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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) regarding trade in Brazil Wood (*Paubrasilia echinata*) timber and bows

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1. WHAT IS CHANGING?

1.1. What will change regarding Brazil Wood (*Paubrasilia echinata*) in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)?

The species will remain in Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and Annex B of Regulation (EG) 338/97. However, the Annotation #10 will change, and the new Annotation reads as follows:

All parts and derivatives, except finished musical instruments, finished musical instrument accessories and finished musical instrument parts for non-commercial trade only for the purpose of paid and unpaid performance, personal use, display, loan, competition, teaching, appraisal, or repair, provided that this does not change the ownership and that such transport is not for sale, transfer or disposal of the specimen outside of the owner's usual State of residence. Zero quota for wild-harvested specimens (source code W) traded for commercial purposes.

1.2. When will it change?

The international entry into force is on 5 March 2026.

2. WHAT DOES THE NEW ANNOTATION #10 MEAN?

2.1.1. How will selling or buying bows within the European Union (EU) work after 5 March 2026?

No certificate of a CITES Management Authority is required; however, proof of legal acquisition needs to be available. Clear documentation of the transaction is required and as much information as possible on the bow, and/or timber it is made of, should be provided to the new owner.

2.1.2. How will selling to or buying from outside the EU work after 5 March 2026?

When buying from outside the European Union (EU), a re-export certificate and import permit are required. When selling outside the EU, re-export certificates are required. Requirements by the importing Country may apply. CITES Management Authorities require proof of pre-Convention status prior to Appendix-II listing or proof of the legal import of the timber or bow blanks since the listing.

2.1.3. *Does the zero quota for commercial purposes apply to all export and re-exports?*

The zero quota does not apply to pre-Convention timber and bows made from it.

3. HOW WILL THE APPLICATION PROCESS WORK FOR PERMITS AND RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATES?

3.1. Is an application required for each individual bow?

More than one bow may be approved per document if they are transferred in the same transaction and the following details match: species, description, source and country of last re-export. Limitations may apply due to more detailed description for each bow in field 8 of the form.

3.2. Is all *Paubrasilia echinata* stockpiled within the EU automatically legally obtained?

A complete legal acquisition finding made by the competent CITES Management Authority is required in all cases.

4. WHAT RULES APPLY FOR TRAVELLING WITH A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?

4.1. Is a Musical Instrument Certificate (MIC) required for *Paubrasilia echinata* bows?

For a bow, that does not contain other CITES relevant materials like elephant ivory, a Musical Instrument Certificate (MIC) is not necessary.

4.2. Are CITES documents required, when a musician purchases a bow outside of the EU and returns with it to the EU Member State of their usual residence?

If a person, that is normally residing in the EU, is purchasing a bow outside of the EU and bringing it to the EU, CITES documents are required.

5. ARE THERE ADDITIONAL MEASURES?

The twentieth meeting of the Conference of the Parties also agreed five Decisions ⁽¹⁾ on *Paubrasilia echinata*. Amongst other points, these outline work to be undertaken regarding traceability and identification of bows and timber and registration of stockpiles.

⁽¹⁾ Decisions 20.239, 20.240, 20.241, 20.242 and 20.243.