CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
Doha (Qatar), 13-25 March 2010

CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENT OF APPENDICES I AND II

A. Proposal

Inclusion of *Adenia firingalavensis* in Appendix II.

B. Proponent

Madagascar*

C. Supporting statement

1. Taxonomy

1.1 Class: Dicotyledons

Subclass: Dillenidae

1.2 Order: Violales

1.3 Family: Passifloraceae

1.4 Genus, species or subspecies, including author and year: *Adenia firingalavensis* (Drake and Jumelle) Harms in E. & P., Nat ,1925.

1.5 Scientific synonyms: *Ophiocaulon firingalavense* Drake Del Castillo (1903), *Ophiocaulon adenia* Jumelle (1907)

1.6 Common names: Lokoranga, Trangahy, Olabory., holabe (sakalava), holaboay, Kajabaka (north of Madagascar), lazamaintso (Toliara)

1.7 Code numbers: ---

2. Species characteristics

2.1 Description

Liana with a basal diameter of 4 cm; stem swollen at the base; leathery, deciduous leaves; short, axillary, subsessile, green inflorescence; greenish or whitish perianth with white lobes. Green or white flowers. A single ovoid-ellipsoid fruit.

* *The geographical designations employed in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the CITES Secretariat or the United Nations Environment Programme concerning the legal status of any country, territory, or area, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The responsibility for the contents of the document rests exclusively with its author.*

2.2 Distribution

This endemic species, which is widely distributed in Madagascar, can be found in western regions of the island: Mikea forest**,** Andoharano forest to the north of Toliara, and in the Antsiranana Province: the Ankarana and Analamerana Special Reserves and the Montagne d'Ambre National Park.

2.3 Population

About 150 plants have been counted north of Toliara (Andoharano Forest).

2.4 Habitat

The species grows in dry, deciduous forests on sand or rocks and in coastal forests located at an altitude of 0 to 500 m. The species is rather demanding with regard to its habitat because it needs a lot of shade (forests).

2.5 Conservation measures

It has been classified as "Vulnerable" (**VU**) by the IUCN on the basis of field observations made in 2006.

3. Utilization and trade

3.1 National utilization

The plant is used for ornament. The species is not exploited for local trade. The bark of the species, which is poisonous, has medicinal properties and is used to treat scabies.

3.2 Legal international trade

The species is exported in the form of seedlings. The following statistical data have been provided by the Management Authority (DGEF) between 2003 and 2006.

The maximum number of seedlings was sold in 2004; the number decreased in the following year, 2005.

Years	2003	2004	2005	2006
CITES report	18	358	168	10

3.3 Potential trade impacts

There are already few plants in the wild left on the collection sites used by operators. The plant grows very slowly and regenerates with difficulty. Since this is not a CITES species, its collection and export are not subject to any regulations, and collectors tend to harvest everything they find. Moreover, in the field, it is very difficult to distinguish between a young specimen from an adult one. Therefore, its export could lead to the absence of natural regeneration and to the decline or even disappearance of populations in the wild, which would, in the long term, pose a great threat to the species.

4. Protection status

4.1 Nationally

Fortunately, in comparison to the populations of the south and south-west, which are heavily exploited, those of the north are well protected in natural reserves such as Ankarana, Montagne d'Ambre and Analamerana.

4.2 Internationally

The species is not yet included in CITES Appendix II.

5. Comments by the country of origin

The species should be included in CITES Appendix II to ensure its sustainable use. At the same time, the introduction of an artificial propagation programme would be desirable in order to strengthen the wild population.

6. References

MABBERLEY. D. J. 2000. The plant book. A portable dictionary of the vascular plants. Second EDITION.858 p.

RAKOUTH, B. RAVAOMANALINA, H. RAKOTONAVALONA, A. 2006. Etude biogéographique et bioécologique de quelques espèces menacées dans le Sud de Madagascar dans le cadre de la CITES pour l'année 2005. Rapport final. Conservation International Madagascar.

Map: Distribution of *Adenia firingalavensis*

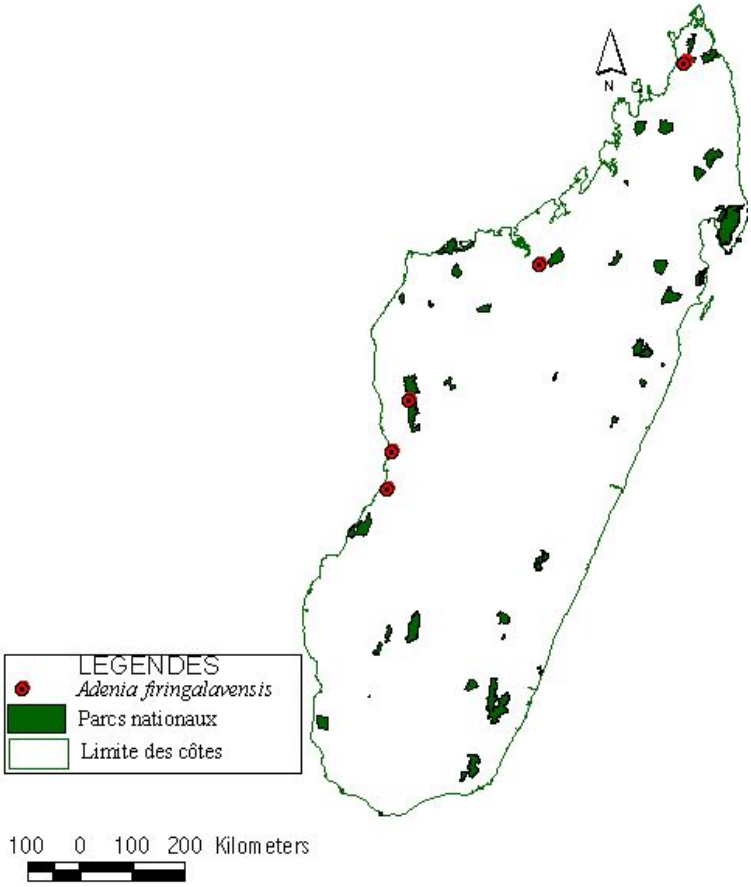

Photo: *Adenia firingalavensis*