

Musical Instruments and Annotations

CoP20

1. Background

Consideration of a more streamlined approach to Annotations will continue to be a focal point for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), particularly as a wider variety of timber species are proposed for listing. Consultations with musical instrument stakeholders can illuminate important facts about commercial and noncommercial trade and identify important considerations regarding interpretation and enforcement measures. Indeed, few wooden products cross international borders as frequently as musical instruments.

As the Secretariat and the Parties implement the decisions on Annotations, we stand ready to partner with CITES stakeholders on outcomes that support both essential action to conserve species, and ongoing trade and cultural activity with musical instruments.

2. CoP20 Doc. 103 Annotations

The undersigned musical instrument stakeholders take note of paragraph 11, in which some Members of the Working Group proposed the possibility of grouping annotation #5 (Logs, sawn wood and veneer sheets), annotation #6 (Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets and plywood) and annotation #17 (Logs, sawn wood, veneer sheets, plywood and transformed wood); or assessing the benefits of harmonizing annotations for species within the same genus.

Discussions initiated to simplify what might be construed as redundancy in annotations #5, #6, and #17 should take care to ensure that any effort to improve efficiency does not result in expanding the scope of the three existing annotations to cover additional product categories if reformulated into something new.

Elsewhere, in CoP20 Doc 103, the undersigned stakeholders express our support for the recommendations that CITES definitions, to the extent possible, be based on the existing tariff classifications of the Harmonized System of the World Customs Organization.

3. CoP20 Doc. 104 Annotation #15

The revised Annotation #15 for the *Dalbergia/Guibourtia* species, as agreed at CoP18, has proven to significantly reduce the permit burden on National Management Authorities, restore confidence in musical instrument travel and trade, and reassure the music community of the value and effectiveness of CITES. The CoP19 decisions on Annotations renewed the mandate for the CITES Secretariat to undertake a study to assess the effect of the Annotation #15 (c) exemption for finished musical instruments, parts, and accessories.

We reiterate that instrument manufacturers and makers are committed to compliance with necessary CITES permit requirements for the importation of listed species in log, sawn wood, veneer sheet, plywood, or transformed form. Given that finished musical instruments, parts, and accessories often cross international borders multiple times over the course of the many years in which they are sold and remain in use, we concur with the conclusions in the report in [Doc. 104, Annex 3, "Report on the impact of CITES exemptions for *Dalbergia* and *Guibourtia*."](#) that the exemption provided in #15 (c) is sound.

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Furthermore, we support the report's reflections on future work that may be shaped in the next three years for consideration at CoP21, in particular reference to stakeholder engagement. Musical instrument stakeholders, for example, can illuminate important facts about commercial and noncommercial trade, and identify important considerations regarding interpretation and enforcement measures. Indeed, our community remains steadfast in support of CITES, and looks forward to working cooperatively with all interested parties at CoP20 and other further meetings.

In conclusion, we believe that CITES annotations should be clear and implementable, allowing for continuity in the trade of listed species, and that the Convention adhere to its guidance that annotations focus on the point at which specimens first appear in international trade, rather than attempting to regulate downstream (e.g., finished) products. Music stakeholders look forward to being engaged in planned next steps on wider traceability efforts and will also be offering continued participation in the renewed establishment of an Annotations working group.

Endorsements

American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada
afm.org

American Federation of Violin and Bow Makers (AFVBM)
AFVBM.org

American String Teachers Association
astastrings.org

Association for the Performing Arts / Scène ensemble
scenensemble.com

Association of British Orchestras
abo.org.uk/

**Association of Czech Musical Instruments Makers /
Asociace Vyrobcu Hudebních Nástrojů (AVHN)**
avhn.cz

**Association of Danish Ensembles, Orchestras and Opera Institutions /
Danske Ensembles, Orkestre og Operainstitutioner (DEOO)**
deoo.dk/

Association of Dutch Orchestras / Vereniging van Nederlandse Orkesten (VvNO)
vvno.nl/en/

Association of Finnish Symphony Orchestras / Suomen Sinfoniaorkesterit (SUOSIO)
sinfoniaorkesterit.fi/en/

Association of French Orchestras / Association Française des Orchestres (AFO)
france-orchestres.com/

**Association of German Violin and Bow Makers /
Verband deutscher Geigenbauer und Bogenmacher e.V.**
geigenbauerverband.de/

Association of Hungarian Orchestras / Magyar Szimfonikus Zenekarok Szövetsége
aho.hu/

Association of Independent Musicians Austria / IG Freie Musikschafter Österreich
igfmoe.at/en/

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Association of Latvian Professional Music Collectives /

Latvijas Profesionālo mūzikas kolektīvu asociācija

facebook.com/p/Latvijas-Profesion%C4%81lo-m%C5%ABzikas-kolekt%C4%ABvu-asoci%C4%81cija-61552169233484/

Association of Luthiers and Bow Makers for the Development of Instrumental Making /

Association des Luthiers et Archetiers pour le Développement de la Facture Instrumentale du quatuor (ALADFI)

Aladfi.com

Association of Orchestras in Switzerland / Orchester.ch

orchester.ch/

Association of Regional and City Theaters in Austria /

Bühnenverein Österreichischer Bundesländer & Städte

buehnenverein-oesterreich.at/

Association of Slovak Theatres and Orchestras /

Asociácia Slovenských Divadiel a Orchestrov (ASDO)

asdo.sk/

Association of Spanish Symphony Orchestras /

Asociación Española de Órquestas Sinfónicas (AEOS)

aeos.es/

Association of the Czech Symphony Orchestras and Choirs /

Asociace symfonických orchestrů a pěveckých sborů České republiky (ASOPS)

asops.cz/index.php?lang=en&page=home

Association of the Professional Theatres in the Czech Republic /

Asociace profesionálních divadel České republiky (APD ČR)

asociacedivadel.cz/en/

Australian Music Association

australianmusic.asn.au

Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, Federal Guild Musical Instrument Manufacturers /

Wirtschaftskammer Österreich, Bundesinnung der Kunsthandwerke, Musikinstrumentenerzeuger

wko.at/diekunsthandwerke

Band & Orchestra Division of YAMAHA Corporation / ヤマハ株式会社 B&O事業部

jp.yamaha.com/

Bulgarian Association of Employers in Culture /

Balgarska asotsiatsia na rabotodatelite v oblata na kulturata (BAROK)

barok.bg/

C.F. Martin & Co., Inc.

martinguitar.com

Chamber Music America

chambermusicamerica.org

Chamber Orchestra of Europe (COE)

coeurope.org/

The College Music Society

music.org

Comusica

comusica.com

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Confederation of European Music Industries (CAFIM)
cafim.org/

Cyprus Symphony Orchestra Foundation (CYSO)
cyso.org.cy/

Danish Guild of Master Violin Makers / Violinbyggernes Mesterlaug i Danmark
violinbyggerlauget.dk

Danish Performing Arts Association / Dansk Scenekunst
danskscenekunst.dk/

Décima Colina, Iad and Cascais Ópera
cascaisopera.com; decimacolina.pt

Dismamusica Italy
dismamusica.it

**Dutch Association of Performing Arts & Music Organisations /
Nederlandse Associatie Podiumkunsten (NAPK)**
napk.nl/

European Early Music Network / Réseau Européen de Musique Ancienne (REMA-EEMN)
rema-eemn.net/

**Federation of Employers in the Performing Arts /
Fédération des Employeurs des Arts de la Scène (FEAS)**
feas.be/

**Federation of Specialized Vocal and Instrumental Ensembles / Fédération des ensembles vocaux
et instrumentaux spécialisés (FEVIS)**
fevis.com

Fender Musical Instruments Corporation
fender.com

Filipa A. Mateus Unipessoal Lda.
oficinadosviolinos.pt

Folk Alliance International
folk.org/

**French Association Artistic Luthiers & Bow Makers /
Groupement Des Luthiers Et Archetiers D'Art De France (GLAAF)**
glaaf.fr/

**French Employers Organization for Opera Houses, Orchestras and Lyric Festivals /
Les Forces Musicales**
lesforcesmusicales.org

French Guitar Luthier / Association Professionnelle des Luthiers artisans en Guitare (APLG)
aplg.fr

French Musical Instrument Organization / Chambre syndicale de la facture instrumentale (CSFI)
csfi-musique.fr/

**German Theatre and Orchestra Association /
Deutscher Bühnenverein - Bundesverband der Theater und Orchester (DBV)**
buehnenverein.de/de/startseite.html

**Ibero-American Network of Symphony Orchestras /
Red Iberoamericana de Orquestas Sinfónicas (RIOS)**
ibermusicas.org/index.php/rios/

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Independent Society of Musicians (ISM)
ism.org

International Alliance of Violin and Bow Makers for Endangered Species / Alliance International
alliance-international.org/

International Artist Managers' Association (IAMA)
iamaworld.com/

International Federation of Musicians / Fédération internationale des musiciens (FIM)
fim-musicians.org

International Pernambuco Conservation Initiative France Europe
ipci-france-europe.org/fr/

International Pernambuco Conservation Initiative Germany
ipci-deutschland.org

International Pernambuco Conservation Initiative-USA
ipci-usa.org

**International Society of Violin and Bow Makers /
Entente Internationale des Maitres Luthiers et Archetiers D'Art**
EILA.org

Irish Traditional Music Archive
itma.ie

**Italian Association of Performing Arts Organisations /
Associazione Generale Italiana dello Spettacolo (AGIS)**
agisweb.it/

Japan Musical Instruments Association / 一般社団法人 全国楽器協会
zengakkyo.com

Johannsson Violins
hansjohannsson.com

League of American Orchestras
americanorchestras.org

Live Performance Australia (LPA)
liveperformance.com.au/

Madinter Trade SLU
madinter.com

Malta Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO)
maltaorchestra.com/

Megaron - The Athens Concerthall
megaron.gr/en/

Music Industries Association (MIA)
mia.org.uk

Musicians Union of Ireland
mui.ie

Musicians' Union
themu.org

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National Association for Music Education
nafme.org

**National Association of German Musical Instrument Manufacturers /
Bundesverband der deutschen Musikinstrumentenhersteller**
musikinstrumente.org

National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM)
namm.org

National Theater of Costa Rica / Teatro Nacional de Costa Rica
teatronacional.go.cr

Orchestras Canada / Orchestres Canada
oc.ca/en/

Pearle* - Live Performance Europe
pearle.eu/

Pedra Angular
terrassemsombra.pt

PERFORMART / Associação para as artes performativas em Portugal
performart.pt/

Performing Arts Managers and Agents Coalition (PAMAC)
artsrelief.org

Platform for Arts Organisations / Overleg Kunstenorganisaties (oKo)
overlegkunsten.org/en

PRS Guitars
prsguitars.com

Recording Academy
recordingacademy.com

**São Paulo Symphony Orchestra Foundation /
Fundação Orquestra Sinfônica do Estado de São Paulo**
osesp.art.br

**Sindimúsica – Musical Instruments Industry Union /
Sindicato das Indústrias de Instrumentos Musicais**
sindimusica.com.br

Society of Polish Philharmonics / Zrzeszenie Filharmonii Polskich (ZFP)
zfp.art.pl/

SVM, Guild of Swedish Violinmakers / SVM, Sveriges Violinbyggarmästare
violinbyggarmastarna.se

Swedish Performing Arts / Svensk Scenkonst
svenskscenkonst.se/

**SYMEV - National Union of Voluntary Auction Houses /
Syndicat National des Maisons de Ventes Volontaires**
symev.org

Symphony Services Australia
symphonyinternational.net

Taylor Guitars
taylorguitars.com

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UK Music
ukmusic.org

VÖG Association of Austrian Violin Makers / Verband Österreichischer Geigenbauer
geigenbauverband.at/

Warwick Music Limited
pbonemusic.com