



Kasane Conference On

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# The Illegal Wildlife Trade

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25th March 2015

**LONDON DECLARATION ON THE  
ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE**

**REVIEW OF PROGRESS**

**KASANE CONFERENCE ON THE ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE**  
**Review of Progress**

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## Executive Summary

- (i) The London Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade recognised that the illegal wildlife trade, and the poaching that feeds it, has in some places reached unprecedented levels. In response to this crisis, the London Conference aimed to reverse recent trends of increasing illegal wildlife trade, through measures to eradicate the market, ensure effective legal frameworks and deterrents, strengthen enforcement and support sustainable livelihoods and economic development. The Conference aimed to build on and strengthen wider global efforts to tackle the Illegal Wildlife Trade.
- (ii) Forty one countries and a Regional Economic Integration Organisation adopted the Declaration at the London Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade in February 2014. They welcomed the offer of Botswana to host another high-level conference to review progress in early 2015. As Secretariat to the Senior Officials Group for the Kasane Conference, the United Kingdom has worked with partner countries and organisations to compile this Report based on self assessments by countries that adopted the Declaration, and international organisations working in support of the Declaration.
- (iii) This Report is designed to assist countries at the Kasane conference to have informed discussions about the priorities for future action, strengthening approaches that are working well and identifying where the gaps remain, and building on the ground breaking international collaboration that was achieved at the London Conference.

### *Eradicating the market for illegal wildlife products*

- (iv) At the London Conference, Governments agreed to take actions to eradicate both the demand and supply sides for illegal products wherever in the world they occur. The London Declaration also recognised the importance of non-governmental actors in eradicating demand, particularly in helping to effect behaviour change.
- (v) This report highlights progress against many of the London Declaration commitments to eradicate the market. There have been a number of public destructions of seized illegal wildlife products around the world, receiving widespread publicity. Several countries have introduced stricter measures on labelling and tracing to tighten up against illegal products entering legal markets.
- (vi) Since the London Conference there have also been many positive examples of Governments working both with non-governmental actors, and across borders with neighbouring countries, to eradicate the market. Several countries have entered into bi-lateral or multi-lateral agreements to action. These include both regional examples and examples of engagement between range and destination states. Practical benefits highlighted include sharing expertise, training and equipment in some cases. These collaborations also demonstrate the political commitment and will to effect change, so

helpful in raising awareness. For these reasons, more of these cross-border collaborations should be encouraged.

- (vii) At the London Conference, countries agreed that the private sector was an important partner in eradicating the market. There are some examples of countries working closely with businesses, including those involved in online trading, auction houses and in the hospitality sector. But reported examples are limited and more could be done. There are continuing challenges in reaching individual consumers. The variety of motivating factors for consumption means no 'one size fits all' approach to changing behaviour is appropriate. NGOs continue to play a key role both in raising awareness and in trying to influence and change consumer behaviour. Countries have used a variety of multimedia platforms and workshops to reach consumers, and work has also taken place to help de-bunk medicinal myths associated with certain illegally traded wildlife products. Despite this activity, there is not yet evidence of the impact of these strategies on demand reduction or how they complement each other. Further action is needed to monitor and evaluate demand reduction strategies to ensure more targeted impact.

#### *Ensuring effective legal frameworks and deterrents*

- (viii) At the London Conference, Governments committed themselves to adopt or amend legislation, as necessary, to ensure that the illegal wildlife trade is treated as a serious crime, as defined by the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. They recognised that it is important to ensure that the criminals involved, in particular those 'kingpins' who control the trade, are prosecuted and penalised to provide an effective deterrent. In their progress reports a number of countries set out how they are reviewing and strengthening wildlife conservation law including by providing for stiffer penalties including imprisonment and bigger fines for convicted offenders. Conferences, training and other activities have taken place to build awareness of the links between IWT and money laundering. There remains a need to ensure that this becomes embedded and that domestic legislation recognises the full range of financial crimes associated with the illegal wildlife trade, so that the serious and organised criminals involved do not benefit from the proceeds of their crimes. There is a role for multilateral organisations dealing with law enforcement and financial crimes, including asset recovery networks, to treat the detection of money laundering and other financial crime as a priority.
- (ix) Several countries have reported on activities undertaken to raise awareness in the judicial sector about the seriousness, impact and potential profits of wildlife crime. This includes the creation of multi sectoral task forces and delivery of specific training events and conferences. Financial support has been provided to NGOs working in this

area. In order to strengthen the ability to achieve successful prosecutions and deterrent sanctions across the range of financial crimes associated with the illegal wildlife trade, there is a need to ensure that prosecutors, judges, Financial Intelligence Units, and authorities engaged in law enforcement, have the resources, knowledge and capacity effectively to investigate and prosecute financial crimes associated with wildlife crime.

- (x) There is limited evidence of new activity since February 2014 to tackle corruption in government departments and agencies and collectively there is a need to reaffirm the commitment to zero tolerance that was made in the London Declaration.

### *Strengthening law enforcement*

- (xi) At the London Conference, Governments recognised the need for a strong and co-ordinated enforcement response, at the site, community, national and international levels, and in source, transit and destination countries, using the fullest capacity of institutions and available tools and techniques. In their progress reports a number of countries reported on increased resources to enhance national enforcement capacity, for example in the numbers of enforcement officers and in the equipment and training provided to them. Related to this examples of enhanced national inter-agency co-operation have also been reported. This is complemented by evidence of increased cross-border co-operation, covering a range of activities including bilateral agreements and regional agreements such as Wildlife Enforcement Networks. Supporting this activity a number of countries reported on assistance they are providing, either as financial assistance or through provision of training and technical support, for example in developing forensic capability.
- (xii) Examples were also provided of transnational enforcement operations that have taken place, including those led or supported by ICCWC partners. This is supported by efforts to share and enhance expertise, building on previous work to develop and share tools and techniques of enforcement. Further efforts continue to be needed in all these areas but one area where a gap remains is between policy makers and on the ground activity, for example, in gathering and effectively sharing data and intelligence, evidence collation and pursuing arrests through to prosecution. Enhanced action at the international level to continue to support and build countries' capacity to strengthen their law enforcement efforts, both individually but also collectively, including through enhanced regional cooperation, remains essential.

*Sustainable livelihoods and economic development*

- (xiii) At the London Conference, Governments agreed that the impact of the illegal wildlife trade on sustainable livelihoods and economic development needed to be better understood and quantified. The self assessment reports demonstrate that some countries are taking action which will help improve understanding. However, there is no evidence of the development of a systematic, shared understanding of how working with local people and community groups can most effectively help tackle the illegal wildlife trade. Governments also agreed to undertake action to increase the capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities and eradicate poverty. A number of countries have reported on action they are taking to maintain or introduce formal benefit sharing approaches, set out in legislation, or accompanying guidance, which will help to ensure fair and equitable benefits for local communities from their wildlife resources. The potential to introduce legislation or related guidance, as appropriate, was not specifically addressed in the London Declaration.
- (xiv) The self assessment reports provide examples of action taken to establish collaborative partnerships among local, regional, national and international development and conservation agencies to enhance support for community led wildlife conservation. For example the Community Based Natural Resources Management Forum (CBNRM), supported by WWF, has helped the strengthen links both within and between southern African countries, allowing for valuable lessons and experiences in the implementation of CBRNM to be shared between communities. There is a role for Governments and International Organisations to support this exchange of information and best practice. There are also examples of actions Governments have taken to work with local communities in establishing monitoring and law enforcement networks in areas surrounding wildlife. 'Management Oriented Monitoring System' approaches allow communities to monitor natural resources in their areas and to provide information to relevant authorities, and through appointments of key individuals to help build relationships between local people and enforcement agencies.

### **A. Eradicating the market for illegal wildlife products**

1. A consistently high level of consumer demand is an important driver for the Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT). At the London Conference on IWT in February 2014, Governments committed themselves to take actions to eradicate both the demand and supply sides for illegal products wherever in the world this occurs. The London Declaration also recognised the importance of non-Governmental actors in eradicating demand, particularly in helping to effect behaviour change.
2. Since the London Conference many positive actions have been taken by Governments to help reduce demand and eradicate the market for illegal wildlife products, working both with non-governmental actors and across borders with neighbouring countries. The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Ministerial meeting in Beijing on 8 November 2014 included a commitment for countries to work together on IWT demand reduction. Many countries have entered into bi-lateral or multi-lateral agreements to action and a number of these are detailed below. However, enhanced engagement between source countries and the countries in which illegal products are consumed is needed.

#### **2014 APEC Ministerial Meeting Joint Ministerial Statement**

We are committed to conserving wildlife resources by strengthening our efforts to improve the livelihood of rural community, protect forest, grassland, wetland, desert and marine ecosystems, enhance environmental protection, and facilitate trade in legally harvested wildlife. We remain committed to strengthening our efforts to combat wildlife trafficking in the APEC region and reduce the supply of and demand for illegally traded wildlife. We will join hands to combat illicit transnational trade in protected wildlife by sharing information, intelligence, experiences and best practices, and strengthening international cooperation. We welcome actions being taken to build capacity to stop this illicit trade, including through cooperative activities such as the APEC Capacity Building Workshop on Reduction of Demand for Illegally Traded Wildlife held in Hanoi in October 2014.

- I. **Support, and where appropriate undertake, effectively targeted actions to eradicate demand and supply for illegal wildlife products.**
3. There are continuing challenges in reaching individual consumers. The variety of motivating factors for consumption means no 'one size fits all' approach to changing behaviour is appropriate. NGOs continue to play a key role both in raising awareness and in trying to influence and change consumer behaviour.
4. **China** has undertaken a number of crackdown campaigns involving Government departments of customs, forestry and public security. These campaigns covered every link in the illegal wildlife trade: trafficking, international transfer and illegal processing.

With the aid of three telecommunications companies, reminder messages are sent to Chinese citizens travelling abroad to dissuade them from illegal hunting, purchasing or carrying wildlife and their products. The Chinese Government has undertaken a range of publicity activities in cooperation with NGOs, social media and Internet companies, including non-commercial adverts about wildlife conservation in newspapers, magazines, broadcasts, TV, and Internet. Outreach activities are also conducted at stations, harbors and airports.

5. **Germany** undertakes regular public education about illegal wildlife products in order to influence consumer behaviour. Germany is implementing an inter-ministerial, cross-sectoral and trans-regional project to combat poaching and the illegal wildlife trade in Africa and Asia along the entire illegal trade chain. This project includes:
  - monitoring and analysis of markets in Asian countries, focussing on ivory and rhino-horn (both e-commerce and traditional markets);
  - a study on success factors for consumer behaviour strategies;
  - piloting workshops on demand reduction in China (with the business community) and Vietnam (with representatives of the Traditional Medicine Administration and Ministry of Health);
  - awareness raising workshops in Vietnam about recreational use of rhino horn;
  - development of a potential, multilateral dialogue to bring together supply, transit, and consumer countries to discuss formal cooperation to enhance law enforcement and coordination;
  - technical support to the Government of Vietnam to apply the International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime (ICCWC) Toolkit to prepare a strategy for the reduction of the consumption of wildlife products.
6. The **United States of America** provided financial support to awareness-raising efforts and demand reduction campaigns in Africa and Asia. The U.S. ARREST programme launched the “iThink” behaviour change campaign in China as part of an expanded effort to reduce wildlife product availability and consumption in China, Vietnam and Thailand. ARREST also facilitated “Fin Free Thailand,” in which 130 partnering luxury hotel chains, restaurants and local governments agreed to stop selling or buying shark fin and other shark products.
7. In Africa, range states are employing different approaches to tackle the poaching gangs supplying illegal markets. The Government of **Kenya** has taken action to strengthen the intelligence function that is responsible for gathering, analysing and disseminating intelligence about wildlife security. As a result successful covert operations that resulted in dismantling poaching and wildlife trafficking syndicates have been undertaken. Systematic surveillance of known gangs proved useful in intercepting suspects at their planning stages thereby averting poaching.

8. The Government of **Mozambique** approved a National Program for the protection of natural resources. Action on law enforcement and capacity building has included training a special force to deal with poaching and illegal wildlife products in protected areas and enhanced approaches to detection of wildlife products in hotspot sites like airports, ports and major border posts. The Programme also includes awareness raising on the importance of wildlife protection
9. **Malawi** has stepped up awareness-raising campaigns, using different channels such as media and billboards, and linking the campaigns to the commemoration of international events such as World Wildlife Day. **Ethiopia** is disseminating information to the general public using national and regional media to increase awareness about wildlife laws about the negative impacts and seriousness of wildlife crimes on wildlife resources, the environment, the economy and national security. **Tanzania** has used media to sensitize public on stopping poaching through television and radio programmes, posters and banners. Thirty villages have been visited to deliver conservation awareness.



10. The Attorney General's Office in **Mexico** is working on a publishing program to prevent trade of flora and fauna, aimed at the general public, especially students, and also public officials working in the states with the greatest incidence of illegal trade of endangered species.
11. China has committed to carry out a USD 10-million aid project for wildlife conservation in Africa to improve capacity of anti-poaching and habitat management authorities, reduce ivory product sales and supplies, and stop illegal trade from source. Training courses have been organized for African and Asian wildlife management and law enforcement officials to enhance management capacity in range countries, and increase mutual understanding. The Government of **Canada** is contributing CAD 2 million for the

Kenyan Wildlife Service (KWS) in emergency funding to combat international wildlife trafficking in Eastern Africa. Training in forensic DNA analysis has commenced in Canada and procurement of essential equipment has started.

12. In support of **Gabon, France** approved in December 2014 a €10 million project against serious wildlife crime and ivory trade through the French Agency for Development. Gabon has also received significant technical and financial support from the US Government for anti-poaching and fisheries protection and the government of the United Arab Emirates for fisheries protection in the form of a donation of equipment.
13. France granted €0.4 million in December 2014 through the French Agency for Development to WWF for a project in Vietnam aiming at protecting rhinos through civil society and private sector mobilisation, for the reduction of the consumption of their horn.

#### **Bi Lateral Agreements to co-operate**

A number of countries have formalised their co-operation through bi-lateral agreements or Memoranda of Understanding (MoU). These agreements are not confined to actions to eradicate the market but they are grouped here to give an overview:

- in October 2014 **Indonesia** and **Vietnam** adopted an MoU which covers information sharing and exchange (including intelligence); public awareness; capacity building and training; enforcement coordination;
- **Indonesia** and the **USA** have agreed an MoU on Combating Wildlife Crime;
- **China** has signed MoUs with some of its neighbouring countries to cooperate in CITES implementation;
- **Mozambique** and **South Africa** are implementing a MoU for joint actions on trans-boundary environmental protection, including law enforcement, information sharing, capacity building and international cooperation to coordinate the anti-poaching efforts targeting the Great Limpopo Transfrontier Park.
- **China** and **Tanzania** have signed an MoU on eradicating the market

14. In **Singapore**, in addition to regular and unannounced inspections on shops to ensure no sale of illegal wildlife products are taking place, brochures on CITES targeted at travellers are also distributed at various border checkpoints to discourage them from bringing home souvenirs made of endangered wildlife. On 7 March 2015, Wildlife Reserves Singapore and TRAFFIC launched a year-long public awareness campaign via a Memorandum of Understanding, against purchasing illegal wildlife and urging public to inform the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority if they see any illegal wildlife trade activities.

15. In February 2014, the **European Commission** launched a stakeholder consultation on the EU approach against wildlife trafficking and organised an expert conference in April, discussing whether EU efforts needed to be stepped up further. Linked to this process, a specific window dedicated to the Wildlife Crisis has been created under the EU flagship "Biodiversity for Life" (B4Life)<sup>1</sup>, and, in that framework, the European Commission is currently working on the development of a new strategic approach for wildlife conservation in Africa, which should be published in the first half of 2015. As part of this approach, it is expected that the EU will substantially increase its financial support to efforts for the conservation of wildlife in Africa, notably to address the current poaching and wildlife trafficking crisis but also to sustainably manage biological resources (bush meat, non-timber forest products, charcoal) to the benefits of local populations.

## II. Endorse the action of Governments which have destroyed seized wildlife products being traded illegally.

16. Since the London Conference, a number of public destructions of seized illegal wildlife products have taken place, receiving widespread publicity. Specific instances include:

- **Chad** burnt its ivory stockpile on 21 February 2014, Belgium on 9 April and Hong Kong on 15 May;
- In **China**, illegal products were burnt in Yunnan Province on April 20; products seized in the Operation Celestial Net were destroyed in Chongqing on July 8; and products seized along the Chinese-Vietnamese border were destroyed on October 30;
- In July 2014, the **UK** announced support for **Tanzania** to undertake an inventory of its stockpile;
- **Malawi** is planning to carry out an inventory of its stock pile and is currently going through approval processes to have the stock pile destroyed. Over the period January-June 2015, Malawi intends to develop its National Elephant Action Plan;
- In **Ethiopia**, ivory stock pile destruction is now in progress;
- In **Gabon** a new ivory storage facility has been established pending a subsequent destruction of stocks accumulated since the last burn;
- The CITES Management Authority of **Japan** has disposed of 180 illegally traded specimens since February 2014. This included 166 specimens banned by Japan Customs and renounced by the owners, between 1984 and 1998, which had been used for public awareness until the disposal;

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<sup>1</sup> B4life is a conceptual framework insisting on the linkages between biodiversity protection and poverty alleviation in developing countries

- The Prime Minister of **Vietnam** approved a proposal to develop a national centralized confiscated specimen's stockpile. This will enable the centralized management, including for scientific education, evidence storage, disposal, burning, forensic examination, awareness raising and study.
- In **France**, further to a first crush of three tons of ivory on 6 February 2014, the French authorities will carry out another ivory crush in 2015.
- A rhino horn burning ceremony took place in the **Czech Republic** on 21 September 2014. At the same time, the **Slovak Republic** destroyed confiscated horn in the zoo at Bojnice.



Illegally poached Elephant tusks and ivory go up in flames © WWF-Canon / James Morgan

**III. Renounce, as part of any Government procurement or related activity, the use of products from species threatened with extinction.**

17. A number of countries already have relevant measures in place. For example in **Australia** the use of products from species threatened with extinction, by any individual or organisation, including all national and sub-national governments, is strictly regulated. **Botswana's** Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act 1992 prohibits the use of species classified as protected for consumptive purposes. In the **United Kingdom**, there is a requirement in public procurement rules that suppliers comply with all legal

obligations which include the CITES implementing regulations. Furthermore, the UK Government is developing Guidance on Sustainable Procurement and this will include specific provisions on illegal wildlife products. Other than this no evidence has been provided about new actions to deliver this commitment.

**IV. Take measures to ensure that the private sector acts responsibly, to source legally any wildlife products used within their sectors; and urge the private sector to adopt zero tolerance policies on corporate gifting or accepting of species threatened with extinction or products made from them.**

18. Nine internet enterprises in **China**, including Alibaba and Tencent, launched an initiative in October 2014 called "Please say NO to illegal wildlife and their products". They committed not to offer publicity and trading service to illegal wildlife products on their network platforms. In January 2015, the Government of China and the CITES Secretariat jointly hosted the first international workshop on demand-side strategies for curbing the illegal ivory trade in Hangzhou.
19. Through the "Single Window Initiative", the Government of **Canada** provides commercial traders with a single window through which they can electronically submit all information required to comply with customs and other Government regulations regarding wildlife products. During 2014, Canada continued to build on its wildlife compliance outreach activities, including awareness-raising with regulated sectors such as importers and exporters.
20. The **German** CITES Managing Authority has restricted commercial re-exports of raw elephant ivory (whole tusks of any size, and cut pieces that are both 20 cm or more in length and one kilogram or more in weight).-The result was that in 2014 no re-export certificates were granted for these specimens and all applications were withdrawn. This followed a considerable increase of such applications in the previous three years.
21. The **UK** has introduced stricter re-export conditions for rhino horn which have been adopted across the EU. This ensures that no export or re-export permits are issued for rhino horn, whether worked or unworked, except in cases where it is clear such permits will be used legitimately, such as for research or in the case of relocation.
22. In February this year, **France** decided to suspend the issue of re-export certificates for raw ivory (elephant tusks and pieces).
23. The **Malaysian** Environment Ministry is collaborating with the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission to track illegal online trades.
24. **UNDP's** work at the international level focuses on mainstreaming anti-trafficking strategies into global transport chains (e.g. creating certified "Tusk-Free Ports"). It is working to develop innovative partnerships with the private sector to scan global

transportation systems and build the capacity of policy and customs in priority countries and trade routes.

**V. Recognising the authority of the CITES Conference of the Parties Support the existing provisions of CITES prohibiting commercial international trade in elephant ivory until the CITES Conference of the Parties determines, informed by scientific analysis, that the survival of elephants in the wild is no longer threatened by poaching.**

25. **Botswana** is committed to implementing all CITES decisions and resolutions relating to the African elephant. Botswana reports on illegal killing of elephants to the CITES Monitoring Illegal Killing of Elephants programme (MIKE), on seizures of ivory to the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS) and on stockpiles to the CITES Secretariat. Botswana is also observing the current moratorium on ivory trade agreed to by CITES parties in 2007 and is in the process of reviewing her legislation to move it from CITES Category 2 to Category 1. Through the Elephant Protection Initiative (EPI), **Botswana, Chad, Ethiopia, Gabon** and **Tanzania** have committed to a further moratorium on trade in elephant ivory by taking ivory out of economic use for ten years.



A Parcs Gabon Eco Guard displaying seized poached elephant tusks and poacher's weapons, Oyem, Gabon © WWF-Canon / James Morgan

26. **Malawi** has implemented a moratorium on domestic ivory trade and stepped up surveillance. Angola currently does not allow trade in wildlife products. Gabon has submitted a National Ivory Action Plan (NIAP) and is writing recognition of CITES into new Forestry Law. **Ethiopia** has developed a NIAP to combat the illegal wildlife trade and elephant poaching effectively and efficiently across the country.
27. **Zambia** currently does not have a legal ivory carving industry or any form of legal domestic trade in ivory as the Zambian elephant population remains in the CITES Appendix I. Zambia however, has ivory stockpiles that have accumulated in government held stocks and to some extent private owned ivory stocks that is yet to be fully established. Zambia has further complied to CITES provisions regarding elephant ivory stocks, marking, inventories and security. The Zambia Wildlife Authority has an ivory stockpile at its central ivory strong room and consistently carried out ivory stock count of all government –held stocks and has submitted an inventory to the CITES Secretariat
28. The **Chinese** CITES managing authority refuses to issue import and export certifications for commercial ivory trade which contravenes CITES rules, and transfers illegal cases to law enforcement agencies.
29. In **Singapore**, it is unlawful to import and export/re-export CITES species without proper CITES permits. In addition, it is also an offence for any person to sell, offer or expose for sale, or display to the public, the parts and derivatives of tigers and rhinoceros.
30. Agencies in **Malaysia** have taken preventive actions to prohibit commercial international trades on elephant ivory by engaging CITES specialists in conducting DNA sampling on seizure items, in compliance with decision of The Conference of Parties 16 in March 2013, where every seizure of ivory weighing 500kg and above needs to be sent for DNA sampling.
31. **Australia** consistently champions the continued moratorium on elephant ivory trade and has had a stricter domestic measure for all elephants in place since 2002. This measure treats all elephants as though they are listed on Appendix I of CITES and therefore only allows commercial international trade in pre-Convention specimens.
32. In 2014 the **USA** amended its CITES-implementing regulations to strengthen domestic controls over sale of African elephant ivory and specimens of other CITES Appendix I species.
33. In **Germany**, controlled deliveries of illegal ivory shipments have been undertaken in cooperation with the authorities in target countries since 2012 and recently intensified. In 2014 three controlled deliveries were facilitated, which lead to the arrest of a number of criminals in Hong Kong in the following investigations.
34. The **UK** Border Force offers controlled deliveries on all ivory, rhino horn and pangolin seizures made in the UK. Alongside the European Commission, the UK supports **INTERPOL** Project Waylay. In collaboration with INTERPOL's ICCWC partner

organisations, Project Waylay aims to facilitate national and international cooperation in the application of specialized investigative techniques. It supports law enforcement authorities in countries of origin, transit and destination for elephant ivory and rhinoceros horn in their implementation of the *African Elephant Action Plan*, while aligning with CITES Decision 16.78 on Monitoring of illegal trade in ivory and other elephant specimens.

**VI. Welcome the action already underway and urge those Governments that allow trade in legally acquired endangered wildlife products to implement measures, including labelling and wider traceability measures, to ensure that this trade does not allow any illegal wildlife products to enter these markets.**

35. **Malaysia** enforces wildlife tagging upon entry to the country. The requirement on wildlife tagging, marking and labelling are obligations under the National Ivory Action Plan. Malaysia is planning to conduct research into species labelling methods especially into tagging as method to prevent falsification on trade documents. This will guarantee that all documentation regarding wildlife trade is genuine and cannot be manipulated by criminals.
36. The Government of **China** implements a Label Management System on wildlife under management and utilization so as to distinguish legally traded wildlife and their products from illegal ones.
37. Following the resolution at CITES CoP 16 on 'Trade in elephant specimens' **Germany** has implemented marking obligations and for traceability reasons marks ivory tusks (as well as rhino horns where there is a general restriction) before a certificate will be granted.
38. **Colombia** has implemented campaigns to deter the illegal use of wildlife specimens and promote their legal use. Colombia has a public-private volunteer-based initiative called the "Inter-sectorial pact for Legal Wood in Colombia" and its objective is to ensure that wood which is extracted, transported, transformed, and commercialized in the country comes exclusively from legal origins.
39. **Tanzania** has continued to use skin tags for leopards and Nile crocodile and has continued with the use of marking/stamping ivory from tourist hunting in line with the relevant CITES Resolutions.
40. The **UK** applies a stricter approach to the trade in raw ivory than that required under CITES, prohibiting all trade in raw ivory, including unworked antiques.
41. **Canadian Government** agencies are strengthening the legal framework and facilitating the enforcement of domestic regulations related to the trade and movement of marine mammal ivory. This includes enhancing traceability processes as well as better documentation, licensing and analysis of past and on-going ivory transportation routes.

Any domestic movement of narwhal and walrus products (i.e. tusks) requires a Marine Mammal Transportation Licence to improve control of the legal trade

42. In response to concerns about the increased trade in rhino horn, particularly the laundering of new horn as horn legally traded under CITES, **Australia** introduced stricter measures in July 2014. Any person wishing to export vintage rhino horn must now conclusively prove that it was acquired prior to 1950 through radiocarbon dating. The Australian Government has prohibited the import of new rhino horn hunting trophies into the country, including as personal or household effects.
  43. In order to reduce pressure on wild populations, **Indonesia** manages captive-based programmes which include captive breeding, ranching, captive rearing and artificial propagation for plants. In cooperation with International Working Group on Reptile Skins, Indonesia is developing a project which aims to develop systems for the sustainability of the legal trade in reptile skins.
  44. **Singapore** has implemented CITES Resolution Conf. 11.12 (Rev. CoP15) on the Universal Tagging System for the identification of crocodylian skins. All imports and subsequent re-exports of crocodylian skins are individually tagged according to the tagging requirements. Shipments are also randomly selected for inspection to ensure compliance with Res Conf 11.12 (Rev COP15).
  45. The **EU** has introduced new provisions on import into the EU of hunting trophies of some CITES-listed species. This introduces the requirement that import permits need to be issued by EU Member States for the import into the EU of hunting trophies of specimens of six species or populations included in CITES Appendix II. This allows the EU and its Member States to check that imports of those trophies are sustainable and provides an additional guarantee against illegal transactions. The provisions aim to clarify that import permits should not be issued by EU Member States in cases where, despite a request to this end, they do not obtain satisfactory information from the exporting or re-exporting country as to the legality of CITES-listed specimens to be imported into the EU. This reinforces the tools at the disposal of the EU Member States to ensure that illegally traded products do not reach the EU market.
  46. The **IUCN** SSC African Rhino Specialist Group has been very supportive of the development of a single continental rhino DNA forensic system (RhoDIS) that is currently being extensively used in investigations and court prosecutions.
- VII. Minimise speculation in endangered wildlife products by opposing the use of misleading, exaggerated or inaccurate information, where this could stimulate poaching, trafficking or demand.**
47. In order to reduce illegal rhino horn/ivory trade caused by speculation that rhino horn has aphrodisiac properties the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism in **Tanzania**

produces the Tanzania Wildlife Magazine quarterly with several articles to create community awareness on the impact of illegal wildlife trade.

48. In **Vietnam**, households in areas where traditional medicine is widespread have been provided with materials explaining the legal prohibitions on buying, selling and using rhino horn for commercial purposes. They were also provided with written warnings from scientists and health experts about misperceptions about the value of rhino horn in health treatment.
49. The Government of **Germany** will be piloting activities with the Vietnamese Traditional Medicine Association. It organised an expert symposium in May 2014 to gather background information on the medical ineffectiveness of rhino horn (e.g. as a cancer cure), linked to information about the legal framework concerning the use of endangered species. Over the next year, **Canada** plans to enhance its engagement with Asian communities across the country, targeting importers and distributors of traditional Chinese medicines.
50. In **Australia**, the Government has worked with auction houses on the sale of rhinoceros horn and ivory products, providing education on the impacts of illegal trade, including links with other crime types. As a consequence of the education and monitoring activities undertaken, the volume and price of rhino horn has significantly declined in Australia.

#### **United Nations Environment Assembly**

As part of **UNEP's** work supporting policy dialogues on IWT, UNEP will prepare an analysis compiling and synthesizing available and updated information on the environmental impacts of illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products for consideration by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its second session. This will strengthen the evidence base for policy makers - including governments, civil society organisations, local communities, and the private sector - to make informed decisions and effective interventions to address the issue.

The report will build on existing knowledge, moving beyond the current attention on the poaching crisis facing African elephants and rhinos, to take into account the diverse and global nature of the challenge and addressing a wider range of ecological threats from illegal harvesting and trafficking, including timber, great apes, reptiles, bush meat, tigers, bears, corals, birds, pangolins, and fisheries. The focus of the analysis will provide an opportunity to review the environmental dimensions of the illegal trade, enhancing the knowledge base for further development of policy support tools and build capacity to secure the foundations of future projects addressing the illegal wildlife trade.

## **B. Ensuring effective legal frameworks and deterrents**

51. At the London Conference, countries committed to action to curb the illegal wildlife trade by prosecuting and penalising the criminals involved, to provide an effective deterrent. A number of countries are reviewing and strengthening wildlife conservation law including by providing for stiffer penalties for convicted offenders, although there is scope to do more to ensure wildlife offences are defined as “serious crimes” within the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in all countries. Action is taking place to tackle corruption and money laundering including through different Government agencies working together and there is potential for more to be done to make full use of existing legislation and law enforcement deployed against other forms of organised crime. There is limited evidence of new activity since February 2014 in adopting a zero tolerance policy on corruption.

## **VIII. Address the problem of the illegal wildlife trade by adopting or amending legislation, as necessary, to criminalise poaching and wildlife trafficking, and related crimes including by ensuring such criminal offences are “serious crimes” within the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.**

52. The **Vietnamese** Penal Code is being amended, which will incorporate stronger and more deterrent sanctions over environmental crimes, including illegal trade in endangered species. A Joint-Ministerial Circular detailing the guidance on sanctions over rhino horn-related crimes is being developed by the Ministries of Finance, Justice, Agriculture and Rural, the Supreme People’s Court and Supreme People’s Prosecutor. The Wildlife Conservation Law in **China** has been amended for further protection of wildlife and two interpretations of regulations on wildlife-related crime were passed by the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress in 2014. Anyone who illegally purchases rare or endangered species of wildlife as food or for other purposes shall be subject to criminal persecution.

53. **Malaysia** is in the process of including wildlife crime under the Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorism Financing Act 2001 (AMLATFA). It will also propose higher penalties and mandatory jail terms under relevant legislation. Malaysia has established several dedicated courts known as “Green Courts” since September 2012 to ensure speedy trial and disposal of cases involving environmental crime.

54. In **Botswana**, the Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act is currently undergoing review to bring it in line with other progressive legislation in the region and internationally. Sanctions for wildlife crimes will be strengthened. **Malawi** is undertaking a review of wildlife legislation with financial assistance from the German Government, with the purpose of incorporating stiff penalties. This process is expected to last six

months from October 2014 to May 2015. In **Mozambique**, the National Assembly of the Republic ratified the Conservation Law in April 2014, which includes prison sentences for offenders and stiffer fines and recognizes the international treaties and conventions which Mozambique has ratified. In **Ethiopia**, national wildlife legislation is under review with particular attention paid to the provisions related to wildlife crimes and the effect of the existing penalty frame work on deterrence. In **Tanzania**, the review of the Wildlife Act is at the final stage.

55. **Uganda** has approved the principles for the amendment of the Uganda Wildlife Act 2000. The amended Wildlife Act will have deterrent penalties for wildlife traffickers and other offenders that are consonant with other offences classified as “serious crime” under the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. Uganda intends to formulate guidelines and regulations to operationalize provisions of the amended Wildlife Act to address specific gaps and issues relating to prosecution and stronger/ deterrent penalties for wildlife crime offenders.
  56. In **Canada**, a new fine regime will be implemented for offences under the Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act (WAPPRIITA) – Canada’s CITES implementing legislation. Offences under the Act will be considered “most serious offences” and will therefore be subject to mandatory minimum fines and higher maximum fines.
  57. The **Mexican** Federal Penal Code establishes as offenses activities related to poaching and the illegal wildlife trade. It criminalizes activities that facilitate illegal traffic, trapping, possession, transportation, gathering, illegal introduction to or extraction from the country, of any wildlife product, or any product made from them, specifically endemic or endangered species, or species protected by an international legal instrument.
  58. **UNODC** conducted comprehensive national legal assessments on wildlife and forest crime related legislation in Tanzania and Lao PDR during 2014. The findings were discussed at multi-stakeholder meetings and concrete recommendations on strengthening legislation and its enforcement, including revision of penalties, were provided.
- IX. Address the serious problem of corruption and money-laundering facilitating wildlife trafficking and related offences by adopting or amending legislation, as necessary, criminalising corruption and bribery facilitating poaching, wildlife trafficking, and related offences.**
59. In **Botswana**, a Financial Intelligence Agency has recently become fully operational. The Agency works with other parts of government including the Department for Wildlife and National Parks to counteract money laundering activities. Botswana has applied to the CITES Secretariat for assistance to implement the [ICWC] Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytical Toolkit. The recommendations of the implementation mission will inform

future measures that Botswana will take to counter wildlife crime. Botswana has also recently approved a National Anti-Poaching Strategy to be implemented in 2015, and a revised Wildlife Conservation and National Parks Act.

60. In **Malawi** additional legislation to wildlife legislation has been applied to wildlife crime since June 2014. This has included anti- money laundering and immigration law as well the Corrupt Practices Act. This approach has been made possible with the establishment of an Inter-agency Committee on Combating Wildlife Crimes.
61. **Mozambique** has approved a new Law for Conservation Areas, which includes criminalization of wildlife offences. In 2015-16 Mozambique plans to design subsidiary domestic legislation and an approach to operationalization which is appropriate for money laundering and wildlife crimes. It will also design a legal mechanism to harmonize wildlife legislation and the key domestic legislation for prevention of organised crime, financial crime and corruption.
62. The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development in **Colombia** has held training with the Military Forces and Police on topics related to techniques for the identification of wildlife for illegal trade and the need to identify acts of administrative corruption and complicity by public officials in unethical conduct.
63. In December 2013 **Australia** commenced a review of its domestic anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing framework to identify how it could be enhanced. (The review coincides with an evaluation of Australia’s anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regime by the Financial Action Task Force.) Australia is providing USD 8.9 million (2012-2015) to the UN Office on Drugs and Crime’s (UNODC) global anti-corruption program, which includes support for regional anti-corruption advisers in South and Southeast Asia to assist in their implementation of the UN Convention Against Corruption. Australia is also contributing USD 4.3 million over four years (2012–2015) to fund the UNODC and UN Development Program joint Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption (UN-PRAC) project to strengthen the capacity of Pacific island countries to tackle corruption.

### **Money laundering and the Illegal Wildlife Trade**

**UNODC**, with support from the **World Bank Group**, organised a conference around anti-money laundering in Botswana during June 2014. The conference, entitled “Taking the Proceeds from Wildlife and Timber Trafficking-Asian and African experiences,” brought together key stakeholders and agencies from the entire supply chain. This enabled a better understanding of the benefits of following the money, building operational relationships and facilitating the exchange of intelligence and information between both continents. It set up priorities for regional and country specific activities to build capacity in locating and seizing proceeds of wildlife and timber trafficking. Participants from 18 African and Asian countries attended a follow-up conference held in Bangkok in January 2015, to build on the

outcomes initiated in Botswana.

In December, 2014 **UNODC** held a regional training event for the Caribbean States on “Anti-money Laundering: Recovery of proceeds from wildlife and forest crimes”, with a particular focus on financial centres and their role in addressing the money laundering.

Similar national conferences were held by UNODC in Tanzania in September and Kenya in November 2014.

The Prince of Wales's International Sustainability Unit convened an Experts Group on Wildlife Crime and Money Laundering composed of governments, the financial sector, multilateral organisations and NGOs. It reported in March 2015.

**X. Strengthen the legal framework and facilitate law enforcement** to combat the illegal wildlife trade and assist prosecution and the imposition of penalties that are an effective deterrent.

64. A range of different agencies in **China** have been involved in wildlife crime operations. The Forest Police Bureau of the State Forestry Administration organised a nationwide campaign codenamed “Skynet 2014” to fight against wildlife crimes from 1 April to 30 June. The Anti-smuggling Bureau carried out a nationwide campaign codenamed Operation Guardian to fight against smuggling and criminal activities in endangered species from the beginning of June to December in 2014. The public security system carried out special enforcement action codenamed Operation Sword to combat illegal trade of forest and wildlife products. All these Operations provided strong and effective deterrents to potential offenders.
65. **UNODC** has been supporting the Government of Vietnam in the review and revision of the national Penal Code in addressing wildlife crime. The national consultation was held in December 2014 and discussed the recommendations and prepared a final text for submission to the legislative authorities.
66. **Japan** amended the Law for the Conservation of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (LCES) in June 2013. This included strengthened penalties which came into effect in July 2013 and a ban on the advertisement of endangered wild fauna and flora for the purpose of selling or distribution which came into effect in June 2014. In December 2014, Japan adopted the Amendment Act on Prevention of Transfer of Criminal Proceeds and Terrorist Assets-Freezing Act to improve its anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regime. Japan has provided a financial contribution to the UNODC for a long period. In October 2014, UNODC held a regional meeting on mutual legal assistance in foreign bribery cases, with Japan’s support, to provide a platform among law enforcement officials in the region to implement the UN Convention against Corruption.



Anti Poaching patrol, Thailand © WWF-Canon / James Morgan

67. **Colombia** will issue a Standard to regulate measures taken after preventive apprehension, restitution or seizing of wildlife specimens of land and aquatic fauna and flora.
68. In **Malaysia**, national enforcement agencies have collaborated with the Malaysia Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC) to ensure the integrity of wildlife law enforcement. Enforcement agencies in Malaysia have shared investigation techniques and subject matter expertise related to illegal wildlife trade. Malaysia will continue to conduct training on illegal wildlife trade in 2015 to ensure that all enforcement staff are equipped with the knowledge and skills they need.
69. In **Singapore**, the Endangered Species (Import and Export) Act was amended in 2006 with several enhancements such as increased monetary penalties, on a per specimen rather than per species basis, and custodial terms from 1 year to 2 years jail. The amended Act also enables authorised officers to investigate species in transit, and to take actions against claims on possession and sales of non-CITES products purported to be CITES products.
70. The **UK** is working to modernise and simplify the current body of legislation relating to wildlife crime and has tasked the UK Law Commission to consider the scope for reform and consolidation of wildlife law as part of its 11th programme of law reform. The Law Commission's final report is due at the end of 2015.

71. **Kenya** is taking action to strengthen the prosecution of wildlife crime offenders, including through the application of related legislation. There is a new Wildlife Conservation Act 2013 which provides for stiffer penalties and conveys powers to prosecute wildlife-related cases, conduct investigations and gather intelligence.
  72. Zambia recognizes that its regulations are inadequate for the implementation of CITES. The Zambia Wildlife Authority will review the CITES national legislation taking into consideration the recommendations from the revision of legislation done by the CITES Secretariat in July 2008.
  73. In **France**, as part of a biodiversity bill being voted in parliament, financial penalties will be significantly raised (from 15 000 to 150 000 € in case of a simple offence, and from 150 000 € to 750 000 € in case of a serious crime).
- XI. Strengthen the ability to achieve successful prosecutions and deterrent sanctions by raising awareness in the judicial sector about the seriousness, impact and potential profits of wildlife crime.**
74. In **Angola** the judiciary will be part of the new Multi-sectoral Wildlife Crime Action Committee/ Task Force, and sensitization of judges and prosecutors will be among its activities. In **Kenya**, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and KWS have established a joint wildlife crime prosecution task force. The Kenyan National Intelligence Service, the National Police Service, and the Directorate of Criminal Investigation are supporting surveillance of poachers and investigation of wildlife cases. Future work in Kenya will include creating a specialized scene of crime investigation unit (November 2015); completion of a forensic laboratory to help with DNA evidence (November 2015); and training of Rangers on proper collection of evidence and chain of custody of evidence (throughout 2015). In **Ethiopia**, training has been given to police and custom officers, prosecutors and members of the judiciary to increase their awareness of wildlife laws and associated international conventions.
  75. **Uganda** has continued to organise interagency awareness workshops involving the judiciary, immigration and police to sensitize them about wildlife conservation and the dangers of illegal wildlife trade. In areas where such workshops have been held, there has been a big improvement in successful prosecutions of the wildlife cases. A wildlife crime database has also been established at Uganda Wildlife Authority to track habitual wildlife offenders and secure maximum sentences during prosecution. The database is being tested and will help keep records of all prosecutions and data on all suspects/ offenders for use in future prosecutions
  76. Representatives from the Supreme People's Procuratorate and the Supreme People's Court of **China** are invited to attend joint conferences on sensitive species conservation, and share information about the situation regarding endangered wildlife trafficking.

77. **Canada** continues to take strong action on illegal wildlife trafficking. In 2014, under the Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act (WAPPRITTA), Canada performed over 2000 inspections, carried out over 100 investigations that have resulted in 13 criminal convictions. Environment Canada funds a Court Practitioners Outreach Program, which educates judges and court practitioners about key environmental law concepts while addressing some of the unique challenges associated with the prosecution of environmental legislation.
78. **France** intends to include a biodiversity provision in an amendment to existing legislation on tax fraud and serious economic and financial crime which allows the exchange of confidential information between customs services and the CITES management authority.
79. The **USA** provided financial support in key elephant, rhino, tiger and great ape range states, transit countries and consumer nations to non-governmental organisations working to improve prosecution and penalties for wildlife crime. Support included analysis of existing legislation, support to investigators and prosecutors to pursue individual cases, scene of the crime training, the development of prosecutors' handbooks, providing for expert testimony, forensic analysis and genetic fingerprinting of seized items, media outreach to publicize cases, and awareness-raising among the judiciary.

## **XII. Adopt a zero tolerance policy on corruption associated with the illegal wildlife trade.**

80. There is limited evidence of new activity in this area since the London Conference. The issue is already covered in the legislation of a number of countries: under **Australian** law, authorities must take all reasonable measures to prevent, detect and deal with fraud, with Australian Public Servants mandated to report all instances of fraud or perceived fraud. Corruption is generally well addressed by German law and no new regulation with regard to wildlife crime in this regards has been identified.
81. Other countries are taking steps to ensure that legislation is implemented appropriately. In **Botswana** there are Corruption Prevention Committees, facilitated by the Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime, which exist to address the full range of issues including illegal wildlife trade. In **Malawi**, the Anti-corruption Bureau is a member of the Inter-agency Committee on Combating Wildlife Crime, to ensure that the Corrupt Practices Act is applied to wildlife cases. **Mozambique** plans to design a legal mechanism for the harmonization of wildlife legislation and key domestic legislation for prevention of organised crime, financial crime and corruption, and its implementation. The President of **Gabon** has mandated a special investigation into the role of corruption in ivory smuggling. In **Ethiopia**, the Wildlife Conservation Authority has been addressing areas that are vulnerable to corruption. Additional manpower is being recruited, the existing organisational structure is being reviewed, robust and transparent working

systems have been put in place and training on good governance and corruption has been offered.

82. The **USA** has provided funding for international capacity building projects including prosecutorial training, an anti-money laundering criminal typologies project and accompanying training, and wildlife trafficking-focused anti-corruption projects, which will continue in 2015.

### C. Strengthening law enforcement

#### Consolidating the global law enforcement response

During the 83rd Session of the INTERPOL General Assembly in November 2014, INTERPOL's member countries unanimously ratified a Resolution to guide INTERPOL's response to emerging environmental security threats. Building on previous agreements that institutionalized environmental crime within INTERPOL's framework of action, the Resolution encourages:

1. capture of relevant police information gathered in the framework of investigations and operations in INTERPOL global police databases;
2. development of tools and concepts in response to emerging threats;
3. raising awareness among law enforcement agencies of environmental crimes and violations, their causes and impacts on national security;
4. national engagement in activities of the INTERPOL Environmental Crime Working Groups on Pollution, Fisheries and Wildlife.

The member countries also called on the General Secretariat to establish regional environmental security task forces and promote a forum for the intergovernmental community to consider its responses to environmental security threats.

83. To successfully tackle the illegal wildlife trade requires cutting the supply of illegal products, preventing poaching in the first instance and closing the transit routes. At the London Conference, countries committed themselves to undertake a strong and co-ordinated enforcement response, at the site, national and international levels, using the fullest capacity of institutions and available tools and techniques.

84. During the 83<sup>rd</sup> Session of the INTERPOL General Assembly in November 2014, INTERPOL's member countries unanimously ratified a Resolution on Environmental Security guiding INTERPOL's response to emerging threats.

### XIII. Invest in capacity building to strengthen law enforcement to protect key populations of species threatened by poaching.

#### Building law enforcement capacity

Governments in a number of countries including **Angola, Botswana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique** and **Tanzania** are recruiting, deploying, training and equipping new wildlife rangers and scouts to boost capacity, with plans to recruit further rangers. Alongside this they are investing in specialist equipment. **Angola** has adopted a National Strategy for its Conservation Areas Network. Capacity building to manage and protect the Network is under way, with donor support from GEF, UNDP and the EU. **Uganda** is working with key

institutions on forensic analyses especially elephant DNA profiling to ascertain the origin or source of specific contraband items. It will share information with other range states to help with effective monitoring and enforcement. Significant resources have been engaged by the **Gabonese** Government and partners to increase capacity of law enforcement for example US Marines have run training sessions for military and para-military personnel. The National Parks Agency has an elephant genetic finger printing project funded by EU via CEEAC working with TRACE and the Royal Zoological Society in Edinburgh which is improving crime scene work and developing tools to be able to match seized ivory to carcasses and to track ivory if it enters illegal trade subsequent to being seized. A number of countries participated in the **Sino- Africa** CITES implementation and wildlife conservation training seminar from September to October 2014.

85. The **UK** is working with partners around the world to ensure effective deterrents to wildlife crime. Through the Illegal Wildlife Challenge Fund, the UK is funding:
- a project in Vietnam aimed at strengthening enforcement and prosecution of wildlife trafficking crimes and help disrupt and dismantle the criminal networks driving the illegal trade;
  - a project working with eight African countries which aims to address the disparity between arrests and convictions in the prosecution of IWT-related crimes through the establishment of a wildlife forensic network;
  - A project in Malawi which will produce a legislation handbook on Acts relevant to wildlife crime as an aid to prosecutors and judiciary, and establish a national database on wildlife crime to ensure accurate reporting and facilitate intelligence gathering;
  - A project in Belize and Guatemala which aims to improve enforcement and improve intelligence and prosecution of wildlife traffickers.
86. The **USA** has provided funding for frontline customs border training, investigative training to foster cross-border law enforcement cooperation, and forensic DNA analysis of major ivory seizures to identify poaching and transit hotspots. It supported law enforcement strengthening in several countries, with workshops in Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America, focusing on the identification, investigation, prosecution, and legal structure of environmental and wildlife crimes and in improving analytical and law enforcement capabilities.
87. The USA funded a series of INTERPOL training and workshops, including training for analysts and investigators from Asia, during which they initiated “Operation PAWS” (Protection of Asian Wildlife Species). Operation PAWS has so far led to the arrest of over 100 wildlife criminals and the seizure of 26 tigers skins and parts, 50 common and clouded leopards, 280 kg of pangolin scales, 83 bears and parts, 3500 kg of elephants

ivory and over 4000 kg of red sandal wood. Other wildlife species seized during the operation included rhino horns, monkeys, musk deer pods, red pandas, lions, crocodiles, turtles, tortoises, birds and smaller Asian cat species.



Seized ivory items for DNA testing. (photo courtesy of TRAFFIC)

88. SMART software and associated equipment and procedures for measuring, evaluating and improving the effectiveness of wildlife law enforcement patrols and site-based conservation activities was rolled out in several conservation areas in Africa in 2014.
89. As part of efforts to enhance taxonomic capacity under the East and Southeast Asia Biodiversity Information Initiative (ESABII), **Japan** carried out training programmes for identifying CITES Appendices Species in cooperation with the Government of **Malaysia**, TRAFFIC Southeast Asia and the ASEAN-WEN in February 2014. Japan has helped with capacity building efforts in developing countries which leads to strengthening of law enforcement, through providing financial support for national legislative support organised by CITES.
90. In Southeast Asia, the **USA** ARREST program supported 30 national and regional capacity building activities with ASEAN-WEN, training 462 individuals on wildlife law enforcement issues and techniques. Together with the **UNODC**, ARREST also strengthened law enforcement capacity along border areas. The U.S. stationed an experienced criminal investigator in Southeast Asia to work with ASEAN WEN partners and increased its law enforcement coordination across the government, including forming a Joint Agency Wildlife Smuggling task force (JAWS) to enhance cross-agency efforts. The United States provided financial support for workshops and meetings in Southern Africa, Central Africa, and South America to establish and/or strengthen regional Wildlife Enforcement

Networks in those regions and continued to provide financial and technical support to existing WENs in Southeast Asia, South Asia, the Horn of Africa, and Central America.

91. The Government of **Germany** is investing in a range of projects to support law enforcement in developing countries including:
  - assessment of experiences and good practices for evidence-based guidance for law enforcement in Africa; support for and cooperation with the World Customs Organization (WCO) to provide capacity building of customs authorities in sub-Saharan Africa to strengthen CITES enforcement ;
  - Provision of technical equipment and technological innovations to support monitoring and surveillance in protected areas in Africa;
  - Piloting of SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) in the Democratic Republic of Congo to enhance wildlife monitoring.
92. France has provided a grant to UNODC (0.1 M€) for projects in central Africa. It also offered to second a police officer to reinforce Interpol's environmental security unit. Following requests from the national authorities, France provided training in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Vietnam.
93. In **Indonesia** capacity building is on-going through refresher training programs for existing forest rangers and training in new techniques of investigation such as wildlife forensics. With supports from the US Department of Justice the Ministry of Forestry has conducted several wildlife law enforcement capacity building programs in many provinces.
94. In **Singapore**, the Agri-Food and Veterinary Authority regularly conducts CITES training sessions to its officers and partner enforcement agencies, and also participates in regional and international wildlife enforcement related workshops, conferences and meetings to beef up competency in wildlife investigations and species identification.
95. During 2015, **Colombia** will continue working towards strengthening action in terms of control in airports, terminals, maritime ports, markets, main roads, illegal traffic through internet use and other modus operandi. Resources will be designated to continue working on the identification and isolation of molecular markers of illegal trafficked species. This work is done jointly with the laboratory for the genetic identification of wildlife species in the DIJIN-INTERPOL of the Colombian National Police.
96. **Mexico** has improved its law enforcement capacities through training wildlife officers, updating the procedures and guidelines for inspections of transboundary movements, supplying better equipment to inspection offices and updating the database platform to control those inspections.
97. **Australia** regularly provides training for law enforcement officials such as park rangers, national and sub-national government officers to protect the environment including

wildlife which may be targeted by poachers. The Australian Federal Police International Network has been engaged in enhancing capacity and capability of international law enforcement agencies to combat transnational crime.

98. Building on training provided to the **Kenya** Wildlife Service in patrolling and field craft to support anti-poaching work in December 2013, the UK Ministry of Defence is working to make this training more routine with the potential to also involve the Kenya Forest Service and Mount Kenya Trust.
99. **UNODC** conducted comprehensive national assessments to develop evidence-based recommendations and actions for law enforcement, prosecution, judiciary and legislative review in Nepal, Bangladesh, Peru, Gabon, using the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit. The implementation of the Toolkit has enabled identification of key issues and gaps in law enforcement and provided evidence-based recommendations to address those gaps. The implementation of the Toolkit is on-going in Vietnam, Botswana, Mexico and Tanzania.

**XIV. Establish and maintain national cross-agency mechanisms** to develop, resource and implement co-ordinated national and local action plans and strategies.

100. Countries including **Canada, Kenya, Malawi** and **Uganda** have undertaken specific cross-Agency awareness-raising and training to build capacity to tackle illegal wildlife trade from a range of approaches. There has been particular focus on including Transport, Revenue and Intelligence agencies in Government.
101. **Botswana** has established a National Anti-Poaching Task Team to enhance cooperation among law enforcement agencies. The Government of **Mozambique** approved the establishment of an Anti-poaching Taskforce to support implementation of its Program for combating illegal exploitation of natural resources in February 2014. The Taskforce includes representatives from the Agriculture, Tourism, Defence, Interior, Mine Resources, Finance and Fisheries Ministries. In **Angola**, a Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit is being established and will be supported by the Wildlife Crime Action Committee/Task Force. The Unit will function as an intelligence-based central enforcement agency to concentrate coordination between different national enforcement bodies.
102. In **Ethiopia**, the Wildlife Conservation Authority has collaborated with different law enforcement agencies like the Federal Police Commission, National Information and Security Service, Regional Police Commissions, Revenues and Customs Authority, Regional wildlife offices and National Defense Force on law enforcement operations. **Tanzania** has established an Inter-ministerial Task Force to deal with different serious crimes including wildlife trafficking.

103. With support from the US Department of Justice, the **Indonesian** Ministry of Forestry has conducted wildlife law enforcement capacity building programs in a number of provinces in Indonesia.

104. In **Mexico**, a diagnosis that will provide an overview of government capacity is underway in collaboration with **UNODC**. Law enforcement bodies in the country maintain close coordination to combat illegal wildlife trade. Joint activities have been conducted, including operational and search warrants issued by Specialized Judges, resulting in securing wildlife species and the arrest of suspected perpetrators of illicit activities in possession of specimens of wildlife for commercial purposes.

**XV. Provide the necessary conditions for, and further support, including through international co-operation to share expertise, the use of the full range of investigative techniques and tools already deployed against other forms of domestic and transnational organised crime.**

105. A collaboration between the **Netherlands** Forensic Institute (NFI) and the Government of **Botswana** has been established to build forensic capability within the Department for Wildlife and National Parks and enhance capacity at Botswana Police. Rangers are trained by the NFI to improve their skills in gathering crime scene evidence, analysing this evidence and reporting their findings to police. Further support is available through the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA), which is hosted by Botswana and provides wildlife investigation courses.

106. The **Netherlands** also shares its expertise about preventing import and export of illegal wildlife products and supports inter-agency cooperation by contributing to the UNODC and World Customs Organization container control program in Mombasa harbour, Kenya.

107. **Ethiopia** hosted an international workshop in collaboration with the NGO, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW). Nine countries participated – five from Africa and four from the Arabian Peninsula. Participants shared their experiences, successes and the challenges they have encountered in their respective countries while fighting illegal wildlife trade and trafficking.

108. In October 2014, the **Colombian** Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, along with the National Police, put in place an International Seminar for the control of illegal wildlife trade. This seminar constructed a joint strategy for cooperation and the prevention and control of illegal wildlife trade with delegates from the Ministry of Environment and the National Police of **Peru, Brazil, Ecuador, Panama** and **Venezuela**.

109. The **US** Government funded INTERPOL Project Predator's support to INTERPOL Operation *Infra-Terra*, focused on identifying and locating environmental criminals who

are the subject of INTERPOL Red and Blue Notices. This ongoing operation has helped pinpoint the location of over 20 criminals and led to the arrest of at least five, including two wildlife trafficking kingpins on INTERPOL's Environmental Crime Most Wanted list.

110. The **World Bank group** has commissioned an intelligence specialist to design an "Elephant Crime Intelligence System". This creates a foundation for the formation of an officially recognized intelligence network to operationalize information and increase the ability of intelligence-led law enforcement response to wildlife crime, specifically elephant poaching.
111. The **CITES** Secretariat and **INTERPOL's** Legal Office have been working together to look across different types of illicit trade to share experience and identify common issues/ approaches/ tools that might be used. A national workshop in Paraguay and a regional workshop in the Gulf region have taken place.

#### **World Customs Organization Declaration**

In June 2014 the World Customs Organization Council adopted a Declaration that reinforces the commitment of the global Customs community to fight the illegal wildlife trade, as part of its efforts to combat all forms of illicit trade. The Declaration contains 10 steps which will contribute to a stronger and coordinated enforcement response. Chief among these is the building of closer cooperation at the national and international level between Customs and other regulatory/enforcement agencies, as well as with non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and the private sector using:

- the full range of detection and investigative techniques, including risk profiling, intelligence sharing, controlled deliveries, forensic techniques, detector dogs, and other non-intrusive inspection equipment;
- the full extent of the law to secure an appropriate level of punishment that would act as an effective deterrent;
- the global standards and best practices that have been developed to address the problem of corruption and promote integrity.

#### **XVI. Strengthen cross-border and regional co-operation, through better co-ordination, and through full support for regional wildlife law enforcement networks.**

112. The Wildlife Enforcement Network of Southern Africa (WEN-SA) is being established and it is anticipated that participating countries will endorse the Terms of Reference for the WEN-SA during 2015. Efforts are underway to secure funding from potential donors to fund the WEN-SA Secretariat.

113. In **Gabon**, the National Parks Agency has engaged with both Mali and Central African Republic to support wildlife authorities in conflict zones. Active collaboration with the Kenyan Wildlife Service is under discussion. Gabon is working to create a federation of African National Parks Directors and Agencies and was given the formal mandate in Sydney at the World Parks Congress African Leaders Forum to move ahead with this.
114. **Zambia** has improved its law enforcement ability to track, apprehend and prevent wildlife crimes and has also improved relations with other Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations, within and outside the country to eradicate such crimes. Joint cross border law enforcement operations have been conducted between Zambia and Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe and also Zambia and Malawi. Zambia also recognises the emergence of Regional Wildlife Enforcement Networks in parts of Africa and in particular the Wildlife Enforcement Network of Southern Africa (WENSA) and the importance they play in combating illegal wildlife trade across borders.
115. **Germany** is supporting and working with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat to develop a regional strategy to combat poaching and the illegal trade in wildlife. This has included analysis of the regional legal framework, operationalizing existing instruments and agreements, and the establishment of an anti-poaching task force. It has supported the establishment of the SADC Transfrontier Conservation Areas Network with members from government, civil society and the private sector.
116. The **United States** provided financial support for workshops and meetings in Southern Africa, Central Africa, and South America to establish and/or strengthen regional Wildlife Enforcement Networks in those regions and continued to provide financial and technical support to existing WENs in Southeast Asia, South Asia, the Horn of Africa, and Central America.

#### **OPERATION COBRA II**

Organised by the Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF), China, USA, South Africa, ASEAN-Wildlife Enforcement Network (WEN) and South Asia WEN, Operation COBRA II brought together customs, police and wildlife authorities to combat wildlife crime in countries in across Africa, Asia and in the USA. Investigators from participating countries joined together with the World Customs Organization (WCO), UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), INTERPOL, LATF, ASEAN-WEN and SAWEN and exchanged real time intelligence on a daily basis, targeting poachers and traffickers of endangered elephants, rhinos, tigers, pangolins, turtles and other species sought by criminals.

More than 400 criminals were arrested in Asia and Africa. Several of those arrested included trafficking kingpins. In addition, new intelligence on poaching and trafficking syndicates was

accumulated, arming governments to continue investigations with increasingly clearer targets. Operation coordinators also evaluated COBRA II and made joint plans for continuing and improving their cross border operations in the future.

The Operation saw governments implementing commitments that they had made in various summits, conferences and conventions. It brought all stakeholders together to create best practices, facilitate cooperation, and coordinate interceptions of wildlife traffickers and follow-up investigations.

117. **Indonesia** has developed a resolution on Strengthening Law Enforcement and Regional Cooperation to Combat Wildlife Crime under the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA). This resolution calls on parliaments among ASEAN countries to strengthen and harmonize legislation in support of law enforcement task forces operating under the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network. This initiative will help to create effective deterrents to the illegal wildlife trade and tackle the criminal syndicates behind it.
118. **Malaysia** has worked with regional networks such as the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) and the ASEAN Wildlife Forensics Network (ASEAN-WFN) together with the relevant national agencies to support networking and capacity building.
119. In 2014 **INTERPOL's** "Operation Spindrift" targeted the illegal transnational trade in abalone species through information and intelligence exchanges among seven countries: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, the UK and the USA. Participating agencies recommended ways to improve reporting, monitoring and operational procedure.
120. INTERPOL Operation Worthy is a regionally coordinated, intelligence-led law enforcement operation targeting wildlife crime and criminals across Africa. A particular focus is the illegal exploitation of elephants and rhinoceros products.
121. The North American Wildlife Enforcement Group, a trilateral network between senior officials, has been established to facilitate anti-wildlife trafficking discussions between **Canada**, the **United States** and **Mexico**. Mexico is also involved in coordinated action through the Law Enforcement Group of the CEC (Commission for Environmental Cooperation for North America) and with Central American and Caribbean partners.
122. There is a strong collaboration across the UN network on IWT: the first ever UN resolution on Illegal Wildlife Trade adopted by UNEA in June 2014 was a strong sign of joint commitment to maintaining international momentum and consolidate efforts tackling illegal wildlife trade. In particular, UNEP is highly engaged in enhancing regional and international cooperation in environmental law enforcement and policy making. For example, UNEP is working with 25 countries in North Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia

under an initiative of the Regional Enforcement Network (REN) and has supported capacity building initiatives in Malawi and Zimbabwe. Furthermore, UNEP and the CITES Secretariat have conducted a Feasibility Study to determine the status of illegal trade in West Asia with a view to establishing a regional mechanism for the coordination of enforcement of laws regulating wildlife trade in the region.

### Towards Zero Poaching in Asia

**In February 2015, representatives from 13 Asian countries committed to immediate action to stamp out poaching at a symposium hosted by the Nepal government.**

The Symposium: Towards Zero Poaching in Asia adopted five recommendations:

- Swift and decisive action to elevate the importance and effectiveness of antipoaching initiatives and cooperation among all relevant ministries, departments and agencies within their borders, while at the same time strengthening international cooperation in the face of this serious criminal activity.
- Adoption of the Zero Poaching Tool Kit and assessment of current antipoaching responses to determine improvements and close serious gaps.
- Increase and improve collaboration as a successful antipoaching response is critically dependant on effectively engaging a diverse number of shareholders
- Improve standards, training and support for rangers, other frontline staff and prosecutors.
- Commit to identifying a Zero Poaching national contact point to effectively coordinate transboundary efforts to stop poaching.



#### **D. Sustainable livelihoods and economic development**

123. Support for sustainable livelihoods and the development of alternative sources of income for communities impacted by IWT is essential. As a result of illegal wildlife trade communities lose the potential value of the resource that poachers and organised criminal networks are stealing from them. Support is needed to help make sure communities are able to fully benefit from their natural resources. Promoting sustainable livelihoods can also help to reduce the incentive to engage with IWT. There is a particular issue where protected areas are surrounded by growing human populations that are dependent on the very same natural resources that need to be protected.
124. Of the four key strands agreed at the London Conference, this one has perhaps the least well developed international strategic approach. At the London Conference, countries recognised that sustainable livelihoods will be best achieved with the engagement of communities and they committed to a range of actions.

#### **XVII. Recognise the negative impact of illegal wildlife trade on sustainable livelihoods and economic development.** This impact needs to be better understood and quantified and should form part of the assessment set out in Action XXIV.

125. In **Botswana**, concern about declines in some species has led to the declaration of a hunting moratorium to allow authorities to understand the causes and institute measures to reverse declines. Communities are being assisted to make a smooth transition from consumptive to non-consumptive utilisation. Communities benefiting from Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) policies are encouraged to use some of their revenues to engage community guides who patrol their concessions to stop poaching.
126. In **Angola**, a key component of the programme for capacity building to manage and protect a national Network of Conservation Area is based on stakeholder engagement, with a focus on supporting the development of alternative sustainable livelihoods for local communities, including capacity building.
127. The Government of **Zambia** recognizes the negative impacts that illegal wildlife trade has on local community livelihoods and economic development in most impoverished rural communities living in Game Management Areas. In its effort to implement policies and legal frameworks for sustainable community based natural resource management Zambia has supported the Strengthening of Management Effectiveness and Generating Multiple Environmental Benefits within and around the Greater Kafue National Park and West Lunga National Parks. The project is being run with the support of UNDP/ GEF.

128. **Australia** has provided AUD 42,000 to the CITES Secretariat in June 2014 to undertake capacity building activities amongst Pacific island countries to raise awareness of, encourage accession to and prepare for implementation of CITES.
129. The **UNDP**-supported **GEF**-financed 'Western Terai Landscape Project' in **Nepal** has worked collaboratively with local people to minimise the threats from deforestation and a rising population which have increasingly brought people into conflict with large mammals. There have been a number of initiatives for example solar electric fences were constructed at critical locations of the buffer zones to protect settlements and farms.

#### **XVIII. Increase capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities and eradicate poverty.**

130. In **Malawi**, the Government's wildlife policy promotes benefit sharing with communities living in close proximity to national parks and wildlife reserves. A benefits sharing regime was introduced in the late 1990s whereby communities are allowed on a regulated basis to harvest selected resources such as thatch grass, firewood, wild fruits etc. from protected areas. Since July 2013 the revenue sharing scheme has been rolled out in all protected areas and 25% of the revenue generated at a protected areas level goes into a community fund for development projects. Communities on the borders of protected areas are also introduced to alternative sources of income from food growing. In **Mozambique**, 20% of tax revenue from wildlife utilization in and out conservation areas is accrued to local communities, as benefits from living with wildlife resources. The fund allocated is used to support agriculture and in conservation activities like patrolling areas affected by poaching. In **Tanzania** Village Game Scouts have been trained on conservation and alternative income generating activities. Authorized Association leaders have been trained on management of Wildlife Management Areas.
131. **Uganda** has continued to encourage local communities to engage in wildlife enterprises as a source of income for livelihood improvement and poverty eradication. Several community groups around protected areas have been supported to start eco-tourism projects and other wildlife enterprises aimed at adding value to wildlife on private land that would otherwise be a nuisance to the local communities. Uganda has to date signed over 15 agreements with private sector and community groups to engage in wildlife enterprise development. Uganda is formulating Tourism Revenue Sharing Regulations to facilitate implementation of provisions in its Wildlife Act to allow fair and equitable benefit-sharing, appreciation and contribute to poverty alleviation efforts by government and other stakeholders. In **Gabon** a pilot project has been initiated with local communities around Waka and Lopé National Parks. Tourism investment in National Parks is expected to create about 500 jobs for rural people in 2015.

132. In 2015, the **Colombian** authorities, along with the local rural communities mainly from the Caribbean Colombian coast, will implement management plans for identified threatened wildlife species, which look to identify alternatives for sustainable use with other wildlife species for food security and commercial ends.
133. **France** has committed €25 million in grants over the 2014 – 2015 period to projects aimed at combatting poaching and trafficking in threatened species. In addition to the projects mentioned above in Gabon and Vietnam, the French GEF project on the rehabilitation of the Gilé National Reserve in **Mozambique** and its buffer zone (phases I and II) contributes to the fight against poaching, involves local communities and improves livelihood conditions.
134. **Germany** has provided funding to the Namibia Parks Programme to support the National Parks in north-eastern and south-western Namibia to strengthen park and wildlife management, including income generation through tourism and wildlife concessions, joint patrolling, ecological institute for wildlife-related research and training of park staff and communities.
135. In **Indonesia**, the Ministry of Forestry has built “Conservation Villages” where villages near to protected areas are given priority to receive interventions to increase the livelihood of the people by engaging in conservation projects.
136. In September 2014, the Government of **Canada** convened a meeting with hunters, Aboriginal groups, provincial and territorial governments and Wildlife Management Boards to facilitate inter-jurisdictional management decision-making for the harvest of polar bear. Discussions, led by Environment Canada’s Minister, addressed the essential role that the polar bear hunt plays in preserving the traditional way of life in Aboriginal communities that depend on subsistence hunting.
137. Supporting communities in developing sustainable livelihoods means recognising the challenges that they face including human/wildlife conflict. In **China**, a pilot programs providing economic compensation for wildlife damage is underway. In Kenya, the Kenya Wildlife Service has provided human/wildlife conflict training.
138. The **IUCN** Asia Regional Office has begun to develop a major new initiative called “Wildlife for the Future” (WFF). Drawing on the lessons and experiences of IUCN’s highly successful “Mangroves for the Future” programme, WFF will provide small and medium-sized grants to local community organisations to help them address issues related to the illegal wildlife trade. For example, grants might be used to support community patrolling, the development of alternative livelihoods, and the initiation of schemes to reduce human-wildlife conflict. It is envisioned that WFF will work in a selected number of countries in Asia and Africa.

139. In **Cameroon**, **UNDP** has been involved in a project promoting alternatives to bushmeat hunting. This community wildlife management project was started through a collaboration between the UNDP-managed GEF Small Grants Programme, the NGO Community Action for Development, and local communities. Local communities were dependent on an unsustainable bushmeat market, which was threatening populations of endemic wildlife and doing little to alleviate local poverty concerns. The project has used awareness-raising, new regulations, and alternative livelihoods strategies including agriculture and horticulture to reduce pressure on wildlife.

**XIX. Initiate or strengthen collaborative partnerships among local, regional, national and international development and conservation agencies to enhance support for community led wildlife conservation.**

140. **Botswana** and **other southern African states** have been collaborating in the sphere of Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM). WWF have supported the CBNRM Forum which has strengthened links within the country and with neighbours. Valuable lessons and experiences in the implementation of CBNRM have been shared between communities. Botswana is developing a web based database with the assistance of USAID –SAREP which will allow communities and concessionaires to share data about wildlife and the tracking of illegal activities.

141. In **Angola** the Wildlife Crime Action Committee/Task Force will have a focus on establishing cooperation and coordination with local, regional, national and international enforcement, development and conservation agencies, to cooperate in enforcement efforts, as well as in enhancing support for community led wildlife conservation and for enhancing a shift toward sustainable livelihoods.

142. A key priority of **Australia's** Biodiversity Conservation Strategy is to engage all Australians in conservation through mainstreaming consideration of biodiversity, increasing Indigenous engagement, enhancing strategic investments and partnerships, and broadening ways for Australians to participate in conservation activities.

143. The **World Bank** is organising the African Wildlife for Development Program support, design, and creation amongst client countries. The objective of this multi-country program is to strengthen wildlife management and enhance the living conditions of communities in selected countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. It will emphasize inclusion of local communities, fight against poaching and trafficking, and optimize the economic benefits from biodiversity conservation and sustainable nature-based tourism.

### **Beyond enforcement: Communities, governance, incentives and sustainable use in combating illegal wildlife trade**

The IUCN CEESP/SSC Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group (SULi), the International Institute for Environment and Development, the Austrian Ministry for the Environment, the ARC Centre of Excellence for Environmental Decisions and TRAFFIC – the wildlife trade monitoring network – arranged a symposium in February 2014 entitled: “Beyond enforcement: Communities, governance, incentives and sustainable use in combating illegal wildlife trade.” The symposium sought to evaluate whether and under what circumstances community-based interventions were likely to achieve success in combating current patterns of illegal use and trade of wildlife (both plants and animals), and provide examples, lessons learnt and guidance in order to support governments, institutions and organisations in meeting relevant international commitments.

#### **XX. Work with, and include local communities in, establishing monitoring and law enforcement networks in areas surrounding wildlife.**

144. In **Botswana** a Management Oriented Monitoring System (MOMS) has been rolled out which allows communities to monitor natural resources in their areas. This has been supported through the CBNRM Forum. The Special Wildlife Scout Programme, which has seen community wildlife scouts being engaged to assist in law enforcement, has enjoyed a high level of success and will continue to be rolled out to other areas (funds permitting) during 2015.
145. In **Malawi** the Department of National Parks and Wildlife introduced MOMS among communities surrounding selected protected areas. Communities collect vital information which informs management decisions. Collaborative management arrangements between DNPW and communities in the borders of the protected areas enable community members to provide intelligence to DNPW.
146. The **Kenyan** Wildlife Service is engaging communities around wildlife ranges to participate in wildlife conservation and assist in giving information which will lead to curbing wildlife crimes This includes recruitment of community wildlife officers and community wildlife rangers, conservation education awareness programmes, community enterprise development and human wildlife conflict resolutions. Sensitization on human wildlife conflict and poaching has been to the fore in training for community rangers. As over 4.5 million acres of land in Kenya is under private, community and group conservancies the Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association has been formed to spearhead public-private engagement in wildlife conservation.

147. In **Ethiopia**, stakeholders have been consulted about how to support effective law enforcement to reduce elephant poaching in Babilie Elephant Sanctuary and Omo National Park. This consultation paved way to establish a special elephant security taskforce drawn from adjacent villages including elders, local authorities and religious leaders.
148. **Germany** is implementing a technical and financial cooperation project to support work in a transboundary conservation area between Cameroon and Chad, focusing on buffer zone development, livelihoods, benefits for local communities and wildlife monitoring. Germany is also supporting law enforcement and advocacy among local communities in **Namibia** surrounding the Palmwag Conservation Area, focused on areas such as awareness raising, legal support, establishment of an informant network.
149. As a substitute for community dependence on forest resources, **Indonesia** has instituted a number of programmes including community involvement in law enforcement. These have involved collaborative management programmes such as the development of community-based anti-poaching units and community rangers. Community-based Law Enforcement, for instance Rhino Protection Units, Elephant Conservation Response Units and Tiger Protection Units are also ongoing.
150. **Malaysia** has taken several measures in ensuring sustainable livelihoods and economic development in the context of tackling wildlife crime such as:
- Strengthened collaboration among National Park local communities as part of DWNP informants to combat encroachment.
  - Continued efforts to build awareness and training among local community of Protected Areas on biodiversity conservation.
  - Appointed capable individuals as Honorary Wildlife Warden to carry out enforcement activities as well as monitoring and building networking between the locals and the department.
151. In **Bangladesh**, the U.S. helped establish a joint NGO-Forest Department patrol strategy for the Sundarbans, the most important tiger habitat in the country. This strategy brings together the numerous law enforcement agencies in the region and enables community based waterborne patrolling and means of reporting wildlife crime information with authorities.
152. In **Canada**, First Nations along the west coast are playing a strong role in abalone stewardship and recovery within their claimed traditional territories, in collaboration with federal agencies and community partners. Interest in food, social and ceremonial fisheries for abalone has provided an incentive for northern abalone rebuilding programs in some areas. Canada will continue working towards its Northern Environment Enforcement Strategy whereby the overarching objective would be to

improve operational coordination amongst federal departments and agencies to make better use of existing resources, assets and intelligence. This strategy will allow the partners to tackle non-compliance with environmental laws and regulation in the north in a more efficient and effective way.

### **E. The Way Forward/ Cross-cutting actions**

**XXI. Welcome the resources provided to date to support action to prevent and combat the illegal wildlife trade, including implementation of existing action plans and declarations. Urge all donors to provide resources, support and technical assistance, as appropriate, for the implementation of the political commitments contained in this Declaration.**

153. Evidence provided by countries and organisations about resource provision has been reported under the specific commitments in the London Declaration.

**XXII. Recognise and appreciate the ongoing support provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to address the poaching crisis in Africa and the associated illegal wildlife trade.**

154. The **GEF Assembly** approved the Biodiversity Strategy for GEF-6 (2014-2018) in June 2014. The Strategy includes 10 Programmes, including Programme 3 “Preventing the Extinction of Known Threatened Species”. The programme will provide support to curtail poaching and the illegal wildlife trade. The GEF-6 phase began on July 1, 2014 and ends on June 30, 2018.

155. Since February 2014, the **GEF** has approved two new projects related to the illegal wildlife trade in Africa totalling USD 3.6 million in GEF resources which leveraged an additional USD 9.2 million in co-financing for a total of USD 12.8 million.

- In March 2014, **GEF** approved the project concept “Rhino Impact Bonds: An Innovative Financing Mechanism for Site-Based Rhinoceros Conservation” (GEF grant: USD1.7 million, co-financing: USD5.2 million) which will support commitment XXI.
- In April 2014, **GEF** approved the project concept “Engaging Policy Makers and the Judiciary to Address Poaching and Illegal Wildlife Trade in Africa” (GEF grant: USD 1.9 million, co-financing: USD 4 million) which will support commitments X, XI and XXI.

156. In addition, **GEF** provided financial support and participated in the Tanzania (May 2014) and the Tanzanian Regional Meetings to address Poaching and IWT (November 2014) through the project “Fighting Against Wildlife Poaching and Illegal Trade in Africa The Case of African Elephants”, which is currently under implementation (GEF grant: USD 2 million, co-financing: \$1.8 million). This supports commitments XXI specifically but also touches upon commitment XIX.

**XXIII. Welcome the establishment within the UN of the ‘Group of Friends’ against illegal wildlife trafficking.**

157. At its first meeting in June 2014, the United Nations Environment Assembly adopted a resolution on IWT, calling on the General Assembly to consider the issue in its sixty-ninth session.

158. **Germany** and **Gabon** hosted a high-level event on “Poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking – towards joint action by the international community” on 26 September 2014, in the margins of the General Debate of the 69th UN General Assembly. Being co-chairs of the UN Group of Friends on Poaching and Illicit Wildlife Trafficking, Germany and Gabon have been active in drafting a UN General Assembly Resolution on Wildlife Crime.

**XXIV. Will undertake further assessment, initially over the next twelve months, building on existing assessments and collaborative work, of the markets and dynamics of the illegal wildlife trade, and the progress made in combatting it.**

159. Through the **GEF** project “The Case for the African Elephants,” the World Bank has commissioned a study entitled, “Ivory Economics and the African Elephant Poaching Crisis,” led by the World Bank Chief Economist. This study will provide empirical data and analysis to further understand the African elephant poaching crisis and resulting illicit ivory trade. The main objective of the project and analysis is to evaluate a wide range of interventions aimed at curbing elephant poaching in both the short and long term. The results of this study will be completed, finalized, and presented by summer of 2016.

160. In May 2014, **UNODC** launched a global research effort on wildlife crime, the results of which will be disseminated towards the end of 2015. This research draws heavily on data held by partners in the **International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC)**, the **EU**, NGOs, and research institutes. The initial study will be rooted in data from existing reporting mechanisms, mainly the reports that parties have provided to the CITES Secretariat over the years. Other sources include the WCO seizure database and seizure databases maintained by regional wildlife enforcement networks, such as EU TWIX and the Lusaka Agreement Task Force. A global wildlife seizures database is being assembled based on these data and other official sources. These data will be compared to the data gathered on the legal trade in CITES-listed species, with a focus on identifying weaknesses in the supply chain that allow illegally acquired wildlife to enter the legal market. This quantitative effort will be complimented by a parallel stream of field research on the markets identified as most vulnerable to organised criminal involvement, and legal research on the adequacy of the international response. This work will provide an international frame of reference for future discussions on wildlife and forest crime, as well as a basis for law enforcement policy in tackling the issue.

161. The **IUCN** SSC Pangolin Specialist Group published a global conservation plan for pangolins in July 2014, which was informed by the first ever global conference on pangolins conservation, and organised by this group. It recommended that demand

reduction programmes be researched and implemented for these species, that a review of legislation protecting pangolins be undertaken, and recognised the need to engage local and indigenous communities in efforts to conserve these species.



Seized pangolin scales. (photo courtesy of TRAFFIC)

162. The IUCN/SSC African Elephant Specialist Group, with CITES MIKE and ETIS (TRAFFIC), presented a joint report to the 65<sup>th</sup> Standing Committee of CITES in July 2014, “Elephant conservation, illegal killing and ivory trade”. This brought together data on the status of elephants, the levels and trends of illegal killing of elephants and the levels and dynamics of the illegal trade in ivory. This report is one of many ways in which this specialist group continues to bring its work together with MIKE and ETIS to better understand the illegal ivory supply chain.

163. **Malaysia** is compiling information regarding illegal transnational wildlife trade to assist in cooperative investigation and enforcement at the national and international levels. Local enforcement agencies are involved in sharing information on IWT including flora and fauna species originating from other countries.

164. In **Angola**, the Wildlife Crime strategy under development will include creating a data base on both the internal and cross-border markets and trade routes of the illegal wildlife trade in and through Angola.

**XXV. Welcome the offer of Botswana to host another high-level conference to review progress in early 2015.**

## **Annex A: Countries and Organisations which provided Self Assessments for this Report**

Republic of Angola  
Commonwealth of Australia  
Republic of Botswana  
Canada  
People's Republic of China  
Republic of Colombia  
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia  
French Republic  
Gabonese Republic  
Federal Republic of Germany  
Republic of Indonesia  
Japan  
Republic of Kenya  
Republic of Malawi  
Malaysia  
United Mexican States  
Republic of Mozambique  
Kingdom of the Netherlands  
Republic of Singapore  
United Republic of Tanzania  
Republic of Uganda  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
United States of America  
Socialist Republic of Vietnam  
Republic of Zambia

European Union  
Global Environment Facility  
INTERPOL  
International Union for the Conservation of Nature  
United Nations Development Programme  
United Nations Environment Programme  
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime  
World Customs Organization  
World Bank

**Annex B: Glossary**

<b>APEC</b>	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation. A forum of 21 Pacific Rim member economies promoting trade and economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region
<b>ARREST</b>	Asia's Regional Response to Endangered Species Trafficking. A five year USAID funded programme challenging wildlife trafficking in Asia, implemented by the FREELAND foundation
<b>ASEAN-WEN</b>	Association of Southeast Asian Nations Wildlife Enforcement Network. An intergovernmental law enforcement network tackling wildlife trafficking in ASEAN countries (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand)
<b>CBNRM</b>	Community Based Natural Resources Management
<b>CEEAC</b>	Economic Community of Central African States (Communauté Économique des États de l'Afrique Centrale). A community of African Union states prompting economic cooperation in Central Africa
<b>CEESP (IUCN)</b>	Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy
<b>CITES</b>	Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Washington Convention)
<b>EPI</b>	Elephant Protection Initiative
<b>ETIS</b>	Elephant Trade Information System. A comprehensive information system managed by TRAFFIC used to track illegal trade in ivory and elephant products, which aims to record and analyse levels and trends
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EU TWIX</b>	EU Trade in Wildlife Information eXchange. An EU database on seizures and offenses related to illegal activities in the trade in flora and fauna
<b>GEF</b>	Global Environment Facility
<b>ICCWC</b>	International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime
<b>IFAW</b>	International Fund for Animal Welfare
<b>ILEA</b>	International Law Enforcement Academies. Law enforcement academies where US law enforcement instructs local police to bring together international law enforcement and share best practice
<b>IUCN</b>	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
<b>IUCN SSC</b>	International Union for the Conservation of Nature Species Survival Commission. A science-based network of experts operated by the IUCN to

provide information on biodiversity conservation, the inherent value of species, their role in ecosystem health and functioning, the provision of ecosystem services, and their support to human livelihoods

<b>INTERPOL</b>	International Criminal Police Organisation
<b>MIKE</b>	The Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants programme: an international collaboration under CITES to provide information for range States to make appropriate management and enforcement decisions, and to build institutional capacity in range States for the long-term conservation of their elephant populations.
<b>NGO</b>	Non-governmental organisation
<b>NIAP</b>	National Ivory Action Plan. Plans developed by countries to control the trade in ivory following recommendations from the CITES Standing Committee at its 63 <sup>rd</sup> meeting (Bangkok March 2013)
<b>SADC</b>	Southern African Development Community. An intergovernmental organisation which aims to further socio-economic cooperation between 15 southern African states
<b>SMART</b>	Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool. A tool and suite of best practices for measuring, evaluating, and improving the effectiveness of wildlife law enforcement patrols and site-based conservation activities
<b>TRAFFIC</b>	The wildlife trade monitoring network, an NGO working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Program
<b>UNODC</b>	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>USAID SAREP</b>	USAID South Africa Regional Environment Program
<b>WCO</b>	World Customs Organization
<b>WEN</b>	Wildlife Enforcement Network
<b>WEN-SA</b>	Wildlife Enforcement Network of Southern Africa
<b>WWF</b>	A global conservation organisation