



**Bills Committee on Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and
Plants (Amendment) Bill 2017 - Meeting on 6 September 2017**

Darren Catterall to: bc_06_16@legco.gov.hk

03/08/2017 14:56

To: Legislative Council Secretariat (Attn: Miss Mandy POON)

Dear Ms Poon,

I am writing to express my complete support for the government's proposals to phase out the local ivory trade in one year instead of five and increase the penalties for smuggling and trading of endangered species as proposed in the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants (Amendment) Bill 2017.

The natural world is under a death sentence at the moment and is being decimated everywhere we look by hunting for food or TCM products or by habitat destruction for food and palm oil among other things.

Demand management is key to protecting such species as the Elephant, Rhino, Tiger, Pangolin and all Sharks.

Ninety years ago there were only 2 Billion humans on the planet. Today there are 7.3 Billion and by 2040 probably 9 Billion. All are living at higher standards than ever before and all have more money to spend.

It is the duty of a Government to protect the people and protect nature from the people for our future generations.

If you do not make the efforts necessary to stop the trade in Elephant, Rhino, Tiger, Pangolin and Shark (to name but a few) then future generations will judge you harshly for losing these remarkable creatures to extinction. In addition, the death of shark species around the world will massively impact the health of our Oceans and lead to them not being able to support the levels of fishing you currently think are acceptable.

We will have dead Oceans and no fish if you do not act.

I trust that you will do the right thing and implement these laws without spending money to deliver recompense to the few who are inconvenienced by these changes (which they have known about for a long time and are able to sell other things).

with best regards

Darren Catterall

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