\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

**CITES proposal: *Paubrasilia echinata* (CoP20, Prop 46)**

We are writing regarding the grave threat to the music and culture sectors posed by Brazil’s proposal to list *Paubrasilia echinata* (pernambuco) on CITES Appendix I.

It cannot be overstated that this proposal, if approved, will have long-reaching and profoundly negative ramifications for musicians and the global music industry. We are aware that the EU will soon be determining its position in respect to this proposal. We urge the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Government, in the strongest possible terms, to oppose Brazil’s proposal.

Our sector welcomes the government’s commitment to reducing barriers to trade and touring. Brazil’s proposal would be a highly damaging step in the wrong direction. If pernambuco is listed as Appendix I   
in November, then by February 2026, the music industry will face a host of virtually insurmountable barriers. In addition, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Government will face the daunting administrative burden of issuing permits for the universe of finished bows already in circulation. A permit regime covering finished bows that have already been in trade for years, and in some cases centuries, would have no apparent conservation value for existing populations of the species. Taking a strong stance against this proposal would be wholly   
in line with the government’s commitment to reducing barriers to trade and touring and achieving greater administrative efficiencies.

While on a technical level, there is no question that the species is endangered and needs strong conservation management, Brazil’s proposal notably calls attention to the fact that ‘reliable data on the   
size of natural populations in the remaining fragments of the species is lacking’. The proposal also fails   
to outline a vision of affirmative measures to manage and conserve wild populations of pernambuco.   
The music sector has worked to conserve pernambuco in cooperation with Brazilian authorities, farmers and local environmental NGOs for more than 25 years and remains a ready partner for science and conservation efforts.

During the last CITES CoP19, in 2022, when Brazil first raised the notion of effectively banning all trade   
in pernambuco via an Appendix I listing, CITES Parties came together in support of a host of measures   
to strengthen implementation of the current Appendix II listing, including stockpile registration (of the kind the UK has just launched), traceability and legalization of the hundreds of thousands of existing trees that have been grown by local farmers using agroforestry methods with the goal of sustainable use. Support   
for these measures was reaffirmed earlier this year at the 78th Meeting of the Standing Committee.

We strongly urge the government to continue its invaluable support of the music sector by advocating   
for continuation of the agreed path forward and opposing Brazil’s misguided Appendix I proposal at the forthcoming CoP20 in November.

It would be very helpful to know as soon as possible the Government’s position on this proposal. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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