The 13th Meeting of Conference of the Parties, CITES which convened in Bangkok, Thailand from 2 - 14 October 2004 decided that Ramin (Gonystylus spp.) be uplisted from Appendix III to Appendix II Annotation 1 whilst Karas / Gaharu (Aquilaria spp./ Gyrinops spp.) be listed in Appendix II, CITES.

Annotation 1 designates all parts and derivatives, except:

a) seeds, spores and and pollen (including pollinia);

b) seedling or tissue cultures obtained *in vitro*, in solid or liquid media, transported in sterile containers; and

c) cut flowers of artificially propagated plants

2. Under Appendix II, CITES, all specimens and products of Ramin and Karas / Gaharu can only be traded after relevant documents known as CITES Export Permit, CITES Import Permit and CITES Re-Export Certificate are issued by the Management Authority (M.A). These regulations cover specimens or products such as logs, sawntimber, plywood, veneer and include 'parts and derivatives' i.e. mouldings, furniture components and finished furniture.

3. Under CITES, *specimen* is defined as any animal or plant, whether alive or dead. In the case of a plant; for species included in Appendix II, any readily recognizable part or derivative thereof specified in Appendix II in relation to the species.
4. MTIB as the M.A. for timber and timber products in Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah whilst Sarawak Forestry Department as the M.A. for timber and timber products in Sarawak, will ensure that the trade (export, import and re-export) in specimens or products of Ramin and Karas / Gaharu, will abide all CITES procedures.

5. Effective from 12 January 2005, the M.A. will issue CITES Export Permit to exporters of Ramin and Karas / Gaharu which originate from Malaysia, CITES Import Permit to importers of Ramin and Karas / Gaharu, and CITES Re-Export Certificate to traders of these species which originate from other countries. The importers are requested to furnish the CITES Export Permit from the exporting country before the M.A. can issue the CITES Import Permit.

6. Trade in Ramin and Karas / Gaharu with non-parties of CITES is allowed. However, an equivalent document (such as permit or authorised document) produced by a legitimate authority in the country of export is acceptable by the M.A. and Customs Authorities.

7. All exporters and importers of Ramin and Karas / Gaharu are required to apply for the relevant "form " from the M.A. Upon completion of the form, each application for Ramin and Karas / Gaharu CITES Export Permit must be accompanied by a document such as Removal Pass issued by the Forestry Department which will ascertain the source from which the species is derived in Malaysia.

8. The fee for issuance of one set of CITES Export/Import Permit and CITES Certificate of Re-export in Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah is Ringgit Malaysia : Twenty only (RM 20.00).

9. This bulletin supersedes any previous document pertaining to the trade in Ramin and Gaharu and will take effect as of 12 January 2005.

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