



**REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON THE CONSERVATION STATUS OF BUBINGA
(*Guibourtia sp*) AND WENGE (*Millettia laurentii*) SPECIES IN AFRICA.**

From the 06th to 07th June 2012, hotel “ la Falaise” Douala, Cameroon.



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Summary

A regional workshop was held in Douala (Cameroon) from 06th to 07th June 2012 on the conservation status of Bubinga (*Guibourtia sp.*) and Wengé (*Millettia laurentii*), two high value timber species in Africa. In fact, rising concerns about over-utilization of these species were observed. The workshop was jointly sponsored by the German Cooperation, the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and hosted by the Government of Cameroon through its Ministry of Forest and Wildlife.

The overall goal of the workshop was to assess the state-of-the art of Bubinga and Wenge in Africa, analyse their vulnerability and establish their conservation status in each country.

Some forty participants from producer countries (Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea), consumer/buyer countries (Germany), international organizations (ITTO), logging companies (SIFCO in Congo), research and university institutions (University of Yaoundé I, IRAD), International cooperation (GTZ) attended the workshop.

The workshop was conducted in a sequence of five units: The workshop opening ceremony, attended by Cameroonian Secretary of State For The Ministry of Forestry And Wildlife (MINFOF); presentations by experts and Government representatives of producer and importer countries; workshop sessions (working groups); the plenary session to validate the outcomes of workshop sessions; and the closing ceremony.

At the end of the workshop, the participants made the following declaration: « Yes, we have preoccupations in the pressure exercised on Bubinga and Wenge in Cameroon, and presumptions of pressure in other countries. However, we acknowledge the fact that there is lack of concrete information to propose a direct registration of these species in to CITES appendixes II or III . This information concerns the biology, ecology, distribution area and current potentials in particular. Meanwhile, these studies could be extended to other species like Longhi blanc (*Gambeya lacourtiana*) for the case of Congo, Essessang (*Ricinodendron heudelotti*) and the Akossika (*Scohellia klaineana*) for the Ivory Coast. All these studies require financing which could come from several sources notably the concerned states and development partners »

1 Introduction

1.1. Context

From 6th to 7th June 2012, was held at Hotel “La Falaise”, Douala, Cameroon a regional workshop on the conservation status of Bubinga and Wengé tree species.

Rising concerns about over-utilization of some timber species have been reported from Cameroon and neighboring countries. Internationally traded species such as Wengé (*Millettia laurentii*) and Bubinga (*Guibourtia tessmannii*, *G. demeusi*, *G.pellegriniana*) have been mentioned in particular. These timber species are highly solicited in the local and international markets for the high quality of their wood. As first step, the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) launched a study on the state of the art on the conservation status and to gather statistical data on the production and exportation of products deriving from Bubinga and Wengé tree species in range countries.

The workshop was placed under the high patronage of the Cameroon Minister of Forestry and wildlife.

1.2. Objectives

The overall goal of the workshop was to assess the state-of-the art of Bubinga and Wenge in Africa, analyse their vulnerability and to establish their conservation status in each country. Specific objectives were :

- To present the results of the study conducted on the state of the art on Bubinga and Wenge ;
- To identify weaknesses observed at both logging and exportation of those tree species ;
- To propose different options of management ;
- To examine the possibility or not to draft a proposal for listing Bubinga and /or Wenge in appendix II of CITES ;

1.3. Audience

About forty participants were present at this workshop. They were representatives of Government administrations of producer countries including Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Equatorial Guinea, Ivory coast, Gabon,

Republic of Congo, Representatives of timber industry exploiting Bubinga and/or Wengé (SIFCO in Congo), representatives from universities and research institutions (University of Yaoundé I, IRAD), representatives of importing countries (Germany), representatives of international organizations (ITTO, GTZ). The list of participants is presented in appendix 1.

2 Summary of speeches and presentations

2.1 Summaries of Speeches

Three allocutions were pronounced namely:

- A word from the General Coordinator of the joint ITTO - CITES program, representing the ED of ITTO;
- Opening speech from the secretary of state of the ministry of forestry and wildlife Cameroon (MINFOF) of Cameroon;
- Closing speech from the Governor of the littoral region.

2.1.1. Word from Dr. Steven JOHNSON General Coordinator of the joint ITTO – CITES Program

Dr. Steven JOHNSON saluted the participation of all and thanked the government of the republic of Cameroon through the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife for having accepted to host this workshop. He continued by thanking the secretary of state for the Ministry of forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) for accepting to preside over the opening ceremony.

Dr Steven JOHNSON recalled that the ITTO and CITES collaborate to assist countries to better put in application CITES recommendations on tree species. He said that ITTO has accompanied with success Cameroon, Congo, and the Democratic Republic of Congo to elaborate non-detriment findings in two tree species including Pigeum (*Prunus africana*) and Aframosia/Assamela (*Pericopsis elata*). This work has permitted to remove the suspension of these species listed in CITES appendix II. As such, the inscription of new species in to CITES list should not be taken as a problem. ITTO and its partners shall always be ready to accompany member countries for a sustainable management of the species listed in the CITES appendixes.

2.1.2. The Speech By The Cameroonian Secretary of State For The Ministry Of Forestry And Wildlife (MINFOF)

Mrs Koulsoumi Alagji spouse Boukar appreciated the efforts made by participants travelling long distances to honour presence at this meeting. She rapidly thanked the ITTO, CITES and the German cooperation for their ceaseless effort towards our country within the frame work of the joint programme for the management of flora species registered in appendix II of CITES.

She said that Cameroon has always paid priority attention on species already listed in this appendix due to obligatory constraints concerning the exchange of the said species in application of the disposition required by the CITES convention. The case of Bubinga and Wenge, two tree species not yet under CITES control and on which the workshop will target is an illustration of our countries willingness to control as well as to manage tree species already under CITES list such as Assaméla and Pigéum as well as those potentially to be registered in the appendixes of this convention. Meanwhile, her wish is that participants should reflect more on the strategies and mechanisms before additional inscription of species judged to be already under pressure from international exchange. At the end of the workshop, we should be able to answer the question: Are we able on our own to regulate the trade on natural species potentially endangered like Bubinga and Wenge? Or must we resort to international cooperation to attain this objective? She equally assured participants of the minister's determination to implement the recommendations that would be made.

Lastly, while wishing the participants a nice stay in Cameroon, she declared open the international workshop on the management of forestry species potential to be registered in the appendixes of CITES.

2.1.3. The closing speech of the Littoral Governor

The Governor of the Littoral region first of all extended his sincere gratitude to the organisers of this important international meeting for the choice of Littoral Region for which its management has been confined on him. The Governor said he was happy with all the option that has been taken by participants as was presented in the final declaration. He said that if these individual and collective orientations are implemented, it will secure our flora species, especially those showing signs of vulnerability. He equally exhorted the different countries representatives for more determination in their work and solidarity of actions.

Lastly, the Governor noted that there is hope that “the Douala declaration “will not remain a good will declaration, but will be a guide for each of the countries.

2.2 Summaries of Presentations

Under the control of the moderator Mr. KOLOKOSSO A BEDIANG , the participants listened to the different presentations as below;

- Backgroun information on the conservation status of Bubinga and Wenge in africa by Dr. Jean Lagarde BETTI, Regional Coordinator of the Joint ITTO – CITES program in Africa;
- EU Import restrictions on timber products into European community, by Franck BARSCH from Germany
- Conservation statute of the species Bubinga and Wenge in:
 - o Cameroon (Janviers Salomon BELINGA);
 - o Congo (Jean Claude BANZOUZI);
 - o Ivory Coast (Gustave APATA);
 - o Equatorial Guinea (MICHA ONDO);
 - o Central African Republic (David OUANGANDO);
 - o Democratic Republic of Congo (Gérard IPANTUA);
- the mechanisms of CITES by MBARGA Narcise of ANAFOR

The presentations were followed by questions and fruitful exchanges. The comments and suggestions of participants have been integrated in the different documents.

2.2.1 Review on the status of conservation of Bubinga and Wenge in Africa

This report summarizes the basic information on Bubinga (*Guibourtia* species) and Wengé (*Millettia laurentii*), their biological and ecological data, utilization and trade, and the management systems and legislations in Africa with reference to Cameroon. Data presented and discussed are based on the literature revue, internet research, discussions with different stake holders, and field observations.

Wengé (*Millettia laurentii*) and Bubinga (*Guibourtia tessmannii*, *G. demeusei*, *G.pellegriniana*, *G. ehie*, *G. arnoldiana*) tree species are important timber species in Africa. Cameroon (5 *Guibourtia* tree species), Congo (4), Democratic republic of Congo (4), Equatorial Guinea (4), Gabon (4), Ghana (4), Nigeria (4) appear to be in this order countries which host many species of *Guibourtia*. *Millettia laurentii* is found in Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Congo, Gabon, Mozambique, Tanzania, Democratic republic of Congo.

Excepted for *Guibourtia ehie* and *Millettia laurentii*, no clear information is given for other tree species for what concerns their global conservation status. *G. ehie* is vulnerable while *M. laurentii* is said to be endangered according to IUCN Redlist. The status of other tree species in the wild is currently listed as unknown due to insufficient information.

In Cameroon the distribution of Bubinga and Wengé tree species is largely restricted to the South and littoral regions, with some stands in the Centre and East region. Three out of the *Guibourtia* tree species found in Cameroon are largely known for their use as timber: *Guibourtia tessmannii* (Bubinga rose), *G. demeusei* (Bubinga rouge), and *G. ehie* (Ovengkol). Occurrence maps of Bubinga and Wengé tend to show many dissimilarities in the results obtained by the same and/or different sources in different years (1985, 2004, 2011) in Cameroon. This makes it difficult to decide on the trend on Bubinga and Wengé tree species. In fact, in such a situation, it is difficult to say if the occurrence/occupancy areas of Bubinga and Wengé tree species are increasing or decreasing.

Data gathered in different document of the management plans of the production forest tend to show that Bubinga species are less represented in their range area in Cameroon, where they occur with densities less than 0.04 stem/ha. Specific curves of Bubinga species show irregular feature, which illustrates the problem of regeneration for those tree species.

Cameroon hosts five *Guibourtia* tree species. But it is only *G. demeusei* and *G. tessmannii* which are largely logged. *G. demeusei* is the three species which has the highest logging volume requested between 2008 and 2012. Sale of standing volume appear to be the forest title which requested the high volume of Bubinga and Wengé tree species with 56.2% of the total volume between 2008 and 2012. They are followed by forest management units composed of definitive (52 010 m³) and temporary (8 971 m³) concessions. The problem here is that, sales of standing volume are titles where rigorous measures for sustaining the resource are not applied. A total of 60 061 m³ of Bubinga and Wengé tree species was requested by forest management units (FMUs) between 2008 and 2012. *G. demeusei* and *Millettia laurentii* are the two most important tree species which were requested by FMU with about 28 900 m³ each tree species. It is paradoxal to see that, some FMUs for which the document of the management plan outlined the threatening of Bubinga and/or Wengé species, have requested to log those species.

As a conservative measure, the Cameroon government has delimited a series of protected areas in the distribution area of Bubinga and Wengé. The national park of Campo ma'an being the protected area which hosts the high number of species including *Millettia laurentii* and four Bubinga species. Nothing has been done for what concerns plantations and silvicultural trials. The pressure on the Bubinga species is effective. The harvest zones are becoming more and more far from the villages, at 4 to 5 kilometers in the forest. This makes the transport of the wood quite difficult. The pressure on Bubinga arised since some three years ago, with the arrival of the asian people in the business. About 75% of the persons interviewed attributed the importance of illegal logging of Bubinga to the "asian phenomenal". Today, asian people use not only the wood, but also stem barks, leaves, and roots of Bubinga. Logs are more expensive than sawn wood. The importance of Bubinga market increased in two phases: in 2011, the products were only sawn wood. Since 2012, there are also logs. Operations of illegal logging of Bubinga are often conducted by night, with the high complicity of local villagers who perceive too much funds and who do not hesitate to beat everyone who wants to stop the logging of their Bubinga trees.

Some legal forest companies who do not get enough volume of Bubinga species in their concession cut the Bubinga that is found in the periphery of their forest and use their documents to convey the timber till the Douala port. Other timber companies declare the Bubinga as the Ebiara. Ebiara and Bubinga have similar features.

In the littoral and south regions of Cameroon, the volume of Bubinga seized or the amount of the revenues yielded by the illegal Bubinga seized in four months in 2012 is 1.4 times more important than that of all the Bubinga wood seized from January to December 2011. This result illustrates the high pressure of illegal loggers on the Bubinga tree species. About 95% of persons interviewed declared that Bubinga and Wengé are under pressure in Cameroon due to the illegal logging.

At a regional level, the pressure on the Bubinga and Wengé species seems effective in different African countries including the CAR, Congo, DRC, Equatorial Guinea. The export volumes are increasing since a few years ago in each of those countries, with Asian countries importing huge volumes. Asian people are too many, and this will continue to increase the demand on Bubinga and Wengé products.

Based on what precedes, following recommendations are made to better ensure trade on Bubinga and Wengé tree species is not detrimental to their conservation in forests:

0. To conduct detail research on the biology, ecology, phenology, and silviculture to better refine standards and management parameters that should sustain the exploitation and trade of Bubinga and Wengé species in Cameroon as far as in other African countries;
1. to conduct good and sound forest inventories to better appreciate the distribution area, density and the possibility (volume) of Bubinga and Wengé species
2. to promote the use and trade on other tree species with almost similar properties as to reduce the pressure on Bubinga and Wengé species;;
3. to define some quotas for export products;
4. to strengthen the forest control by increasing the number of controllers at the exit points (Douala port for example) and equipping forest officers with adapted materials (GPS, Turaya cell phones, vehicles, bikes, etc.) to better tackle illegal logging and export;
5. to strengthen the capacities of forest officers for the identification of Bubinga and Wengé species at all levels including logs and sawn wood;
6. to allow villagers to easily exploit their Bubinga trees by easing the procedures of getting “special permits” and/or promoting the development of community forests in the distribution area of Bubinga and Wengé;
7. to train both forest and custom officers in the procedures of control of forest products and to encourage their collaboration in the procedures of loading the containers and boarding;
8. to assess the real density and strengthen the conservation of Bubinga and Wengé in protected areas; Campo ma’an national park should be targeted;
9. to put in place a framework of collaboration between public and private stakeholders involved in the management and use of Bubinga and Wengé in Cameroon;
10. to list those tree species in the CITES appendix as to ensure their international trade is compatible with their conservation in their natural habitats.

2.2.2. EC Import Restrictions on Timber Products into the European Community Regulations & Relevance For CITES Listed Species, by Frank BARSCH:

The FLEGT Regulation aims to (a) Setting up of a licensing scheme to prevent imports of illegal timber, (b) develop control measures, and (c) conclude voluntary partnership agreements with countries & regional organisations. The FLEGT Implementation to date has consisted to sign first partnership agreements (e.g. with Cameroon). the FLEGT licensing scheme is under development, but there are still many open questions on how to guarantee the legal origin of products. The CITES listed species are not subject to FLEGT, since necessary requirements of FLEGT are fulfilled by CITES obligations (e.g. Non Detriment Findings). CITES listed species are able to be traded without finalised FLEGT licensing scheme & control measured when the CITES obligation are met. Experiences with CITES management may help to implement FLEGT (lessons learned)

The EU Regulation 995/2010 on illegal timber imports (a) lays down the obligations on the operator in timber trade, (b) onus of proof of legal origin is with the importer/trader, (c) CITES listed species are considered to be legally harvested when CITES obligations are met. For entering into force, the regulation shall be applied from 3th March 2013. No timber imports into the EU shall be possible without proof of legal origin.

Listing Bubinga and/or Wenge in CITES Appendices? If range states decide to propose one or more timber species for listing in App. II of CITES, (a) Germany (BMU) can provide assistance to develop the proposals, (b) BMU is interested in further cooperation's to improve CITES management, e.g.NDFs

EU as Co-proponent? (a) EU could be requested as Co-proponent for App. II proposals, (b) EU commission signalled interest in such support, (c) Germany offers to apply with EU, (d) deadline for application process: 26: June 2012.

2.2.3 Conservation status of Bubinga and Wenge in each country

2.2.3.1. Cameroon by Mr Salomon Janvier BELINGA

Bubinga and Wengé are two important tree species with high technological properties. The price Free on board for logs are for Bubinga: 149 600 FCFA/m³ ; Wengé: 104 720 FCFA/m³. Vivien and Faure (1985) signaled the presence of Red Bubinga in the extreme South –East, whereas, management inventories conducted indicate instead the presence of pink Bubinga in this zone.

Vivien and Faure (2011) do no longer talk of red Bubinga like they affirmed in 1985, but instead of *G. Pellegriniana*. As such, the distribution area differs according to the source of information, which makes it difficult to know if the distribution area is increasing or decreasing. Management inventories realised between 2003 and 2008 showed low density of Bubing everywhere, less than 0,05stems/ha, therefore not exploitable; Density of Wenge low except in the forest management unit 09023. In Cameroon, empirical data furnish by ANAFOR (CITES flora scientific authority of Cameroon) led the forest administration to ban in 2010 the exploitation of Bubinga coming from community forests and other zones of the non permanent domain. The quota are only attributed for Bubinga coming from forest management units (FMU) disposing an approved management and where species are very much represented. A mandate has been given to ANAFOR to carry out detailed studies for a clearer position of these species. The Red Bubinga's provisional volume is in net increased between 2008 and 2012. The sale of standing volume are forest titles which have solicited the hugh volume of Bubinga and Wengé species between 2008 and 2012, followed by FMUs. In the entire southern region, the volume of illegal Bubinga confiscated within four months of activity in 2012 is higher than that confiscated in 2011 : 1.5 times more important. Operations of illegal logging take place generally in the night with available means and in complicity with the villagers. Logs are put into containers right in the forest.

2.2.3.2. Congo by Jean Claude BANZOUZI

In Congo, Forest area is: 22 411 000 ha. The certified forest area covers 2 478 943 ha. The total of forest area being under management is 6 015 531 ha. Protected areas cover 3 610 154 ha. Inventories realised in the framework of management plans in the North-Congo revealed that density of Bubinga varies from 0.001 to 0.16 stems/ha, while that of Wengé varies from 0.122 to 1.7 stems/ha. The reconstitution rate of Bubinga varies from 60 to 87%, while that of Wengé varies from 18 to 100%. The density of White Longhi oscillates between 0.08 and 0.1 stems/ha, and its reconstitution rate between 24 and 271%. A total of 67 476 m³ of Wengé was produced between 2008 and 2011 from which a total of 33 769.91 m³ (50%) was exported. As conclusion, we can say that there is an eminent danger for white Longhi in the south-Congo, its vulnerability has been noticed and requires an investigation in order to define eventual new rules of management. The production rythm of Wenge is such that conservatory measures have to be put in place such as the quota limitations like in the case *Pericopsis elata*/Afromosia. The fact

Bubinga species is almost not exploited at this moment, do not keep them save from threat. It is a rare species in our forests, and for that, an investigation is necessary in order to quantify its current situation and define eventually new rules for its exploitation and management.

2.2.3.3. Ivory Coast presented by Gustave APATA

Between 2004 and 2010, about 53 tree species are exploited each year in Ivory Coast from the classified forests and 72 tree species are exploited each year in the non classified forests. From 2004 to 2010, the total volume of timber exploited has passed from 1 698 700 m³ to 991 200 m³, which illustrates a decrease of more than 41%. This decrease is for all the species including the two most logged species: fromager or *Ceiba pentandra* (with 402 000 m³ averagely) and Samba or *Triplochyton Scleroxylon* (181 000 m³ averagely) during this period. Tree species for which the logging volume is less than 1 000 m³/year include: Assamela (*Pericopsis elata*), Essessang (*Ricinodendron heudelotii*), Akossika (*Scottellia klaineana*), Lohonfe (*Celtis mildbraedii*), Kekele, Melegba (Ebia), Emien (*Alstonia boonei*), Brotou, Alone, Meblo, Akoua, Boire. Bubinga and Wengé are not largely logged in Côte d'Ivoire, so there are no data concerning their exploitation and exportation. Côte d'Ivoire has as other countries, equally embarked on the implementation of FLEGT. Côte d'Ivoire is preparing to enter in to a phase of computer application test, to help to better manage forest resources.

2.2.3.4. Equatorial Guinea by Mr MICHA ONDO

Logging activities are currently concentrated on 73% of commercial timber species including: Okoumé, Iroko, Tali, Ilomba, Sapelli, Okan, Doussié, Ovengkol, Limba, Acajou, Padouk, Bilinga, Movingui, Wawa, Bubinga, Wengé , etc. the Presidential Decree N^o. 61/2007 cancelled some forestry concessions and banned the exportation of wood in the form of logs. This had several advantages like the intensification of national forestry industry, decrease in intensive exploitation and reconstitution of trade species including Bubinga and Wenge. It is worthwhile to note that the country is a member of the UICN and a signatory of the Biological Biodiversity Convention and CITES and works in close collaboration to ensure the respect and implementation of their text at the national level. These two species have witness a reduction in their production in the last five years. Production is zero for these two species (bubinga and wenge)

2.2.3.5. Central African Republic presented by David OUANGANDO

The Central African Republic (CAR) has a surface area of 622 984 km² with a dense humid forest covering 5.4 millions hectare, shared between the south-east and the south-west. The humide dense forest of the south west is sub-divided in to fourteen(14) production forest (PEA) of which eleven (11) are attributed by decree to eight (8) forest companies. The central African bubinga is known as *Guibourtia démeusei* or Red Bubinga. Bubinga is largely distributed in the country compared to Wengé. The average density of Bubinga in CAR is 0.4 stems/ha. Bubinga seems to not encounter problems of regeneration. Almost all diameter classes are represented, and there are many young stems. In CAR, Bubinga and engé are classified as second timber species by timber companies. The logging volume of Bubinga is increasing, with the high volume being observed in four months in 2012. Actions to be conducted include financial assistance to the government of CAR for conducting inventory of Bubinga and Wenge and other threatenned species, promotion of secondary species in conformity to the CAR's forest code, and the diversification of the wood market at the international level.

2.2.3.6. Democratic Republic of Congo by Gérard IPANTUA

Bubinga (*Guibortia* sp) and Wenge (*Millettia laurentii*) figures amongst the main tree species exploited and traded in DRC. Bubinga is found in four provinces including: the Oriental province and in the territory of Basoko, the province of Equator in the Ingende, Bikoro and Lukolela territories, the province of Bandundu in the territories of Kutu, Oshwe, and Kwamouth, and in the province of low Congo, in the Mayombé forest to be précised. Wengé is found in the Oriental province in the Basoko territory, Equator province in the Ingende, Bikoro and Lukolela territories, the Bandundu province in the territories of Kutu, Oshwe, Kwamouth, Inongo and Mushie, and in the the province of low Congo, in the Mayombé forest. The logging and export volume of Wengé have similar evolution. For Bubinga, The logging volume decreases while that of export increases. The exploitation of the two species is not conducted in sustainable manner showing the necessity to conduct detail inventories to better plan their logging and trade.

2.2.4. The amendement process of the CITES appendixes presented by Mr Narcisse MBARGA.

The Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES) regulates exchanges on endangered species through her three appendixes. These international transactions are centered on the trade, scientific research, circus, personal usage, medicine,

consumption, etc. As to what concerns the inscription in to the different appendices (appendix I, II, III), it is the Conference of Parties (CoP) also known as the general assembly who decides for the inscription of a given species in to an appendix of the convention. Any member (party) of CITES can submit a proposition of one species for the amendment of the CITES appendices. It should be noted that only natural species are concerned by regulation through CITES appendices. Studies carried out to this effect is deposited at the CITES secretariat, 150 days before the schedule of the next general assembly (CoP). All the states of the area distribution have 90 days to react. It is also important to note that the process for the amendment of the appendices refers to the mechanism of inscription or withdrawal of a species from CITES appendices.

3 Working groups

The presentations were followed by fruitful exchanges. Pursuing their work, the participants constituted three groups to work on the following terms of reference:

- analyze the strengths and weaknesses raised in the exploitation and exportation of the species Bubinga and Wenge;
- propose solutions for an optimal solution;
- determine arguments for or against the inscription of Bubinga and Wengé in the CITES appendix II or III.

After these works, the groups presented their report in plenary for discussion. These reports were amended and adopted.

4 Final Declaration

The final declaration was read by the Ivorian representative Pierre William NDJA as follows :

From the 06th to the 07th of June 2012 was held in the hotel “La FALAISE” in Douala, Cameroon, a regional workshop on the conservation status of the Bubinga (*Guibourtia* sp) and Wenge (*Millettia laurentii*) species in Africa. In attendance to this workshop were delegates from wood producing countries of central (Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Central African republic ,and the Democratic Republic of Congo) and West (Ivory Coast) Africa, representatives of research and university institutions from Cameroon, representatives timber companies (SIFCO from Congo), representatives from the German cooperation, and International organizations (ITTO).

The objective of this workshop were :

- To present results of the study on the situation of Bubinga and Wenge
- To identify weaknesses noticed in the exploitation and exportation of these species
- To propose planning/management options
- To examine the possibility or better still prepare a project of registering the two species (bubinga and wenge) in appendix 11 of CITES

The opening ceremony was presided over by the Secretary of state for the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) of Cameroon. In prelude to the opening of workshop speech made by the secretary of state, an allocution was made by Dr. Steven JOHNSON, general Coordinator of the joint ITTO – CITES program.

From all these interventions, we noticed that several efforts have been put in place by states in the preservation of endangered species, like the conservatories measures taken by the governments of Cameroon, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. The ITTO and her partners on their part, will always be ready to accompany African countries in the sustainable management of species listed in the appendixes of CITES.

Following this introduction, exposes were presented under the control of the moderator. These presentations were based on the state of the art of the conservation status of Bubinga and Wenge in Africa; import restrictions on forestry products in general into the European Community and the conservation status of Bubinga and Wenge in each country (Cameroon, Congo, Ivory Coast, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo). These presentations were followed by fruitful exchange which led to the additional presentation of explaining the different appendixes of CITES.

Pursuing their work, the participants of the workshop constituted three groups to work on the following terms of reference;

- analyze the strengths and weaknesses raised in the exploitation and exportation of the species Bubinga and Wenge ;
- propose solutions for an optimal solution;
- determine arguments for or against the inscription of these two species in the CITES appendix II or III.

After these works, the groups presented their report in plenary for discussion. These reports were amended and adopted.

At the end of the work, the participants made the following declaration: « Yes, we have preoccupations in the pressure exercise on Bubinga and Wenge in Cameroon, and presumption of pressure in other countries. However, we acknowledge the fact that there is lack of concrete information to propose a direct registration of these species in to CITES appendixes II or III . This information concerns the biology, ecology, distribution area and current potentials in particular. Meanwhile, these studies could be extended to other species like Longhi blanc (*Gambeya lacourtiana*) for the case of Congo, Essessang (*Ricinodendron heudelotti*) and the Akossika (*Scohellia klaineana*) in Ivory Coast. All these studies require financing which could come from several sources notably the concerned states and development partners »

Lastly, the participants thanked the government of Cameroon, ANAFOR, ITTO, CITES, and the German cooperation for organizing the regional workshop on the conservation status of the species Bubinga (*Guibourtia sp*) and Wenge (*Millettia laurentii*) in Africa.

Done in Douala, the 07th of June, 2012

The participants

Appendix

Appendix 1 : program for the work shop

Tuesday,05 June 2012

4pm arrival and installation of participants at. hôtel <La FALAISE), DOUALA

Wednesday,06 june 2012.

- 7:30 Registration of participants
- 8:30 Opening ceremony of the workshop
Welcome speech from the Government Delegate/Mayor (to be confirm)
Allocution from the director of ITTO/ presentation of ITTO/CITES program
(Dr Steven JOHNSON)
Opening speech by his Excellence Mr. Minister of Forestry and Wildlife or his
representative (to be confirm)
- 9:00 Exposes
Presentation of participants;
Presentation of program and the modalities for the workshop;
Expose on the review/ situation of the species Bubinga and Wenge in Africa.
(Dr Jean Lagarde BETTI) ;
- 10 :00 Family photograph
Coffee break
- 11:00 Expose on the conservation status of Bubinga and Wenge in each country (10
minutes each);
- Cameroon ;
 - Congo ;
 - Ivory Coast
 - Gabon ;
 - Equatorial Guinea;
 - Central African Republic
 - Democratic Republic of Congo
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Discussion (identification of countries need)
- 15:30 Coffee break
- 16:00 Constitution of working groups and start of group work
- 17 :30 Syntheses of the day
- 19 :00 Dîner

Thursday, 07 June 2012

- 08:00 summary of the previous day's work
- 08:15 reminder of the days' program
- 08:30 resume to group work;
- 10:00 coffee break
- 10:30 resume to group to work

12:00 General syntheses
13:00 Preparation and presentation of the final declaration on Bubinga and Wenge
14:00 closing ceremony
15:00 Cocktail
16:00 Departure of participants
17:00 Meeting on Pygeum (*Prunus africana*) : Cameroon, DRC.

Appendix 2: list of participants

Effective list of representatives from African countries at the workshop programmed by
ITTO/MINFOF

From 06-08 June 2012 at l'Hôtel la Falaise Douala – Cameroun

Countries	N b r e	NAME AND SURNAME	FOUNCTIONS & ADRESSES	OBSERVA TIONS
Congo Brazzaville	1	Banzouzi Jean Claude	Brazzaville Congo kinatimasa@yahoo.fr	
	2	Jean Albert NGOMA		
Ivory coast	1	NDJA BOUZIRO Pierre William	CITES management organ, Ministry of forestry and Wildlife	
	2	APATA Gustave	Director of information service, of education, of sensitisation, of computer and archives, Ministry of forestry and wildlife Tél. 00 225 20 21 94 06, Email gustapata@yahoo.fr	
Equatorial Guinea	1	MICHA ONDO		
Gabon	1	Armand Prosper OMBAME ONDO	1 st Assistant secretary General Ministry of forest, Libreville Gabon	
Central African Republic	1	Jean Baptiste MAMANG KANGA	Director of fauna and reserve, CITES management organ, Bangui central African Republic Email jeanbaptistemamang@yahoo.fr Tél. 00236 75507622	
	2	David OUANGANDO	Director of forest Bangui, Central African Republic Email david_oungando@yahoo.fr Tél. 00 236 70011632	
RDC	1	Gérard IPANTUA	Director of ICCN Kinshasa RDC	

Administratio n/organization	Nbre	Name and surname	Address/Tél./Mail	SIGNATU RE

MINFOF	06	Nkié Martin Cyrille	CRRS/MINFOF	
		Ngibaot Flavien	Cadre/MINFOF	
		Atangana Marie José	CP/MINFOF	
		Zongang Armand	Cadre /MINFOF	
		Belinga Janviers	SN/MINFOF	
		Owono Stéphane	Chief of protocol/MINFOF	
ANAFOR	06	Bekolo Bekolo	DG/ANAFOR	
		Nkouna Abia Constand	DCC/ANAFOR	
		Mbarga Narcisse L.	CA/ANAFOR	
		Meyanga Simon	CECOM/ANAFOR	
		Obang Barnabé	BT/ANAFOR	
		Mercy Bessem	CEAJ/ANAFOR	
MINREX	01	Représentant MINREX		
MINEP	01	Wilson Njing Shei	Point focal ABS	
Université Yaoundé 1	01	Pr AMOUGOU AKOA		
IRAD	01	Dr Tchatat Mathurin		

Country/organisation	Nbr e	Name and surname	OBSERVATIONS
OIBT	1	Dr Steven Johnson	
	2	Dr Jean Lagarde Betti	
GERMANY	1		
		Frank Barsh	
SOLVAY/SYKEM/AB BOTT	2	Yves MICHON	
		TAQUET Alexandre	
INDENA	1		
		Mario Del FIORE	
EUROMED	1	Manuel Collado	
Private company Prunus Cameroon (Afrimed, Tractafric Pharmafric,) & GFB	3	Noumbo Joseph	
		Ngo Nnang	
		Dountio Dieudonné	
Private company working wood Congo (Sifco)	1	Hagbe Joseph Armand	
German agency for international cooperation (GIZ)	2	Iyongni Bakker	
		Schauerte Peter	

Names and surnames	Functions	OBSERVATION
Coordination :		
Bekolo	DG/ANAFOR	
Hotesses		
Ndzié N. Brigitte	AD1/ANAFOR	
Oyono Zouga Nelly	CA/ANAFOR	
Okala Sissako Sarah	BFS/ANAFOR	
Logistique		
Tolé Désiré	CEC/ANAFOR	
Zok Zok Innocent	AA/ANAFOR	
Engonga Philippe	AA/ANAFOR	
Autres		
Nang Lono Adrien	AS/DG	
Fouda Alain	CH/DG	
Etoundi Marc	CH/DCC	
Ebwéa M. Samuel	CS/DIa/ANAFOR	

Appendix 3: Speeches

1. Allocution from the ITTO representative

Opening remarks by Steve Johnson, International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

Madam State Secretary of MINFOF, Director General of ANAFOR, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning and welcome on behalf of ITTO to this workshop looking at new timber species that may benefit from listing in the appendices of CITES. It is a pleasure to return to the beautiful city of Douala and I thank our Cameroonian hosts for agreeing to host this important workshop.

We have gathered here this week to consider the management and conservation status of two species for which some countries (both producers and consumers) have expressed concerns about sustainability: namely, wenge (*Millettialaurentii*) and bubinga (*Guibourtia* spp.). During the next 2 days we will receive detailed information from a background study carried out on these two species in the West African region by Dr. Jean Lagarde Betti. This information will be supplemented by country reports presented by representatives of many of the range states of these species present here. We will compile all of this information into a report of this workshop for wide distribution to help ensure the sustainable management of these species.

One of our goals here this week is to consider the potential of CITES listing of one or both of these species to contribute to their sustainable management. As many of you know, ITTO has been implementing a large capacity building program over the past several years to help countries to implement CITES listing requirements for already listed tropical tree species. Notable progress has been made here in Africa in assisting Cameroon, Congo and DRC with the implementation of the Appendix II listing of *Pericopsiselata* (afroformosia) and Cameroon and DRC with implementation of the Appendix II listing of *Prunusafricana* (pygeum). Work under the ITTO-CITES program has helped country to prepare the required non-detriment findings and submit export quota requests for both species that have been approved by CITES, in some cases lifting trade suspensions on these species that had been in place for some time. We will in fact convene a side meeting on *Prunusafricana* with range states and industry partners tomorrow afternoon after we complete our discussions on wenge and bubinga.

Despite our recent progress and successes in assisting countries to implement existing listings, many countries continue to be somewhat wary of proposing new tropical tree species for CITES listing. This is partly because of the additional management and administration procedures required but is also due to the perception that CITES listing can lead to trade suspensions in cases where regulations can't be followed due to a lack of human and/or financial capacity. The success of the ITTO-CITES program in providing support to countries and promoting sustainable trade of currently listed species should go some way to alleviating such concerns. And we all need to recall that CITES is meant to promote sustainable trade of all species listed in its Appendices II and III. ITTO hopes that any listing proposal for the species we are considering this week (or any other tropical tree species) can be driven by governments of the range states involved, rather than by pressure from NGOs or other actors.

Another important consideration for many of you in attendance is the new legality and sustainability requirements emerging in some consumer markets for tropical timber and forest products. We will hear more about one of these, the EU FLEGT scheme to ensure only legally

produced timber enters the EU market, later on this morning. In this regard, we should all note that any timber exported with a valid CITES export permit automatically meets the new EU requirements, and will likely satisfy those imposed by any similar schemes. This is an additional reason to consider CITES listings for tropical timber species that may benefit from it.

Before closing these brief opening remarks, I would like to convey to all of you the regrets of my colleague Milena Sosa Schmidt of the CITES Secretariat who very much wished to be here but had a conflicting engagement. ITTO and CITES have worked closely to implement our joint program to date and we will continue to do so to ensure countries are able to implement listings for any new tropical tree species. I would also like to express thanks once again on behalf of ITTO to our hosts MINFOF and the State Secretary who has shown the importance that Cameroon places on sustainable management of these species by joining us here this morning. Thanks are due to ANAFOR, Cameroon's CITES Scientific Authority, for their role in facilitating the logistical arrangements that have ensured the success of our workshop. ITTO is grateful for the hard work of Jean Lagarde Betti in preparing the excellent background document on the two species we are discussing in a relatively short period of time. And we thank the Government of Germany and its Ministry of Environment for their generous financial contribution to ITTO that allowed this workshop to take place. Finally, I thank all of the participants who have travelled far at short notice to be here, we apologize for the relatively short notice some of you received on the workshop but we considered it essential to convene it now to allow our inputs and recommendations to inform any CITES listing proposal that may be developed subsequent to our meeting.

I look forward to hearing and participating in your productive and informative discussions over the next two days. Thank you.

2. Opening Speech by the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife

- ✓ Mr. Governor of the littoral Region;
- ✓ Mr .Government Delegate to the Douala council;
- ✓ Mr .Director of ANAFOR, Scientific authorities of CITES flora , Cameroon;
- ✓ Ladies and Gentlemen, representatives of embassies;
- ✓ Ladies and Gentlemen, representatives of international and Governmental organizations;
- ✓ Ladies and Gentlemen, dear participants;

After the words of Mr. Government Delegate to the douala city council, through which he welcomed all of us present here in this beautiful coastal town of Cameroon; I will in my turn, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cameroon, of the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife who could not make it here, and in my own name, address to you all a happy welcome to Cameroon.

Some of you have covered very long distances to be present at this meeting. This denotes sufficiency , not only the attraction that Cameroon presents, but equally the interest of this meeting to our countries and to some of our partners. Douala is a beautiful city; enjoy yourself during your stay in our country.

Ladies and gentlemen, dear participants

This meeting offers me the opportunity to celebrate international cooperation. I wish to encourage in particular ITTO and CITES who are interested in problems related to natural resource management in the Congo-basin states in general and in Cameroon in particular. This workshop we should remember is a product/fruit of this international cooperation. It is thanks to the support of the German Republic, through the joint program ITTO/CITES that we are holding this regional meeting today. We believe that this cooperation is also beneficial to our countries. It should move forward in order to guarantee a sustainable management of our Forest ecosystems rich in biodiversity. I would like to assure you that every initiative of this nature shall always be welcomed and saluted as it requires. As such, I would like to thank the ITTO, the CITES secretariat and the German cooperation for the efforts they have constantly directed to our countries, within the framework of the joint program for the management of flora species registered in appendix II of CITES.

For us as member countries of this groupings, we must, at all times be preoccupied with the respect of our international engagements. For the precise case of Cameroon, the Government is leaving no stone unturned in her search for the respect of her engagements subscribed in sovereignty. To illustrate this, under the impulse of the president of the Republic, his Excellency Paul Biya, Cameroon has ratified the international accord on the commerce of tropical Timber of 2006. In this same light, the head of state last week promulgated the law voted at the last parliamentary session authorizing him to ratify the Gaborone amendment(accord) of CITES of 1983. Much actions is needed to keep us in relation with these international organizations for the sustainable management of our natural resources.

Ladies and gentlemen;

This meeting is of capital interest for the fact that it enables us to investigate the field of action, which is related to the management of our forestry species perceptible to be registered in the appendixes of CITES. Our attention has always been focused in priority on species already registered in these appendices due to the constraints conditioning the exchange of the said species in applying dispositions required by the CITES convention in her application. The case of Bubinga and Wenge, two forestry species not yet under the control of CITES and on which your work shall be focused, is an illustration of our countries' desire to control the management of forestry species already under CITES like Assamela and Pigeum as well as that of potential species to be registered in the appendices of this convention, from where comes the interest and hope placed on you work.

However, our wish is that you reflect more on strategies and mechanisms that can help us to carry out additional inscription of species that we already judged as being under the threat and pressure of international exchanges. In Cameroon, as far as these two species are concerned,

conservatory measures to limit their exploitation have been taken, but we should acknowledge that these measures are not producing much effect. We agree on this issue that a solid legal base is indispensable for putting in place the convention on our countries. It is for this reason that you are convened for these two days. It will be question for you concerning Bubinga and Wenge , to exchange your rich experiences on the legislative, institutional, scientific and managerial plans; in order to guarantee the survival of natural species under CITES and those potentially to be registered. It is also question for you as participants, to ameliorate the understanding of the functioning of the convention, specifically for the amendments mechanisms of its appendices. At the end of this workshop, we should be capable to answer the question<<**Are we able by our self to regulate the commerce on potentially endangered natural species like Bubinga nad Wenge or must we resort to international corporations to attain this aim? >>**

The ministry of Forestry and wildlife highly represented at this workshop shall follow with keen interest, the running of your activities. A particular attention will be paid to your recommendations. I would like to reassure you of the minister's determination to implement the said recommendations, because it is true that the state of the two mentioned species constitutes for us, a real preoccupation from the state point of view and which shall be shared with you during these two days.

Ladies and gentlemen, dear participants

I encourage you to develop a sense of initiative, of creativity and of analysis so that the present workshop shall constitute a real fruitful working and exchange meeting. I expect from you concrete suggestions for the sustainable management of Bubinga and Wenge and I am also convinced that you are capable of this task. While wishing you once more a nice stay in Cameroon, **I DECLARE OPEN** the international workshop on the management of Forestry species potentially to be registered in the CITES appendixes.

Long live international cooperation

Long live Cameroon.

3. Speech by the Governor of the Littoral Region

- Mr. General manager of ANAFOR,
- Mr. Director of ITTO,
- Mr. representative of the German Ministry of Environment,
- Ladies and gentlemen, representatives of development partners,
- Ladies and gentlemen, representatives of African countries,
- Ladies and gentlemen, sub directors and personnel of ANAFOR,

It is a real pleasure for me to take the floor in front of you, at the time when your workshop is drawing to its end.

Permit me first of all to extend my sincere gratitude to the organizers of this important international meeting, for the choice of the littoral region, which the President of the Republic, His Excellency Paul Biya has given me the responsibility for its management.

This choice according to me, was motivated by the hospitality characterizing our population, and the touristic and peaceful character of our region and country as a whole.

Ladies and gentlemen, dear participants,

In this appropriate working environment, you discussed for two days and in conformity to your terms of reference, of the present situation of Bubinga and of Wenge in Africa, weaknesses recorded in the exploitation and exportation of these species, the management plan of these two species and the possibilities of registration or not in to the appendices of CITES.

As it appears in your final declaration, the present data remains insufficient to have a precise idea on all these problems. This does not however, reduce the great interest of your workshop which has the merit to have drawn the attention of all the parties involved with the risk threatening these two species and to pave the way for more adequate studies on Bubinga and Wenge which their economic role in our states is irrefutable. It is a duty for each of our states, to put in place individually and collectively, observatory systems without which we cannot pretend to better manage our ecosystem.

How can I not be happy about the options you have taken here, as presented in your final declaration. It is the individual and collective orientation which if materializes, will secure our flora species, especially those showing perceptible signs of vulnerability.

Also, at the time when you are preparing to return to your respective countries, I encourage you for more determination in your work and for more solidarity of actions.

My exhortation goes more precisely to the development partners and other donors, so that they should support the African countries in their programs for the sustainable management of Forestry species, because the World must stand as one when faced with environmental threats.

Ladies and gentlemen, dear participants,

I believe that “**the Douala declaration**” will not remain a good will declaration, but will be a guide for each of you. The Government of Cameroon on her part will put all in place to reinforce her policies in the domain of sustainable management of her forest, as defined in the policy of great realization of President Paul Biya.

Permit me now, ladies and gentlemen, dear participants, on behalf of the government of Cameroon, to wish you all a safe return to your respective countries. On this note, I officially **declare closed** the international workshop ITTO/CITES on < Bubinga and Wenge , potentially inscribable in the CITES appendices. >

Long live international cooperation

Long live Cameroon and its illustrious President, Paul Biya

Thank you all for your keen attention.

Appendix 4 : Exposes

a. Review / the situation of Bubinga and Wenge in Africa by Dr Jean Lagarde BETTI

INTRODUCTION

Bubinga and Wenge two wood species of high technological qualities, very solicited in the European markets especially in Germany; what are the conservation problems of the Bubinga and/or Wenge in African countries notably in Cameroon and Congo?

OBJECTIVE

To make an evaluation on the aspects of biology, ecology, management of these species in Africa with reference to Cameroon,

MATERIAL AND METHOD

Literature review (Scientific publications, Books, PA documents, different reports,...);

Internet;

Discussions (enquiry) with forestry personnel's active in the field;

Observations de terrain

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

Guibourtia tessmannii (Harms) J.Léonard or red Bubinga

Cameroon, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, RDC.

Guibourtia ehie (A.Chev.) J.Léonard or Ovangkol,

Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria

Millettia laurentii De Wild or Wengé

Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Mozambique, Tanzania, RDC

BIOLOGY

Guibourtia demeusei or red Bubinga

Typical species of periodically flooded where it forms important population; big tree which could reach height of 40m and 1m of diameter; wood of red colour

Guibourtia tessmannii or pink Bubinga is a typical species of evergreen Atlantic forest of primary type; it is a big tree, straight and cylindered stem, could reach height of 60m and diameter of 3m.

Guibourtia ehie or Ovangkol is a very plastic species, from dense humid forest to dry forest or semi-deciduous; it is a big tree which can reach height of 45m tall and 1m of diameter;

Millettia laurentii or Wengé is a typical species of humid semi-deciduous forest; a species with cylindered stem, hardly straight, and can reach height of 30m tall. Dense leafage, dark brown, black veins

DISTRIBUTION AREA IN CAMEROON AND FREQUENCY according to Vivien and Faure (1985)

Red Bubinga: Littoral (Douala), South (Kribi, Campo ma'an), Extreme South-East (rivières sangha et Ngoko);

Pink Bubinga : Littoral and South

Data from PA of UFA (2004)

Red Bubinga : South (Kribi, Campo ma'an), North West

Red Bubinga : South, Extreme South East

Compared map: relative distribution of red Bubinga between Vivien and Faure (1985) and the (2004);

The distribution area differs

DISTRIBUTION AREA/CONCLUSION

Vivien and Faure (1985) signal the presence of Red Bubinga in the extreme South –East, whereas, PA, signal instead the presence of pink Bubinga in this zone. Vivien and Faure (2011) do no longer talk of red Bubinga like they affirmed in (1985), but instead of *G. Pellegriniana* ;

Conclusion:

The distribution area differs according to the sources; Identification problems? Difficult to know if the distribution area is increasing or decreasing with theses data; No decision on their frequency

DENSITES

National reconnaissance inventory (at the rate of 1/1000) carried out with the support of FAO in 2004

Wengé: 0, 16 stem/ha;

Bubinga rouge: 0, 00 stem/ha;

Other Bubinga: not signaled

Management inventory (at varying rate between 0, 3 and 1%) realized between 2003 and 2008;

17 PA consulted;

Density of Bubinga very low everywhere, less than de 0, 05 stems/ha, therefore not exploitable according to API and even certain UFA;

Density from Wengé low except in the UFA 09023.

Specific logs (dist. Nbre of stems/classes of \emptyset): irregular logs – regeneration problems?

Reconstitution rate (N %) < 30% everywhere, very low therefore not exploitable

CONSERVATION STATUS

Globally, according to red list of IUNC

Guibourtia ehie: vulnerable

Millettia laurentii: in danger

Other species of Bubinga: lack necessary information to decide on their status

In Cameroon, empirical data furnish by ANAFOR (CITES flora scientific authority of Cameroon) :

Since 2010: suspension of the exploitation of Bubinga coming from community forests and other zones of the non permanent domain. Attribution of quotas for bubinga coming from UFA, councils forests disposing an approved management and logs sale plans where species are very much represented; mandate has been given to ANAFOR to carry out detailed studies for a clearer position of these species.

Conclusion:

This work is part of the evaluation of the situation of Bubinga and Wenge based on the documentary data and the perception of authorities, put in place in the course of a system of traceability of woods in Cameroon within the framework of APV/FLEGT where the government has engaged to trace all the wood in circulation in Cameroon.

PROVISIONAL VOLUME PER YEAR

Red Bubinga : provisional volumes in net increase between 2008 and 2012.

PROVISIONAL VOLUME BY TITLE

The sale of logs is titles which are have solicited the largest volume (56.2%) of bubinga and wenge between 2008 and 2012, followed by planned UFA. (Paradoxe for the UFA)

STOCK DISPONIBLE DANS LES AIRES PROTEGEES?

G. demeusei et *G. tessmannii*: parc national d'Ebo, réserve forestière de Douala-Edéa, réserve forestière du mont Lonako, réserve forestière de Nkongsamba

G. tessmannii: parc national de Lobéké;

G. demeusei, *G. tessmannii*, *G. ehie*, *G. pellegriniana* et *Millettia laurentii*: parc national de Campo ma'an

AVAILABLE STOCK IN THE PROTECTED AREAS

G. demeusei et *G. tessmannii*: national park of Ebo, Douala-Edéa forestry reserve, mount Lonako forestry reserve, Nkongsamba forestry reserve.

G. tessmannii: Lobéké national park

G. demeusei, *G. tessmannii*, *G. ehie*, *G. pellegriniana* and *Millettia laurentii*: Campo ma'an national park

EXPORTATIONS

There is no distinction between the different species of Bubinga ; 50% of the obtained information are not precise in terms of volume /per importing countries .the volume of bubinga as well as that of Wenge exported are in progression.

CONGO: the volume of wenge is in net progression at the level of exploitation as well at the level of exportation.

EQUATORIAL Guinea: the volume of bubinga exported increases while that of Wenge decreases.

EXPLOITATION ILLEGALE

The total income perceived from the sale of illegal Bubinga confiscated in Douala within four(4) months of activity in 2012 (January –April) ,is above that which was generated by this same operation in twelve(12) months of activity in 2011 : 1.4 times more.

In the entire southern region, the volume of illegal Bubinga confiscated within four months of activity in 2012 is greater than that confiscated in 2011: 1.15 times more. ; in the Mvila division, the difference in volume in two years is more important, 5.5 times higher in four months in 2012. Operation takes place generally in the night with available means and in complicity with the villagers. Logs are put into containers right in the forest.

The official price of FOB is at 149 600FCFA/m³ of Bubinga in log and 104 720FCFA/m³ of Wenge;

Actual practised prices

The official FOB price is 149 600 FCFA/m³ of Bubinga in logs and 104 720FCFA/M³ of Wenge in logs:

A tree: 1million and above at the level of the village:

1m³ of log: 1.5million FCFA in Douala

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Research has to be carried out on the biology, ecology, phenology and silviculture to better fix the parameters of management of Bubinga and Wenge:
- Carry out good management inventory to better define their distribution area, density and the possibilities per forest;
- Promote commerce of other species with almost similar properties in order to reduce pressure,
- Define exploitation quota,
- Reinforce the capacity of forestry personnel by giving them training on the competence of species identification and making forestry statistics,
- Recruit personnel and give them adequate materials,
- Encourage the collaboration between forestry personnel and customs at the level of control,
- Put in place a collaboration plat form between the public and private sectors,

- Make legal that which seems today to be illegal by facilitating access to resources for the villages,
- Master the potentials in protected areas and rehabilitate those in already degraded zones.

b. Expose on the conservation status of Bubinga and Wenge each country

b.1. Cameroon

Mr Salomon Janvier BELINGA

INTRODUCTION

Bubinga et Wengé deux espèces de bois de hautes qualités technologiques : Prix FOB Grumes: Bubinga: 149 600 FCFA/m³ ; Wengé: 104 720 FCFA/m³.

DISTRIBUTION AREA

Vivien and Faure (1985) signal the presence of Red Bubinga in the extreme South –East, whereas, PA, signal instead the presence of pink Bubinga in this zone. Vivien and Faure (2011) do no longer talk of red Bubinga like they affirmed in(1985), but instead of G. Pellegriniana ; As such, the distribution area differs according to the source and it is difficult to know if the distribution area is increasing or decreasing with regards to these data. There is no decision on their number.

DENSITIES

Management inventories (at varying rates between 0.03and 1%) realised between 2003 and 2008 show a low density of Bubinga everywhere, less than 0.05stems/ha, therefore not exploitable; density of Wenge low except in the UFA 09023.

CONSERVATION STATUS

In Cameroon, empirical data furnish by ANAFOR (CITES flora scientific authority of Cameroon) ,Since 2010, shows the suspension of the exploitation of Bubinga coming from community forests and other zones of the non permanent domain. Quotas have been attributed to bubinga coming from UFA, councils forests disposing an approved management and logs sale plans where species are very much represented; mandate has been given to ANAFOR to carry out detailed studies for a clearer position of these species.

PROVISIONAL VOLUME PER YEAR

Red Bubinga: provisional volume in net increased between 2008 and 2012.

PROVISIONAL VOLUME BY TITLE

The sale of logs is the most solicited title, the largest volume (56.2%), being that of bubinga and wenge between 2008 and 2012, followed by planned UFA. (Paradoxe for the UFA).

ILLEGAL EXPLOITATION

In the entire southern region, the volume of illegal Bubinga confiscated within four months of activity in 2012 is higher than that confiscated in 2011 : 1.5 times more important ; in the Mvila division, the difference in volume in two years is more important, 5.5 times higher in four months in 2012.

Operation takes place generally in the night with available means and in complicity with the villagers. Logs are put into containers right in the forest.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Research has to be carried out on the biology, ecology, phenology and silviculture to better fix the parameters of management of Bubinga and Wenge:
- Carry out good management inventory to better define their distribution area, density and the possibilities per forest;
- Promote commerce of other species with almost similar properties in order to reduce pressure,
- Define exploitation quota,
- Reinforce the capacity of forestry personnel by giving them training on the competence of species identification and making forestry statistics,
- Recruit personnel and give them adequate materials,
- Encourage the collaboration between forestry personnel and customs at the level of control,
- Put in place a collaboration plat form between the public and private sectors ,
- Make legal that which seems today to be illegal by facilitating access to resources for the villages,
- Master the potentials in protected areas and rehabilitate those in already degraded zones.

End thanks for your attention

2. Congo by Jean Claude BANZOUZI

EBASIC DATA IN TERM OF FORESTRY

Forestry surface area: **22 411 000 ha**

Certified forestry surface area: **2 478 943 ha**

Forestry surface area under management: **6 015 531 ha**

Protected area: **3 610 154 ha**

AVAILABLE DATA

Inventories realised with in the framework of management plans (North-Congo)

Density/ha	%Re
Bubinga 0,001 - 0,16	60 – 87
Wengé 0,122 - 1,7	18 – 100
White -Longhi 0,08 – 0,10	24 – 271

Exportation on 5 years (white -Longhi)	
2007 :	5379,25 m ³
2000 :	1345,68 m ³
2009 :	5076 m ³
2010 :	3868,22 m ³
2011 :	3025,77 m ³
TOTAL:	18 694,92 m ³

Exportations on 5 years (Wengé)	
2007 :	11070,11 m ³
2000 :	7478,13 m ³
2009 :	7348,07 m ³
2010 :	11405,93 m ³
2011 :	17932,58 m ³
TOTAL:	55 214,82 m ³

OBSERVATIONS ET SUGGESTIONS

- 1-emminent danger for white Longhi in the south-Congo forestry sector, its vulnerability has been noticed. It requires an investigation in order to define eventual new rules of management;
2. The production rythm of Wenge is such that conservatory measures have already been taken such as (quota limitations for example, like in the case Pericopsis elata/Afromosia).
3. The fact Bubinga and Wenge are almost not exploited at this moment, do not keep them save from threat. It is a rare species in our forests, and for that, an investigation is necessary in order to quantify their current situation and define eventually new rules for their exploitation and management.

End and thanks for your attention

***b.3 Ivory Coast* presented by Mr APATA Gustave**

INTRODUCTION

General situation of species exploited in Ivory Coast, from 2004 to 2010

Averagely, 53 species are exploited each year in the classified forest; 72 species are exploited each year in the non classified forests.

Evolution of exploited species in Ivory Coast, from 2004 to 2010

From 2004 to 2010, the total exploited has passed from **1698 700m³** to **991 200m³**, or a decrease of more than **41%**.

This decrease is for all the species including the two most exploited species: fromager (with 402 000m³ averagely) and Samba (181 000m³ averagely) during this period.

General situation of species exploited in Ivory Coast, from 2004 to 2010

Detail analysis of species whose exploited volume is inferior to 1 000 m³/per year. The species previously exploited whose volumes are inferior to 1 000m³ per year include: ASSAMELA (PERICOPSIS ELATA), ESSESSANG (RICINODENDRON HEUDELOTII, AKOSSIKA (SCOTTELLIA KLAINEANA), LOHONFE (CELTIS MILDBRAEDII), KEKELE,, MELEGBA (EBIA), EMIEN, BROTOU, ALONE, MEBLO, AKOUA, BOIRE,

The case of Wenge and Bubinga , from 2004 to 2010

Initial situation published before inquiry

Concerning the case of Bubinga and Wenge in this country, the speaker said two forest exploiters declared that they have delivered some 1673 and 578m³ respectively to the same wood factory in San Pedro, the second port of the country. This volume was coming from the classified forest in the south west. An enquiry oriented towards the wood industries and SODEFOR (societe de developpement des forets), this structure did not confirm the presence of these species in the classified forest. After our enquiry, the wood factory acknowledges that they had earlier made a false declaration.

Conclusion: need of assistance for a better follow up of species

The system in our country being declarative, we can only discover the errors and render guilty exploiters only after detailed enquiry.

Our country has equally embarked on the implementation of FLEGT. We are preparing to enter in to a phase of computer application test, to help us better manage our resources.

End and thanks for your attention

B4. Equatorial Guinea

II. History of Forestry activities

Colonial era : selective exploitation(Okoume and other species, exportation in logs)

Post colonial era: selective exploitation (Okoume and other species, exportation in log)

Economy based on forestry exploitation(1990-2005); Asian forestry companies, therefore all the continental part of the country under forestry concession.

III. Commerce able species

Les activités d'exploitations forestières sont concentrés dans 73% des espèces commercialisables : Okoumé, Iroko, Tali, Ilomba, Sapelli, Okan, Doussié, Ovengkol, Limba, Acajou, Padouk, Bilinga, Movingui, Wawa, **Bubinga, Wengé** , etc.

IV. Anulation des concessions forestières

Presidential Decree N°. 61/2007: Cancellation of forestry concessions and cancellation of exportation of wood in logs.

Advantages

National Forestry Industris

Intensive exploitation on the decrease

Reconstitution of commerce able species as well as **Bubinga, Wengé**

V. Conservation status of the species **Bubinga and Wengé (1)**

Article 60 of rules applicable to law Num.1/1.997, on the usage and management of forest, states; based on the scale value or the scarcity in our country, the felling of the species Oveng(Bubinga), Envila (Ebony) and Nsonso (Wenge) is done by special authorisation accorded by the Minister of Agriculture and Forest. Therefore it is totally forbidden to export logs or sawed wood.

Given that **the production statistics of these forbidden species is becoming more more increasing** , the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry has signed on the 22nd of november 2011, a document which was sent to all the forestry companies operating in the country and it reads thus: entirely with out exception, all authorisation for the exploitation of species is forbidden.

Sanction: the Forestry company SICME, paid the sum of 250.000.000 XAF, after having violated the law in 2011, by felling a journal of Bubinga without the authorisation of the Minister of Agriculture and forestry.

V. Conservation status of the species Bubinga and Wenge (2)

It is worthwhile to note that the country is a member of the UICN and a signatory of the Biological biodiversity convention and CITES and works in close collaboration to ensure the respect and implement of their text at the national level the speaker told participants. As proof of execution and usage of the forest, these two species have witnessed a reduction in their production in the last five years. **Production is zero for these two species (bubinga and wenge) at the moment.**

VI. Bubinga and Wenge: incripible to the CITES appendixes?

Inventory are necessary

Analyse the threats and reconstitution rate

Opportunity cost and social dependence

Identify some alternatives

THANKS

B5. Central African Republic :

1- INTRODUCTION

The Central African Republic is situated at the centre of the African continent ;

Surface area: 622 984 km²;

Humid forest of : 5,4 millions hectares, share between the South-east and the South-West ;

The humid dense forest of the South-west; sub divided in fourteen(14)PEA of which eleven(11) are attributed by decree to eight(8) forestry companies;

The Central African bubinga is known as:Guibourtia démeussii.

2- THE DISTRIBUTION AREA OF : BUBINGA AND WENGE IN CAR

3- CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF BUBINGA(DME : 60 cm) :

<u>Diameter PEA</u>	<u>D≥10</u>	<u>D≥20</u>	<u>D≥30</u>	<u>D≥40</u>	<u>D≥50</u>	<u>D≥60</u>	<u>D≥70</u>	<u>D≥80</u>	<u>D≥90</u>	<u>D≥100</u>	<u>D≥110</u>
<u>174 SEFCA</u>	<u>No data</u>	<u>No data</u>	<u>No data</u>	<u>No data</u>	<u>No data</u>	<u>No data</u>	<u>No data</u>	<u>No data</u>	<u>No data</u>	<u>No data</u>	<u>No d</u>
<u>183 SEFCA</u>	<u>0,008</u>	<u>0,006</u>	<u>0,006</u>	<u>0,005</u>	<u>0,005</u>	<u>0,003</u>	<u>0,001</u>	=	=	=	=
<u>186 IFB</u>	<u>1,179</u>	<u>0,894</u>	<u>0,578</u>	<u>0,423</u>	<u>0,292</u>	<u>0,166</u>	<u>0,074</u>	<u>0,029</u>	<u>0,006</u>	<u>0,001</u>	=
<u>165 IFB</u>	<u>4,567</u>	<u>3,528</u>	<u>2,643</u>	<u>1,937</u>	<u>1,324</u>	<u>0,754</u>	<u>0,327</u>	<u>0,125</u>	<u>0,040</u>	<u>0,014</u>	=
<u>169 IFB</u>	<u>0,008</u>	<u>0,005</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	=	=
<u>187 SCD</u>	<u>3,460</u>	<u>2,298</u>	<u>1,565</u>	<u>1,117</u>	<u>0,729</u>	<u>0,437</u>	<u>0,180</u>	<u>0,077</u>	<u>0,019</u>	<u>0,007</u>	<u>0,001</u>
<u>171 SCAD</u>	<u>≥DME=0,055</u>										
<u>185 SCAF</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>164 THANRY</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>184 VICA</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>			
<u>175 SOFOCAD</u>	<u>No details</u>										
<u>TOTAL</u>											

4- DECUMULATIVE VOLUME OF BUBINGA (MDE=60 cm)

<u>Diameter</u> <u>PEA</u>	<u>D≥10</u>	<u>D≥20</u>	<u>D≥30</u>	<u>D≥40</u>	<u>D≥50</u>	<u>D≥60</u>	<u>D≥70</u>	<u>D≥80</u>	<u>D≥90</u>	<u>D≥100</u>	<u>D≥110</u>
<u>174</u> <u>SEFCA</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>	<u>No</u> <u>data</u>
<u>183</u> <u>SEFCA</u>	<u>0,008</u>	<u>0,006</u>	<u>0,006</u>	<u>0,005</u>	<u>0,005</u>	<u>0,003</u>	<u>0,001</u>	=	=	=	=
<u>186</u> IFB	<u>1,179</u>	<u>0,894</u>	<u>0,578</u>	<u>0,423</u>	<u>0,292</u>	<u>0,166</u>	<u>0,074</u>	<u>0,029</u>	<u>0,006</u>	<u>0,001</u>	=
<u>165</u> IFB	<u>4,567</u>	<u>3,528</u>	<u>2,643</u>	<u>1,937</u>	<u>1,324</u>	<u>0,754</u>	<u>0,327</u>	<u>0,125</u>	<u>0,040</u>	<u>0,014</u>	=
<u>169</u> IFB	<u>0,008</u>	<u>0,005</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>	=	=
<u>187</u> SCD	<u>3,460</u>	<u>2,298</u>	<u>1,565</u>	<u>1,117</u>	<u>0,729</u>	<u>0,437</u>	<u>0,180</u>	<u>0,077</u>	<u>0,019</u>	<u>0,007</u>	<u>0,001</u>
<u>171</u> SCAD	<u>≥DME=0,055</u>										
<u>185</u> SCAF	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>164</u> <u>THANRY</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>	<u>?</u>
<u>184</u> VICA	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,002</u>	<u>0,001</u>	<u>0,001</u>			
<u>175</u> <u>SOFOCAD</u>	<u>No details</u>										
<u>TOTAL</u>											

5- CLASSIFICATION PER GROUP OF SPECIES: BUBINGA AND WENGE

PEA ESSE NCE	174 SEFCA 398.733ha(2005)	186 IFB 218.648 ha(2009)	165 IFB 206.514 ha(2009)	169 IFB 191.684 ha	187 SCD 156.532 ha(2010)	171 SCAD 475.527 ha(2004)	185 SCAF 270.576 ha(2007)	164 Thanr y 224.93 ha(20 07)	184 VICA 384.81 ha(200 5)
Bubing a	G3	G2	G2	G4	G1	G3	G6	G4	G2

Wengé	NON	NON	NON	G4	NON	NON ?	NON	NON	NON
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. Wengé: classified in group 4 by IFB in PEA 169 ;

.Wengé:possible existence in PEA : 183 de SEFCA ; 171 of SCAD and 175 of SOFOKAD;

In certain inventory report :mention of non identified varieties.

6-PRODUCTION IN m³ OF THE SPECIES: BUBINGA ET WENGE

Year SPECIES	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 1 st semester	TOTAL
Bubinga	Non	Non	Non	1455	389	2019	3.863
Wéngé	Non	Non	Non	Non	Non	Non	

7-POSSIBLE THREAT

No threat for the exploitation of Bubinga and of Wenge in CAR ; Bubinga and Wenge being secondary species in CAR.

8- RECOMMANDATIONS

Financial assistance to the government of Central Africa republic inventory on Bubinga and Wenge and other rear or species threaten by extinction; promote secondary species in conformity to the central African forestry code; and encourage the diversification of the wood market at the international level.

Conclusion

The exportation of wood occupies the first place in valuable exportations;

The contribution of the forestry sector in the national economy represents about ;

-35 billions FCFA per year through exportation;

-10% of PIB averagely per year

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

B .6 THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Bubinga (*Guibourtia* sp) and Wenge(*Milletia laurentii*). are among the species which are highly exploited in the Democratic Republic of Congo

The geographical representation of these species is presented as follows:

- Bubinga is found in the Oriental Province, territory of the Basoko, Equator province (south equator) notably in the territories of ingende, Bikoro and lukolela, the province of

Bandundu in the territories of Kutu, Oshwe and Kwamouth, and the Bas Congo province. (forêt de Mayombe).

- Wenge on its paths is found in the province of equator,(south equator)territory of Basoko, notably in the territory of indenge, Bikoro and lukolela, the province of Bandunba in the territory of Kut, Oshwe, Kwamouth, , Inongo, Mushie and the province of Bas-Congo (forêt de Mayombe).

Declared production per species in 2005-2010 (RDC)

Year	Species	Volume (m3)
2005	- Bubinga	- 14,915
	- Wenge	- 769,231
2006	- Bubinga	- 0
	- Wenge	- 1690,466
2007	- Bubinga	- 238,256
	- Wenge	- 51970,739
2008	- Bubinga	- 41,213
	- Wenge	- 57987,254
2009	- Bubinga	- 41,123
	- Wenge	- 61005,11
2010	- Bubinga	- 0
	- Wenge	- 19694,752

Export statistics per species from 2006-2011 (DRC)

Year	Species	Volume (m3)
2006	- Bubinga	- 0
	- Wenge	- 29391,870
2007	- Bubinga	- 130,735
	- Wenge	- 47009,893
2008	- Bubinga	- 122,592

Year	Species	Volume (m3)
	- Wenge	- 60646,479
2009	- Bubinga	- 743,573
	- Wenge	- 14646,513
2010	- Bubinga	- 1988,232
	- Wenge	- 24680,471
2011	- Bubinga	- 2040,00

Source: Directorate of forest management

The exploitation of the two species does not favour their sustainable management taking in to consideration the high demand from the increasing number of wood industries worldwide. There is therefore the necessity to ensure sustainable usage which implies the mastery of the resource in order to assure its management.

EXPOSE ON THE AMENDMENT PROCESS OF CITES APPENDIXES

CITES REGULATE EXCHANGES ON ENDANGERED SPECIES THROUGH HER THREE APPENDIXES. THESE INTERNATIONAL TRANSACTIONS ARE CENTERED ON COMMERCE, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, CIRCUS, PERSONAL USAGE, MEDICINE AND CONSUMMATION. AS TO WHAT CONCERNS THE INSCRIPTION IN TO THE DIFFERENT APPENDICES (APPENDIX 1, 11,111), HE SAID IT IS THE CONFERENCE OF STAKE HOLDERS THAT DECIDE THE INSCRIPTION OF A SPECIES IN TO AN APPENDIX OF THE CONVENTION (THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY) .HE SAID THAT IT IS ALL THE MEMBER STATES OF CITES THAT CAN SUBMIT A PROPOSITION FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE CITES APPENDIXES. HE SAID THAT ONLY NATURAL SPECIES ARE CONCERNED BY REGULATION THROUGH CITES APPENDIXES.

STUDIES CARRIED OUT TO THIS EFFECT ARE DEPOSITED AT THE CITES SECRETARIAT, 150 DAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULE OF THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY. ALL THE STATES OF THE AREAL DISTRIBUTION HAVE 90 DAY TO REACT. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THE PROCESS FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE APPENDIXES SIGNIFIES A MECHANISM OF INSCRIPTION IN TO OR WITHDRAWAL OF A SPECIES FROM CITES APPENDIXES.

WHEN WE TALK OF AREA DISTRIBUTION, WE REFER TO ALL THE STATES WHERE WE FIND THE SPECIES IN QUESTION. THE CRITERIA FOR INSCRIPTION OR WITHDRAWAL ARE ABUNDANCE OR DECLINE, REDUCTION IN THE REPARTITION AREA, QUALITY OF THE HABITAT, AND SYSTEM OF MANAGEMENT. THE REACTION EXPECTED FROM EACH PARTY IS A CONTRADICTIONARY STUDY. YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT OUR COUNTRIES CANNOT IN 90 DAYS PREPARE IN A CONCRETE MANNER SUCH RESPONSE. AS SUCH, INSCRIPTIONS ARE DONE THROUGH A VOTE. CONSEQUENTLY, THE INSCRIPTION OF A SPECIES IN TO THE CITES APPENDIX IS NOT FINAL.

UNFORTUNATELY, TO ALL THE APPROACHES RELATED TO THE INSCRIPTION ,WE ALSO RECOMMEND THE PRINCIPLE OF PRECAUTION.

I THANK YOU ALL

e Epose on: EC import restrictions on timber products into the European Community regulations & relevance for CITES listed species

By Frank Barsch

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation & Nuclear Safety Germany

EC Regulations

FLEGT Regulation No 2173/2005 (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance & Trade)

Regulation No 995/2010 on imports of illegal timber products

FLEGT Regulation

aims to:

- Setting up of a licencing scheme to prevent imports of illegal timber
- Development of control measures
- Conclude voluntary partnership agreements with countries & regional organisations

FLEGT Implementation to date

- First partnership agreements have been signed (e.g. with Cameroun)
- Still many open questions on how to guarantee the legal origin
- FLEGT licencing scheme is under development

FLEGT & CITES

- CITES listed species are not subject to FLEGT, since necessary requirements of FLEGT are fulfilled by CITES obligations (e.g. Non Detriment Findings)
- CITES listed species are able to be traded without finalised FLEGT licencing scheme & control measured when the CITES obligation are met
- Experiences with CITES management may help to implement FLEGT (lessons learned)

**EU Regulation 995/2010
on illegal timber imports**

- Lays down the obligations on the operator in timber trade
- onus of proof of legal origin is with the importer/trader
- CITES listed species are considered to be legally harvested when CITES obligations are met

Entering into force

- Regulation shall apply **from 3. March 2013**
- No timber imports into the EU shall be possible without proof of legal origin

Listing Bubinga and/or Wenge in CITES Appendices ?

If range states decide to propose one or more timber species for listing in App. II of CITES

- Germany (BMU) can provide assistance to develop the proposals
- BMU is interested in further cooperations to improve CITES management, e.g.NDFs

EU as Co-proponent ?

- EU could be requested as Co-proponent for App. II proposals
- EU commission signalled interest in such support
- Germany offers to apply with EU

Deadline: 26: June 2012

Thank you very much

Appendix 5 : Group work

Three working groups were constituted to work on the following topics;

- Analyse the strengths and weaknesses encountered in the exploitation and exportation of the Bubinga and Wenge species;
- Propose solutions for an optimal situation
- Determine reasons for or against the inscription of these two species(Bubinga and Wenge) in the CITES appendixes II or III(for all the countries if possible)

The first group had to work on Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea and Central African Republic. The second group was to work on the Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo and the third group concentrated on Ivory Coast.

The tables below present the principal results obtained by the groups.

5.1. Analyses of the strengths, weaknesses for the countries and the determinations of solutions for optimal management

Countries	Weaknesses/threas	Strengths	Optimal solution
Equatorial Guinea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of inventory data - Geographical repartition of species in the continental portion - No mastery of biological data - Insufficient human and material resource - Low extension over the national territory - Immobilised boom - Development of infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existence of a legal framework(forestry law) - A halt in logs exportation of logs - Cancellation of special authorisation of exploitation of species including Bubinga and wenge - Change in source of revenue(petrol) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge on the potential - Mastery of the distribution areas - Reinforcement of personls capacity to identify and control species - Carry out studies in order to master biological data
Central african Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low economic value (secondary species or little known) - Insufficient knowledge on potentials - No mastery of distribution area - Insufficient financial and material resources - Low motivation of personels - No knowledge on biological data - No access to the ocean 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existence of a forestry code - Existence of an institutional framework(Ministry in charge of forest and its resources) - existence of a mercurial -The put in place of an APV/FLEGT process - Existence of BIVAC (a follow up and control structure for exported woods) - Existence of management plans for approved exploitation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promotion effort of the species Bubinga and Wenge - Diversification of markets - Financial support to know the potential - Reinforcement of personels capacity
Cameroon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - insufficient knowledge of the potential - Distribution area not precise - Explotation inventory data very few - Absence of regeneration strategies of these two species - Number of the Bubinga species not precise -Problems of identification to exportation - Insufficient mastery of statistical data for exportation - Illegal Exportations - Low control capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of a legal framework - Existence of an institutional framework -Put in place of a system of verification of illegality and traceability - Taking of preventive measures(suspension of exportationin logs and attribution of quotas on species whose potential is known 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carry out biological studies (phenology, regeneration, etc.) - Carry out management inventory(UFA,council forests,forest reserves) -Carry out studies for the attribution of management (DME,reconstitution rate,etc) - Defination of distribution areas - Reinforcement of capacity for the identification of species

Countries	Weaknesses/threas	Strengths	Optimal solution
	- Governance (corruption, no transparency, etc.)		- The system of traceability in course
Congo ; RDC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Forestry laws and regulations - Sub-regional cooperation framework(COMIFAC) - Institutional framework - Support from donors(financial and technical partners) - Political stability of states in the sub-region - Adhecion to international regulatory process(CITES,ITTO,COMIFAC,I UNCetc.) - Existence of exit points(fluvial and maritime ports) - Ratification of international conventions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No mastery of resources - Bad governance(corruption, interventionism, prioritisation ofcharges, conflits of competence, privileges of certains operators etc.) - Shortage of qualify personels - Insuffisance of logistics - Insufficiency of financial means - Insufficiency in expertist in matters of exportation - Rorest are far from exit points (ports)which causes high tranport cost. 	<p>)Mastery of the resource</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Inventory; ✓ Research on the biology, ecology,the phenology and sylviculture <p>b) Reinforcement of managerial capacity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Recruitment and training <p>c)Respect of the rule and regulations put in plcae Respect, and to adapt them to international demands(CITES,APV/FLEGT)</p> <p>d)Carry out a thematic classification with accordance to inventory results(densities, numberand trade)</p> <p>e) Adapt institutional framework to the demands of of accords and ratified treaties.</p> <p>f) Promote research to find alternative species ,having similar physico-chemicals properties;</p> <p>g) Arrange evacuation infrastructures for Bubinga and Wenge products</p> <p>h) Promote management activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Put in place a data base, regularly updated ✓ Prohibit the exportation of wood in logs, in oder, to promote extensive transformation; ✓ Raise the value of FOB
Ivory Coast	In existent	inexistent	
Gabon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No inventory data - No mastery of biological data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - framework(forestry law) -Hault to logs exportation - Cancellation of special 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Knowledge on the potentail -Mster the distribution areas - Carry out studies to master

Countries	Weaknesses/threas	Strengths	Optimal solution
		autorisation for the exportation of several species , Moabi inclusive	biological data

5.2.Registration of the species (Bubinga and Wenge) in the appendixes II or III of CITES

COUNTRY	SUGGESTIONS	REASONS
Equatorial Guinea	Register Bubinga and Wenge in appendix III of CITES	Conservatory measures in order to carry out preliminary studies for their registration in appendix II of CITES
Central African republic	Register Bubinga and Wenge in appendix III of CITES	Conservatory measures in order to carry out preliminary studies for their registration in appendix II of CITES
Cameroon	Register Bubinga and Wenge in appendix III of CITES	Conservatory measures in order to carry out preliminary studies for their registration in appendix II of CITES
Congo ; DRC	<p>a)Not in support for registration in to appendix III,according to the presentation made earlier, registration of these species in appendix III will not guarantee sustainable management and exploitation ;</p> <p>b)In support for registration in appendix II, registration of these two species in appendix II, offers management guarantee on the bases of quotas, in relation to data from field studies (Inventory, research on the biology, ecology, phenology etc.);</p> <p>c)Improve on the commercial value of product ;</p> <p>d)Promotion of legal products at attractive prices, in a way to remove taxes on sustainable management activities;</p> <p>e) Improve the visibility of PTF and of the a bigger public ;</p> <p>f) Non inscription will lead to the disappearance of these species</p>	
Gabon	No registration in to appendixes II or III of this convention	

These results presented by the groups were accepted in planery session with out any modification with regards to the strengths and weaknesses for each country. But for the registration of the

species in to appendix II or III, the debate proved that the final decision does not depend on the < technicians> of the domain (Forestry), but on politicians. We therefore have to wait for the states to decide at the strategic level(Ministry of Forestry in principle).

At the end of this work, participants recognised that there is preoccution on the pressure exercised on Bubinga, Wenge and other species. They saw the importance of listing these species in to the appendixes of CITES, in order to ameliorate their management and to facilitate their exportation in to countries of the European Union respecting the demands of APV/FLEGT. However, there is still the lack of solid information to suggest the direct registration of these in to the appendixes of CITES. They expressed the wish to collect solid scientific information in collaboration with ITTO, German cooperation, EU, and other partners.