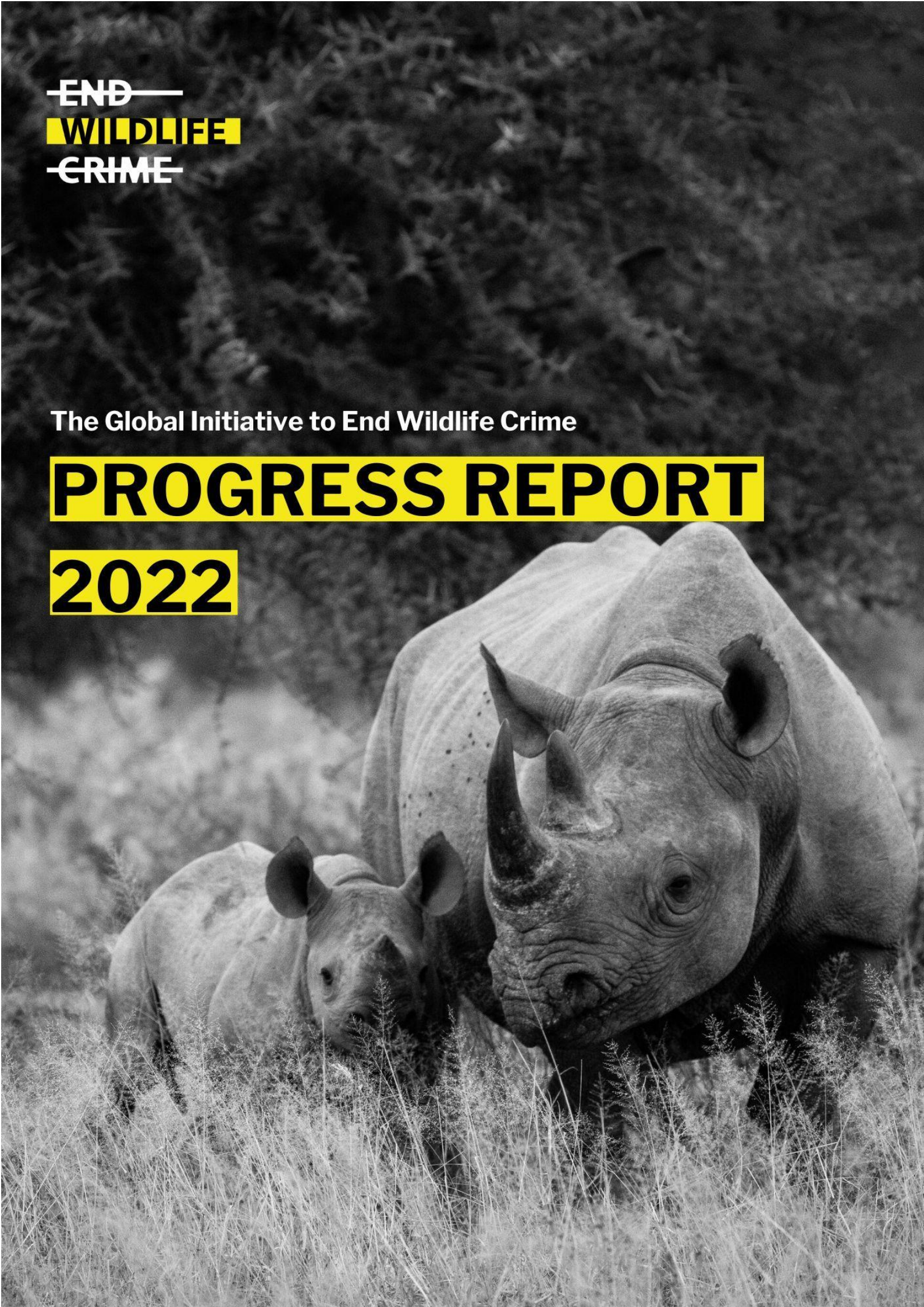


**END**  
**WILDLIFE**  
**CRIME**

The Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime

# **PROGRESS REPORT**

## **2022**



~~END~~

**WILDLIFE**

~~CRIME~~

**Progress Report**  
**Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime**  
January to December 2022

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## 1. Background

The Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime (EWC) was first announced on 3 March 2020 (UN World Wildlife Day) at the House of Lords in London and officially launched on 5 June 2020 (UN World Environment Day).

EWC aims to encourage States to fill serious gaps in international law by advocating for and offering technical support to create a new global agreement on wildlife crime and amend existing international wildlife trade laws to include public health and animal health into decision making.

- a) These two objectives are being advanced by:  
advocating for the adoption of an additional protocol on wildlife crime under the UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime; and,
- b) seeking the inclusion of public health and animal health criteria in relevant international conventions and processes, including through the development and implementation of a robust Global Pandemic Instrument.

The two reforms are inter-related but not inter-dependent. New regulations on the trade in wildlife, including possible new trade controls on health grounds and controls on certain high-risk markets and consumption, will require a scaled up, cooperative global enforcement effort.

### Governance

EWC is governed by a Steering Group, has an independent Chair, is hosted by the ADM Capital Foundation, and works with the support of Special and Technical Advisors and International Champions.

In order to achieve its objectives, EWC structures its work into the following streams:

- Technical and Legal Analysis
- Communications and Outreach
- Strategic Partnerships
- State support

## 2. Progress

### 2.1 An Additional Protocol to the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime

#### *Presidential Statements*

- **Malawi called for an additional Protocol:** joining the presidents of Angola, Gabon and Costa Rica, on 16 February 2022, the President of Malawi called for an international instrument against wildlife trafficking, which would take the form of an additional Protocol to the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC).

#### *Expressions of Support*

- **EU Reaffirmed Support for an Additional Protocol:** after expressing its support for a Protocol in the [EU Strategy to tackle Organised Crime 2021-2025](#), the EU reaffirmed its support for such an instrument in November 2022, in the "[Revision of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking](#)"
- As a part of her Call to Action during the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties (CoP) to the UNTOC, in October 2022, **Dr. Jane Goodall urged** world leaders to "carefully consider" the need for an additional Protocol. Dr. Goodall delivered her Call to Action during a side event hosted by EWC, Gabon and Peru. The Jane Goodall Institute has been an EWC Champion since September 2020.

## ***Progress Within the UN System***

- The UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) **Expert Discussions:** in February 2022, John Scanlon AO, Chair of EWC, was invited by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to join the CCPCJ Expert Discussions on Crimes that Affect the Environment as a wildlife crime expert. Delivering a [statement](#) under Pillar III “Strengthening international cooperation to address crimes that affect the environment”, EWC’s Chair highlighted the presidential statements from Costa Rica, Gabon, Angola and Malawi and presented the rationale for an additional Protocol to the UNTOC on illicit wildlife trafficking.
- **Workshop for Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Vienna:** on 24 February 2022, EWC co-hosted a [workshop](#) “A Discussion on Tackling Illicit Wildlife Trafficking through an Additional Protocol to the UNTOC”, in partnership with the Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime (GITOC) and Northumbria University. The closed-door workshop, which took place in Vienna, Austria, was an opportunity for Permanent Missions to the UN to learn more about a potential Protocol to the UNTOC on illicit wildlife trafficking and ask questions to a panel of wildlife crime experts from different backgrounds and regions. The workshop was moderated by Prof. Tanya Wyatt, Professor of Criminology at Northumbria University and member of EWC’s Technical Support Group.
- **CCPCJ Adopted Historic Resolution on additional Protocol:** during its 31<sup>st</sup> Session, in May 2022, the CCPCJ adopted an historic [resolution](#) on “Strengthening the international legal framework for international cooperation to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in wildlife”. The resolution, submitted by Angola, Kenya and Peru, invites Member States to “provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with their views on possible responses, including the potential of an additional Protocol to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, to address any gaps that may exist in the current international legal framework to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in wildlife”. It is the first UN resolution to mention a potential new global agreement on tackling illicit wildlife trafficking. The resolution was co-sponsored by several other Member States: Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Honduras, Malawi, Morocco, Mozambique, Paraguay, Philippines and the USA.

EWC attended the Session offering technical support to the co-sponsors of the resolution. It also hosted a [side event](#) titled “Raising ambition on ending wildlife crime: the benefits of a global agreement”, featuring Cecilia Silva Bernardo, Director of Cooperation at the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and the Environment of the Government of Angola, among other international experts.

- **Co-hosting Experts at UNTOC CoP11:** in October 2022, EWC’s delegation took part in the 11<sup>th</sup> CoP to the UNTOC and delivered multiple [statements](#) in support of an additional Protocol to the UNTOC on illicit wildlife trafficking. EWC, Gabon and Peru also co-hosted a [side event](#) on 21 October, titled “UNTOC and wildlife: how can an additional protocol help us tackle illicit wildlife trafficking?”. The side event featured a panel of experts and State representatives, including Prof. Lee White CBE, Minister of Water, Forests, the Sea and Environment of Gabon, H.E. Abias Moma Huongo, Secretary of State for the Environment from the Government of Angola, Ms. Claudia Guevara, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Government of Peru to the UN in Vienna and Dr. Jane Goodall CBE, UN Messenger of Peace and Founder of the Jane Goodall Institute.

## **2.2 Adopting a “One Health” Approach to Wildlife Trade**

- **Support for a Pandemic Instrument under the World Health Organisation (WHO):** after [welcoming](#) the decision of the World Health Assembly to explore the benefits of an international Pandemic Instrument, EWC has continued to use its platform and network to ensure that any such instrument helps prevent future pandemics that could emerge from human interaction with wild animals, by addressing prevention, not just preparedness and response. To advance these efforts and further intensify its collaboration with other like-minded organisations, EWC recently joined the informal Pandemics and Animal Welfare (PAW) Coalition, hosted by one of its international Champions, Four Paws.

- **Engagement with the WHO:** in September 2022, EWC and Species 360, one of its international Champions, shared the results of Species 360's 'Species Risk Assessment' with the Department of Nutrition and Food Safety of the WHO during a private briefing at the WHO headquarters. John Scanlon AO, Chair of EWC, and Prof. Dalia Conde, Director of Science at Species360, were in Geneva for the meeting, while other members of EWC's Steering Group joined online. The study, led by Prof. Conde, focuses on the potential risks from legal and illegal wildlife trade for the spillover of diseases listed by the WHO Research and Development Blueprint Strategy ('BP diseases').
- **Progress at CITES CoP19:** at the 19<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), which took place in Panama in November 2022, EWC members highlighted the risks from the international trade in live animals at a side-event titled 'The Exotic Pet Trade: An Increasing Risk to Global Biodiversity', and advocated for the adoption of measures to strengthen the Convention's focus on preventing zoonotic pathogen spill-over from wildlife trade. While efforts by some Parties to secure a 'One Health' Resolution were not successful, the Parties to CITES adopted to a [suite of Decisions](#) which provides a basis for increased collaboration between CITES authorities and those concerned with human and animal health, in efforts to prevent the emergence of future pandemics.
- **New EWC project funded by GIZ:** the [Alliance against Health Risks in Wildlife Trade](#), hosted by the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), commissioned by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, has awarded EWC, the ICCF Group and Legal Atlas a grant of EUR 212,103.23 for a new pandemic prevention [project](#), focusing on Angola, Botswana and Zambia. The project started in December 2022 and is expected to last for 18 months.
- **Updates to the EWC website:** the EWC [website](#) has been updated to reflect the Initiative's full support for a Pandemic Instrument, as an alternative to the [suggested](#) amendment of the mandate of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to include public health and animal health criteria in its decision-making processes (a 'One Health' approach).

## 2.3 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

- **Response to the post-Nairobi Draft:** EWC reviewed the post-Nairobi revised draft of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and submitted a [response](#) calling for stronger provisions on both the illicit trafficking of wildlife and the need to take a holistic, precautionary approach to wildlife trade.
- **Final submission on Post-2020 Framework:** in its [final submission](#) on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, EWC offered further comments on the text of Target 5, addressing wildlife exploitation.
- **EWC at CBD CoP15:** in December 2022, EWC representatives attended the 15<sup>th</sup> CoP to the CBD in Montreal, Canada, and closely followed the negotiations on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. EWC's Chair, John Scanlon AO, was also invited to take part in one of the Action Zone events titled "Conservation of Wild Species Through Habitat Protection and Strengthened Trade Management and Law Enforcement". The [event](#) was organised by the Global Environmental Institute (GEI), a founding member of EWC's Steering Group. On 19 December 2022, EWC [welcomed](#) the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and strongly highlighted the importance of its implementation.

## 3. Communications and Outreach

In order to build awareness of and ultimately support for [Angola](#), [Gabon](#), [Costa Rica](#) and Malawi's call for a Protocol, the Resolution adopted by the CCPCJ in May 2022, and EWC's proposals, we have engaged extensively with a broad range of stakeholders, in the form of participation in and organisation of webinars, the use of social media and production of videos. In response to these efforts, we are increasingly seeing EWC's proposals referenced and supported in research and high-profile events and a heightened level of government interest. A summary of these activities is provided below.

### 3.1 Events and Publications

**Events:** The EWC has organised and participated in many events to promote its international wildlife law reforms including:

| Date        | Organisation/Host  | Title   |
|-------------|--|---|
| Feb, 2022   | EWC, Global Initiative against Transnational Organized Crime, Northumbria University.        | <a href="#">The case for an additional Protocol under the UNTOC on wildlife crime</a>   |
|             | UNODC  | <a href="#">2022 CCPCJ Expert Discussions on Crimes that Affect the Environment</a>   |
| March, 2022 | World Border Security  | <a href="#">Combatting Wildlife Trafficking, Contraband and Smuggling</a>   |
| May, 2022   | EWC  | <a href="#">Raising Ambition on Ending Wildlife Crime – side event, 31<sup>st</sup> session of the CCPCJ</a>  |
| Sep, 2022   | ADM Capital Foundation   | <a href="#">CITES CoP19 Global Expert Briefing</a>  |
|             | Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime Panel on Wildlife Crime              | <a href="#">Counter Wildlife Trafficking – needs and recommendations</a>  |
| Oct, 2022   | United for Wildlife  | United for Wildlife Global Summit   |
|             | 24 Hour Conference on Global Organized Crime   | <a href="#">Convergence – The organised and serious nature of wildlife crimes and how to combat them</a>  |
|             | EWC, Gabon, Peru   | <a href="#">UNTOC and wildlife: how can an additional protocol help us tackle illicit wildlife trafficking?</a>                                       |
| Nov, 2022   | ADM Capital Foundation, Born Free Foundation, Pro Wildlife and Wildlife Conservation Society | The Exotic Pet Trade: an Increasing Risk to Global Biodiversity – side event, CITES CoP19   |
|             | Les Roches Switzerland   | <a href="#">ShiftIn 2022 - Why Does Biodiversity Matter to All of Us</a>  |
| Dec, 2022   | Global Environmental Institute   | <a href="#">Conservation of wild species through habitat protection and strengthened trade management and law enforcement – side event, CBD COP15</a> |
|             | Global Coalition against Financial Crime   | Bi-annual meeting of the Global Coalition to Fight Financial Crime  |
|             | Environmental Technical Group of the Presidential Transition Office                          | <a href="#">Priority Actions to Strengthen the Efforts to Counter Wildlife Trafficking in Brazil</a>  |

#### Articles and Interviews:

| Date      | Organisation/Host     | Title  |
|-----------|-----------------------|--|
| May, 2022 | UNODC                 | <a href="#">Human Impact Series: Tackling Wildlife Crime through International Agreement</a>   |
|           | ((o))eco <sup>1</sup> | <a href="#">O mundo contra o tráfico de espécies silvestres: Como o Brasil pode ser parte ativa</a> (The world against wildlife trafficking: how Brazil can play an active part) |

<sup>1</sup> ((o))eco is one of Brazil's leading environmental news outlets.

|           |  |  |
|-----------|--|--|
| Jul, 2022 | ADM Capital Foundation                           | <a href="#">Two Years of Progress: The Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime</a>                           |
| Aug, 2022 | OCCRP  | <a href="#">‘Astronomical Money’: How Smugglers Made Tens of Millions Moving Rare Birds Around the World</a> |
|           | Illuminem  | <a href="#">Preventing and Combatting Wildlife Trafficking – a Global Imperative</a>                         |
|           | IUCN   | <a href="#">Progress Towards a New International Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Wildlife</a>             |
| Sep, 2022 | Karolina Blasiak Art Advisory                    | <a href="#">Karolina Blasiak Art Advisory Interviews John Scanlon</a>  |
| Oct, 2022 | Association of Zoos and Aquariums                | <a href="#">Reduce the Risk</a>  |
|           | International Law Association                    | <a href="#">White Paper 22 - One Health</a>  |
| Dec, 2022 | Max Planck Yearbook of United Nations Law Online | <a href="#">Wildlife Crime: Story of an International Law Lacuna</a>   |

#### Social Media:

- **LinkedIn:** Since its launch in August 2020, EWC’s LinkedIn has reached 4,000 followers, a 74% increase since our 2021 progress report. Between January and December 2022, the account achieved over 93,000 impressions (compared to 58,600 impressions in 2021).
- **Website:** over the same period, EWC’s [website](#) generated over 4,500k unique visitors across 6,000 sessions with an average session duration of 1m 26s. Peaks in traffic have coincided with press releases and webinars.

### 3.2 Traditional Media Releases and Coverage

In 2022, EWC shared five press releases covering its work and updates. The releases were distributed through EWC’s own networks and shared through its Champions’ networks. The Initiative has been covered in over 60 clippings, including news articles, webinars, events, LinkedIn articles and Op-eds. Mainstream media outlets that have also covered EWC’s work included Malawi24, IUCN, and Ila Paris 2023.

EWC’s 2022 press releases included:

- **Feb** – [Malawi Joins Call for Global Agreement on Wildlife Crime](#)
- **Feb** - [President Statement: Malawi Joins Call for Global Agreement On Wildlife Crime](#)
- **Apr** - [Angola, Peru and Kenya Submit Draft Resolution to UN CCPCJ](#)
- **May** - [UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Adopts Historic Resolution on Illicit Trafficking in Wildlife](#)
- **Dec** - [A Fighting Chance for Nature: Global Biodiversity Framework Adopted at COP15](#)

## 4. Next Steps

With the support of its 28 international Champions, EWC will continue its outreach and state-level engagement to garner support for [Angola](#), [Gabon](#), [Costa Rica](#) and Malawi’s call for a Protocol, the Resolution adopted by the CCPCJ in May 2022, and EWC’s objectives throughout 2023.

One of the key steps towards the development of a new global agreement on illicit wildlife trafficking is the collection of Member States’ views by UNODC, as mandated by [resolution 31/1](#) of the CCPCJ. The resolution requests UNODC to “compile a report on the information provided by Member States” and submit it for the consideration of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Session of the CCPCJ, set to take place on 22-26 May 2023 in Vienna, Austria. EWC expects a partial, oral report to be delivered on that occasion, while a full, written report is likely to be submitted for the consideration of the reconvened 32<sup>nd</sup> Session in December 2023. EWC will continue to offer its support

to the original co-sponsors of the resolution, Angola, Kenya and Peru, and actively participate in both the regular and reconvened sessions of the CCPCJ.

**Other significant dates:**

2023 event calendar can be viewed [here](#).



## Annex

### Annex 1: EWC Governance and Advisors

#### Steering Group

ADM Capital Foundation (Hong Kong SAR China)  
Born Free Foundation (United Kingdom)  
Global Environmental Institute (China)  
The ICCF Group (United States of America)  
Food and Land Use Coalition (United Kingdom)  
Freeland (Brazil)\*  
African Wildlife Foundation (Kenya)\*

#### Special Advisors

Neil Harvey (Business), ADM Capital  
Craig Hoover (CITES), Association of Zoos and Aquariums  
Gilda Moretti (Partnerships)

#### Technical Advisors

|  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| Alexander Rhodes, Mischo de Reya                       | Law                      |
| Christina Voigt, World Commission in Environmental Law | Law                      |
| Dr Angus Nurse, Middlesex University                   | Criminology              |
| Olivia Swaak-Goldman, Wildlife Justice Commission      | Enforcement              |
| Professor Tanya Wyatt, Northumbria University          | Criminology              |
| Professor Dirk Pfeiffer, City University Hong Kong,    | Public and Animal Health |
| Marcus Asner, Arnold and Porter                        | Law                      |
| Daniel Kachelriess, Sea Shepherd Legal                 | Policy                   |

### Annex 2: EWC Champions

#### Corporations and Foundations

ADM Capital (Hong Kong, SAR)  
African Wildlife Foundation (Kenya)  
Elephant Protection Initiative Foundation (United Kingdom)  
Legal Atlas (United States of America)  
The Robert Ho Family Foundation (Hong Kong SAR)  
Treadright Foundation (South Africa)

#### Industry Associations

Association of Zoos & Aquariums (United States of America)  
Blended Finance Taskforce (United Kingdom)  
Global Coalition to Fight Financial Crime (United States of America)  
World Ocean Council (Hawaii)  
World Travel and Tourism Council (United Kingdom/Global)  
World Tourism Forum Lucerne (Switzerland)

#### International Organisations and NGOs

China Navigation (Singapore)  
ENV (Vietnam)  
Jane Goodall Institute Global (United Kingdom)  
Freeland (Global)  
Four Paws \*  
International Ranger Foundation (Global)

Species 360 (Netherlands)  
IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (Switzerland/Brazil)  
Wildlife Justice Commission (Netherlands)  
Lions Head (United Kingdom)  
Lilongwe Wildlife Trust \*  
RENTAS (Brazil)  
SPDA (Peru)  
Stimson (United States of America)  
The HALO Trust\*  
Wildlife Trust of India (India)

\*Joined since last Progress Report