Paubrasilia echinata
SC81 Docs. 62.1 and 62.2

Two SC81 agenda items concern *Paubrasilia echinata*, a species in need of conservation measures and of great significance to the music sector: SC81 Docs. 62.1 (Report of the Working Group) and 62.2 (Report of the Plants Committee and of the Secretariat).

The music sector has previously submitted detailed comments in which it has shared its perspective on matters pending before CITES regarding *Paubrasilia echinata*, including the anticipated CITES Secretariat reports on traceability and conversion factors as well as extensive information about the music sector's own efforts in these areas and in the areas of conservation, science and awareness building. Relevant examples of these comments are:

- Music Sector Contribution to the Eight Points of the Intersessional Working Group (IWG) Mandate on Paubrasilia echinata Information Previously Submitted and Additional Contributions
- *Paubrasilia echinata*, Conservation and Music (P.C. 28, Inf. 9)
- Consolidated Responses from Parties and Musical Instrument Stakeholders to Notification to the Parties No. 2026/035 on *Paubrasilia echinata* (PC28, Inf 2)

In addition, we are enclosing as Annex I a summary of conservation actions taken by the bow-making trade through the International Pernambuco Conservation Initiative during the past 25 years.

During SC81, the music sector seeks to work with the Parties to encourage, to the greatest extent possible:

- Implementation of the CITES Secretariat's reports on traceability and conversion factors.
- Fine tuning the terms of reference for those studies as needed to ensure that they are both sufficiently comprehensive and administratively feasible. To that end, we encourage the Parties to ensure that the studies emphasize the registration of *Paubrasilia echinata* wood stockpiles and the traceability of *new* bows, where the conservation value will be highest and implementation will be practicable.

Additional comments:

- The search for alternative materials is as old as bow making. Since the 1950s, bow makers have searched for alternative materials for basic use. This includes the making of bows using fiberglass, and later carbon fiber, for the student market. A few trials were also carried out using bamboo. More recently, Ipé wood has become widely used for student bows. The interest in using alternative woods is growing steadily as awareness of the need to conserve *Paubrasilia echinata* increases.

This information document is submitted by:

- Association of Czech Instrument Manufacturers (AVHN)
- Association of Czech Violin and Bow Makers (KUH)
- American Federation of Violin and Bow Makers (AFVBM)
- Association des Luthiers et Archetiers pour le Développement de la Facture Instrumentale (ALADFI)
- Belgian Violin and Bow Makers (BVBM)
- British Violin Making Association (BVMA)
- Chambre Syndicale de la Facture Instrumentale (CSFI)
- European Soundmakers – Musical Instrument Confederation
- French National Union of Musical Instrument Makers (UNFI)
- Groupement des Luthiers et Archetiers d'Art de France (GLAAF)
- Initiative Arbres et Musique: Association for the Preservation of Wood for Musical Instrument Making and the Sector's Ecological Transition (Trees and Music Initiative)
- International Alliance of Violin and Bow Makers for Endangered Species (Alliance)
- International Federation of Musicians (FIM)
- International Pernambuco Conservation Initiative (IPCI, in France-Europe, Germany & USA)
- International Society of Violin and Bow Makers (EILA)
- League of American Orchestras
- Music Industries Association (UK)
- PEARLE* – Live Performance Europe (PEARLE)

Annex I

International Pernambuco Conservation Initiative | October 2026

For more than 25 years, bow makers have worked with trusted Brazilian scientific and conservation partners, and in cooperation with Brazilian government authorities, to promote the conservation, regrowth, and legal, sustainable use of *Paubrasilia echinata*. The following is a summary of the actions of the volunteer conservation organization they created to carry out this work, the International Pernambuco Conservation Initiative. Nearly all the funding for this work has come from donations by individual artisanal bow makers or musicians, including through the hosting of special awareness-raising events and activities.

IPCI Conservation Actions in Brazil | 2001-2022

Planting Projects 340,800 total seedlings planted	• 230,800 seedlings donated and planted on cacao farms for crop support and future sustainable use • 110.000 seedlings planted in conservation/civic-cultural areas

Partner organization	Actions
FUNBRASIL, (Ana Cristina Roldao, 2001)	• 20,000 seedlings planted for future sustainable use • 80,000 seedlings supported by funding wells drilled
Comissão Executiva do Plano de Lavoura	• 300,000 total seedlings planted under Programa Pau-Brasil, (PPB) in cooperation with IBAMA:
Cacaueira (CEPLAC) 2004 – 2008	• 87,000 seedlings planted for future sustainable use • 87,000 seedlings planted for conservation / civic • 8,000 seedlings planted on settlements for future sustainable use • 11,000 seedlings planted for conservation with Project TAMAR, 2007 • 7,000 seedlings planted for conservation with Ecological Corridor Project, 2008, Ministry of Environment, State of Bahia • 100,000 seedlings planted by CEPLAC following formal conclusion of PPB, using IPCI-supplied seedlings and scientific data
Associação Plantas do Nordeste (APNE), 2012 – 2016	• Research in four Brazilian states • 17,000 total seedlings planted in pilot plots • 5,000 seedlings planted for conservation • 12,000 seedlings planted for future sustainable use
Instituto Floresta Viva (IFV), 2013 – present	• 3,800 total seedlings planted for future sustainable use
Scientific Research	• 18 scientific projects funded, including DNA analysis, studies of soils, climate and natural predators • 5 geographically focused inventory maps funded (note: project design prohibited sharing of data with IPCI) • 4 advanced degrees financially supported
IPCI financial expenditure 2001 – 2022	• $348,680.51 USD for projects in Brazil • IPCI Actions Report registered with Brazilian Government

IPCI Conservation Actions in Brazil | 2023 – 2026

Pau Brasil National Symposium

- IPCI presentation paper entitled “Brazilwood Plantations: Sustaining Music” at the Pau Brasil National Symposium, a national gathering of scientific and technical experts working on *Paubrasilia echinata* projects, held on December 5-6, 2024, in Ilheus, Bahia, Brazil, and convened by Federal University of Southern Bahia, Brazilian Coalition on Climate, Forests and Agriculture (Coalizão) and Southern Bahia Scientific and Technological Park (PCTsul).
- Funded creation of Symposium summary, *State of the Art in Brazilwood Research and the Opportunities for Conserving and Promoting its Sustainable Use*

IPCI-supported projects in progress | 2026

Pau Brasil Seed Bank Project

- Partnering with Federal University of Southern Bahia (UFSB), Prof. Daniel Piotto, PhD to create the first-ever comprehensive germplasm bank to preserve the genetic diversity of *Paubrasilia echinata*

Planting Water Project

- Conservation/reforestation project in collaboration with the indigenous community of the Pataxó Hã-Hã-Hãe with technical support from Instituto Floresta Viva and Prof. Juliana Neves
- Project objective: To establish a tree nursery and plant native tree species on Pataxó Hã-Hã-Hãe territory for ecological restoration, incl. *Paubrasilia echinata*.
- The phase currently under way has a budget of approximately $20,000 USD.
  Continued cooperation is being planned.

Scientific research projects

- Topic: plantation grown wood for bow making (Sinval Marques)
- Topic: DNA core samples for sustainable use (Juliana Neves)

Projects under development | 2026

A Forest for Patrick Robin Project

- Planting forest in memory of Patrick Robin, patron Tabea Zimmermann in partnership with Instituto Floresta Viva and Professor Juliana Neves
- Project objective: To plant a variety of native tree species, incl. *Paubrasilia echinata*.
- Project scope: The project is currently in the detailed planning stage

IPCI financial expenditure 2023 – 2026

- $94,000 USD for projects in Brazil

Total IPCI financial expenditure 2001 – 2026

- $442,680.51 USD for projects in Brazil






