

**Statement on CoP17 and the revision of Resolution Conf. 16.8
about frequent cross-border, non-commercial movements of musical instruments
(Agenda point 42)**

**Statement on expanded listing of *Dalbergia* in Appendix II
(Proposals 54 and 55)**

19 September 2016

We, the signatories of the present statement represent stakeholders in the music sector (musicians, music ensembles, music groups, orchestras, concert venues) as well as violin and bow makers.

We wish to recall our commitment and support of the CITES objectives as regards the combat against wildlife trafficking, including illegal trade of ivory and other protected species.

Our respective organisations are aimed to sustain music activities such as live music, competitions in the field of music and exhibitions of historical and outstanding instruments in all parts of the world.

Our sector is deeply concerned about the difficulties encountered by the professionals we represent when they travel and tour with musical instruments containing CITES-listed species. Musical instruments are built with highly sophisticated craftsmanship. Some of them are unique and, as such, represent genuine cultural treasures. Given that using these instruments does not raise any conservation concern, we would like to respectfully request member states to agree upon simplified travel procedures.

1. Uniform procedures and harmonised rules when crossing international borders are crucial for musicians and orchestras, in order to avoid travel delays and financial burdens. We therefore urge all CITES parties to harmonise the rules that apply when travelling with musical instruments and the implementation of resolution 16.8.
2. The certificate itself should be issued in a more flexible way. Many musicians play on extremely expensive instruments that are owned by Orchestras or patrons (thanks to generous loan programs). As a consequence, the fact that an instrument is "personally owned" is not a relevant criterion. We therefore recommend that this reference be removed.
3. Travel delays could be significantly reduced by simplifying inspecting and credentialing procedures. Subject to the regulatory framework being adapted along the lines above, controls upon request would limit the administrative burden and help reduce delays at the border.

We kindly request all the parties involved in the discussions on musical instruments at CoP17 to take account of the above and agree upon a revision of resolution 16.8 that provides for a balanced, efficient and sustainable regulatory framework, with a view to allowing the music community to undertake professional trips within the desired legal certainty.

We believe that the Revision of Resolution Conf. 16.8 on frequent cross-border non-commercial movements of musical instruments, introduced by the European Union, satisfactorily addresses these concerns. We therefore call on member states to adopt this proposal.

In addition, the proposals to expand *Dalbergia* listings under Appendix II (Proposals 54 and 55) do not include an annotation that would exempt musical instruments. This would impede musicians' freedom to travel abroad, without a commensurate benefit to the preservation of this species. Proposals to expand the *Dalbergia* listings under Appendix II should be annotated to exempt musical instruments.





American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada. The American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada (AFM), celebrating 120 years of existence, is the largest organization in the world dedicated to representing the working interests of professional musicians. The AFM's more than 80,000 members perform all styles of music: alternative, rock, classical, pop, gospel, jazz, country, folk, big band, reggae, contemporary Christian, to name just a few. AFM musicians can be found in recording studios for motion picture and film, as back up musicians for internationally recognized featured artists, in American and Canadian symphony orchestras, and any other venue that requires the use of highly trained professional artists. www.afm.org



American Federation of Violin and Bow Makers. The American Federation of Violin and Bow Makers was founded in 1980 to provide the musical community with a standard of work and expertise upon which they could depend. The Federation's mission is to enhance the public's understanding and appreciation of the violin and bow families, and of related areas of expertise, including the making of new instruments, as well as conservation and restoration of historical and modern instruments. Now numbering over 170 of the finest makers, dealers and restorers in the United States and Canada, the Federation has strict requirements for membership. In addition to submitting an example of his or her work for review, a prospective member must have at least nine years of experience working in the profession. www.afvbm.org



International Association of Violin and Bow Makers (EILA: Entente Internationale des Luthiers et Archetiers). Founded in 1950 in Europe, the Entente Internationale is an association of violin and bow makers from around the world. The Entente was established with the aim of bringing together master craftsmen on the basis of friendship and exchange and for taking any steps deemed pertinent to defending their working conditions, developing understanding of their art, perfecting teaching methods for their students and combining the strengths and talents of each member in order to promote a revival in the art of violin and bow making. www.eila.org



International Federation of Musicians. The International Federation of Musicians (FIM), founded in 1948, is the only body representing musicians' unions globally, with members in about 65 countries covering all regions of the world. FIM is recognised as an NGO by diverse international authorities such as WIPO (World Intellectual Property Organisation), UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation), the ILO (International Labour Office), the European Commission, the European Parliament or the Council of Europe. www.fim-musicians.org



League of American Orchestras. The League of American Orchestras leads, supports, and champions America's orchestras and the vitality of the music they perform. Its diverse membership of more than 2,000 organizations and individuals across North America includes world-renowned symphonies, community orchestras, festivals, and youth ensembles. Founded in 1942 and chartered by Congress in 1962, the League links a national network of thousands of instrumentalists, conductors, managers and administrators, board members, volunteers, and business partners. www.americanorchestras.org



National Association of Music Merchants. The National Association of Music Merchants represents more than 10,000 worldwide manufacturers and retailers of musical instruments and related accessories. NAMM is dedicated to promoting the joys of making music. www.namm.org



PEARLE*. Pearle* Live Performance Europe, is the 'Performing Arts Employers Associations League Europe'. Pearle* represents through its member associations the interests of more than 7000 organisations including orchestras, music ensembles, groups, festivals, concert halls and producers across Europe. This includes profit as well as non-profit organisations, ranging from micro-enterprises to companies over 250 employees. Pearle* is recognised by the European Commission as a European sectoral social partner, representing the employers in the European sectoral social dialogue committee live performance. www.pearle.ws