efforts to respond to requests for capacity-building and technical support expressed by Lao PDR to implement the recommendations and to coordinate their support to maximize effectiveness and minimize overlap. In response to a request by Lao PDR and within available resources, the Secretariat will support Lao PDR authorities in the implementation of these recommendations, including on the development of non-detriment findings for the relevant species of the genus *Dalbergia* spp., the development of adequate national legislation, capacity-building of the CITES authorities and development of an information-collection and reporting system that links several government agencies and provincial offices on CITES-related matters.
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](#).

7. This Notification replaces Notification to the Parties No. 2017/0012 of 1 February 2017.