

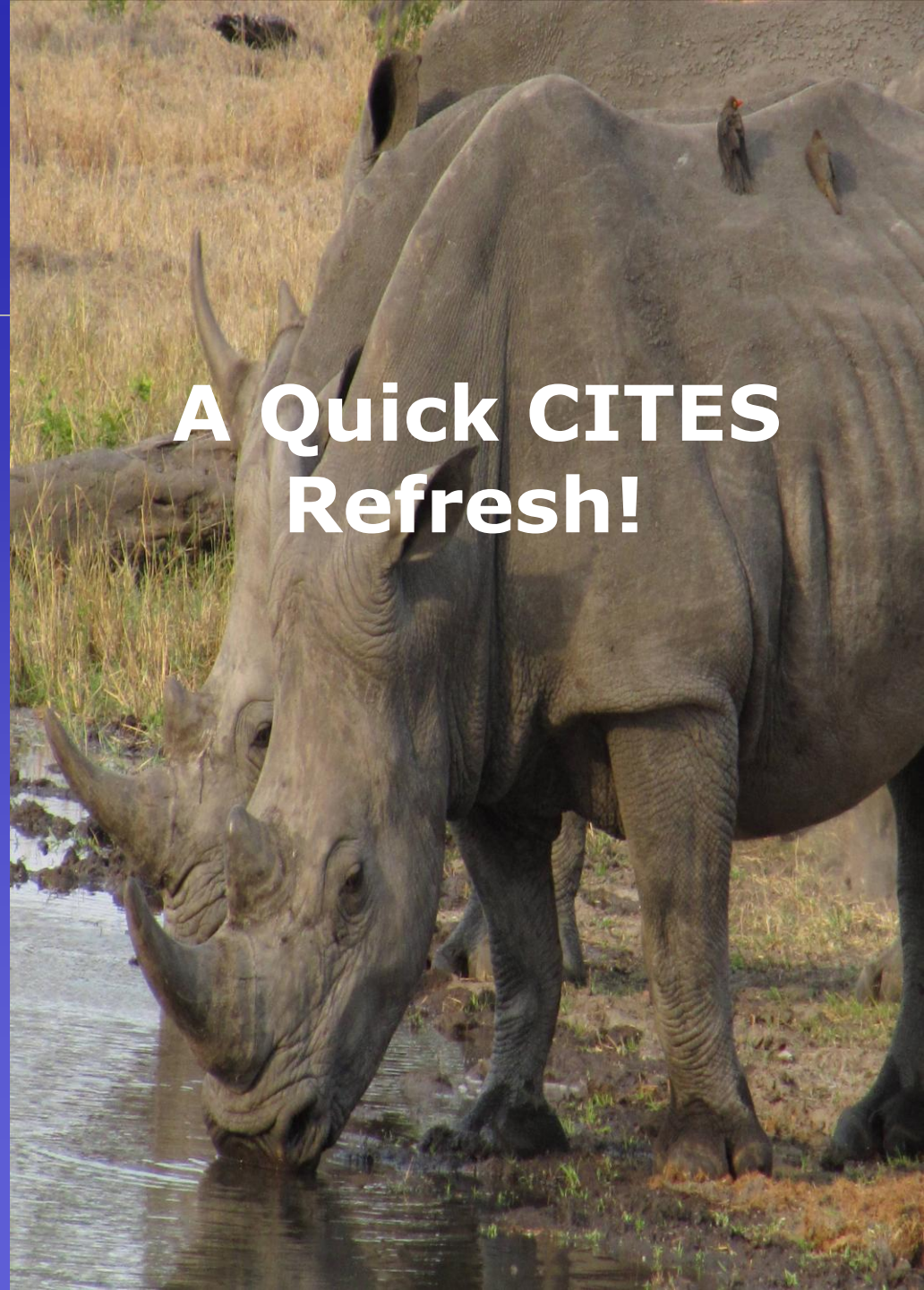
Reflections from a CITES Scientific Authority



Noel McGough, Royal Botanic
Gardens, Kew, UK

AIMS

- To regulate and monitor the international trade in selected species of plants and animals
- To ensure that international trade does not endanger the survival of populations in the wild



**A Quick CITES
Refresh!**

The Appendices

Appendix I



>300 species

Appendix II



>25,000 species

Appendix III



>30 species

Appendix I

- Trade in wild specimens prohibited for commercial purposes
- Trade in “artificially propagated” specimens allowed, *subject to permit*



Appendix I

- Shall include all species threatened with extinction which are or may be affected by trade



Appendix II

- Trade in wild and “artificially propagated” specimens allowed for commercial & non-commercial purposes, *subject to permit*



Appendix II

- a) Shall include all species which although not now threatened with extinction may become so unless trade in specimens of such species is subject to strict regulation in order to avoid utilisation incompatible with their survival; and
- b) Other species which must be subject to regulation in order that trade in specimens of certain species referred to in subparagraph (a) of this paragraph may be brought under effective control

Appendix III

- Trade in wild and “artificially propagated” specimens allowed for commercial & non-commercial purposes, *subject to permit*



Appendix III

- Shall include all species which any Party identifies as being subject to regulation within its jurisdiction for the propose of preventing or restricting exploitation, and as needing the co-operation of other Parties in the control of trade



Export Permits

- Issued by the Management Authority
- Scientific Authority must advise that export of an Appendix II species will not be detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild
 - **The Non-Detriment Finding**
 - **NDF**



Import Permits

- CITES requires for wild Appendix I flora
- Some countries, for example, the 27 member states of the European Union, require import permits for all species treated as Appendix I or Appendix II



Listing Species

- For Appendix I and II proposals must be put to a CITES Conference of the Parties and adopted by consensus or if a vote is required by a 2/3 majority
- For Appendix III a Party may request listing at any time – without presentation of a detailed proposal or the approval of CoP



CITES Authorities



Management Authority



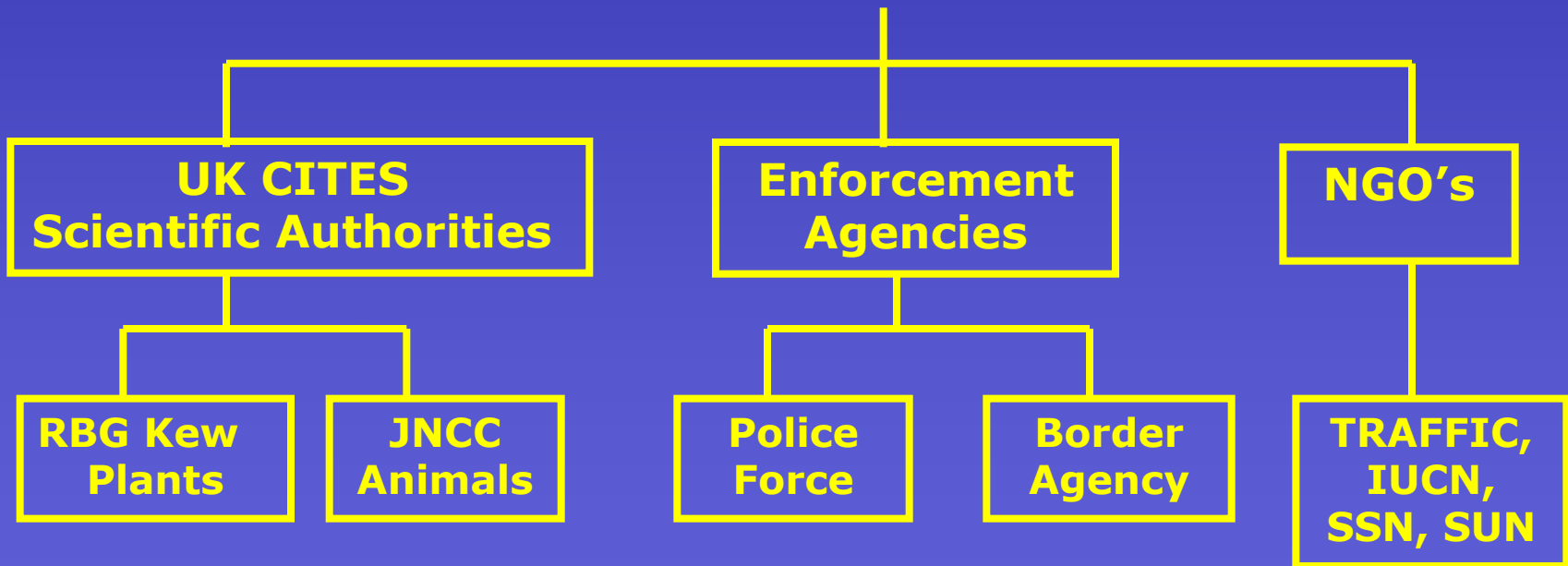
Scientific Authority



CITES Secretariat

CITES in the UK

**Defra (policy)/Animal Health (permits)
UK CITES Management Authority**



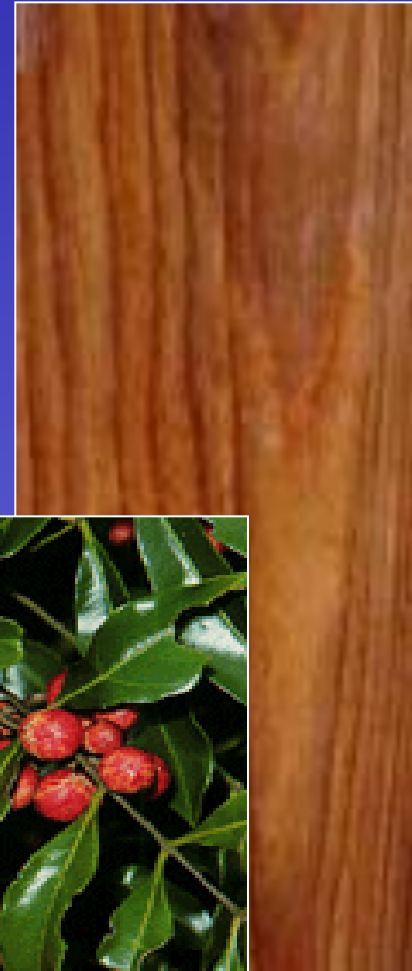
COP15 Doha -2010



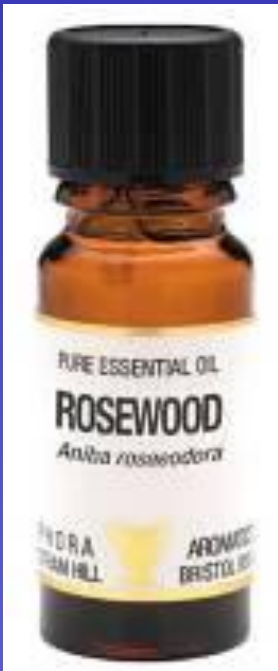
The Bluefin Tuna CoP.....

Aniba rosaeodora – Brazilian Rosewood – Now Appendix II

- Large evergreen tree, occurs in Amazon forests in Brazil, Columbia, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela.
- Harvested for Rosewood oil – important ingredient in flavour and fragrance industry
- Little or no trade in wood
- Brazil is now only exporter



Aniba rosaeodora



No significant plantations production so all trade will be wild source

- Rosewood oil is used for all major perfumes (700+), fragrances, soaps, moisturizers, bath oils, massage oils, shampoos
- CITES controls “Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood and essential oil (excluding finished products packaged and ready for retail sale)”.

Aniba Harvest - mobile distillation in Peru



Appendix III - Range States in Control?

Range States are now:

- Listing high value commercial species on Appendix III to avoid/delay an AII listing
- Using Appendix III as a preparation for AII listing
- Using Appendix III when Appendix II proposals have not been supported at CoP

Appendix III – Recent listings & indicators



- **Cedrela- Latin American Cedarwood – replacement for Mahogany**
- **EU proposed listing on Appendix II at Cop14 in The Hague – All Latin American States opposed –**
- **Since that time Columbia, Bolivia, Guatemala and Peru have listed populations on AIII**



Appendix III – Recent listings & indicators

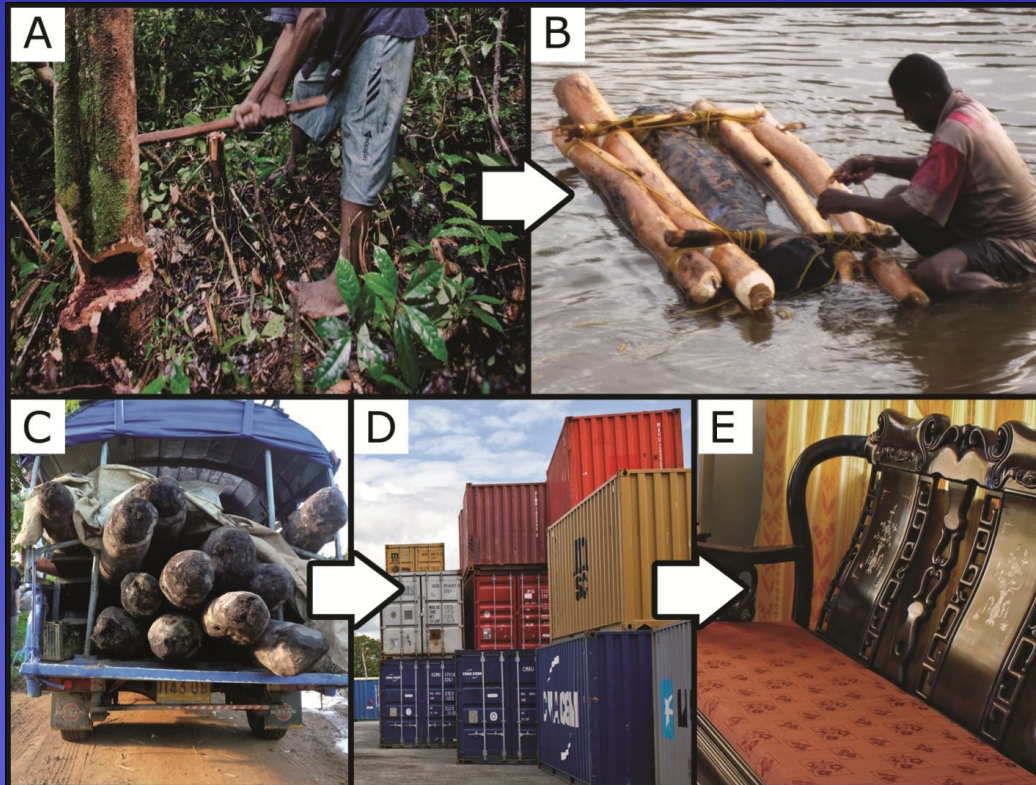


- *Pinus koraiensis* –Korean Pine – habitat of Amur Tiger listed by Russian Federation

→logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets

Seeds not controlled – major source of Pine nuts

Appendix III – Recent listings & indicators: Madagascar



- Major illegal clearance of Malagasy forest –including national park areas
- Large volume of exports of ebonies and rosewoods to China for furniture
- NGO campaigns now running to publicise forest destruction and trade

CONSERVATION

CITES Designation for Endangered Rosewood in Madagascar

Predicted forest losses and a recent government ban on logging build support for trade protection of Malagasy rosewood.

Meredith A. Barrett,^{1*} Jason L. Brown,² Megan K. Morikawa,³ Jean-Noël Labat,⁴ Anne D. Yoder^{2b}

- After CITES CoP Madagascar published a decree banning exports
- Madagascar has submitted **120** species of Ebonies and **50** species of Rosewood for AIII listing to CITES Secretariat – not yet approved
- CITES Plants Committee working group will review species for AII and make recommendations for proposals for CoP16 in Thailand
- **How can you identify these species in trade?**

Challenges - Timber



- Training of Border Agency Staff – risk analysis
- Procedure agreed with Border Agency
- Checks by Border Agency
- Any concerns- Border Agency sample and send to experts for identification

Traditional Identification tools

Using macroscopic & microscopic features:

1. Guides

- CITES ID Manual & Canadian Guide
- Mahogany Guide
- Electronic – *CITESwoodID*

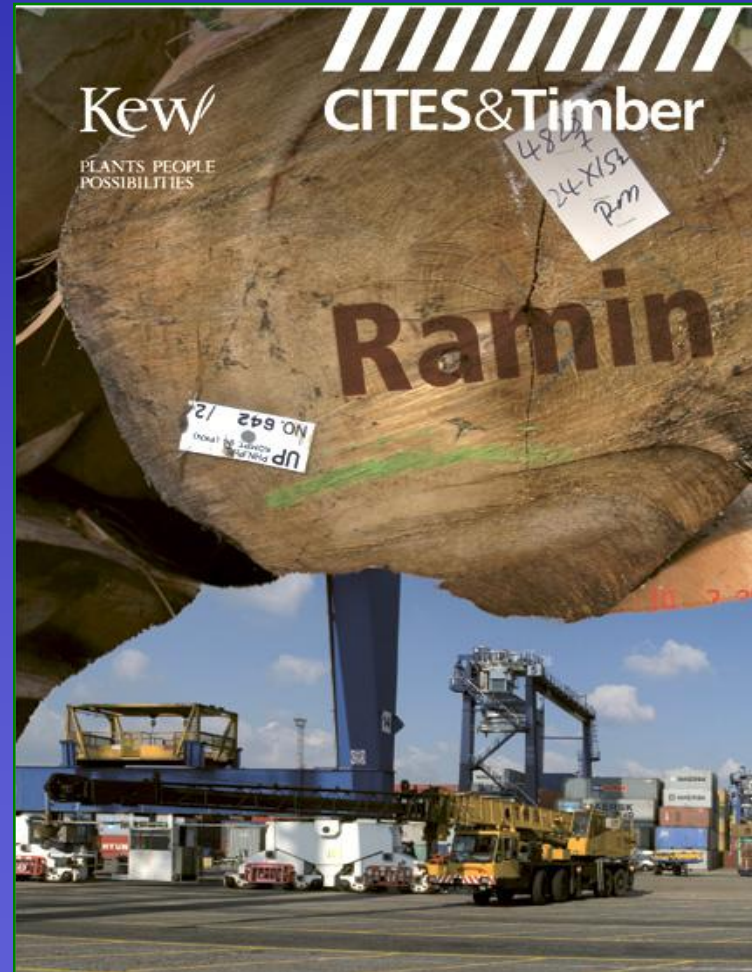
Using other features:

1. Chromatography – *D. nigra* identification
2. Fluorescence test – used to distinguish *D. nigra* from *D. spruceana*, both used in guitar manufacture
3. DNA based forensic test for Ramin timber identification (Kew/WDNAS)



CITES and Ramin

- Launched at CITES CoP15 in March 2010
- Full colour manual on implementation of CITES for Ramin
- Includes CD-ROM identification guide



Identification - Hotspots

1. Preparation of a proposal to list taxa on CITES – what is possible?
2. When exporting countries are making an NDF and on export
3. On import



CITES Proposals

- At time of preparation of CITES proposal – need to know to what level reliable identification can be carried out
- If you wish to regulate one species in a genus do you need to list the complete genus to ensure the listing can be enforced?
- Do parts and derivatives need to be controlled and if so can they be identified?
- What new research is needed and who can carry it out?
- Generally, Parties have not given sufficient weight to the problems of identification when they are preparing CITES proposals



Identification Baseline

- Need to be able to reliably identify the taxon that is listed on the CITES Appendices and any of its parts and derivatives that are regulated
- Identification method needs to stand up in court – also need “expert witness” to support evidence
- Method needs to be cheap and readily accessible to Scientific Authorities and enforcement agencies
- Enforcement agencies need to trust experts- experts need training as expert witnesses



Tracking and Chain of Custody

- Traditionally CITES has concentrated on general NDF's - and the issue of a CITES permit as a unchallenged proof of legality
- NDF process now more refined - seeking data at concession level
- Certification systems can help support CITES decision making
- Sophisticated tracking mechanisms can support NDF at population level



Summary – CITES needs

- Methods to ID listed woods and their part and derivatives
- Methods must stand up in court
- Must be cheap and accessible to CITES authorities
- If can assist in tracking origin – will be a major boost to ensuring sustainable trade



Any Questions?