



Ivory Trade Ban in Hong Kong - Please Support your Government's Proposal

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Cc: christineloh, kswong, sf_leung

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Dear Chair of the Panel on Environmental Affairs,
Dear Legislative Council Members

I am writing to you today to urge you to strongly support your government's proposal to ban the ivory trade as soon as ever possible, and also to increase the penalties for illegal wildlife trade to a maximum.

As elephants in Africa are poached for their ivory at a catastrophic rate and only around 350,000 elephants are left in the wild, banning all trade in ivory in every place and every country of the world is a must. As the biggest local ivory markets in the world are existing in Hong Kong and mainland China, it is of utmost importance to close these markets quickly. Mainland China has already announced to close their ivory market until the end of this year. Therefore it is most important that Hong Kong will follow suit, - as not supporting a Hong Kong ivory ban would undermine these efforts to tackle the illegal ivory trade.

Hong Kong already showed that it cares for the survival of elephants by destroying their stockpiles of seized ivory recently. This was a great step. But more measures are needed. Shutting down the local ivory trade is necessary. As elephant numbers are plunging with breathtaking speed, a five-years-plan as proposed by Hong Kong, would risk the lives of more hundred thousands of elephants.

Therefore I urge you to not only vote for the local ivory ban but to strongly press for a much quicker timeline to close the HK market within one year.

Thanking you very much in advance!

Best regards,
Birgit Hampl
Munich, Germany

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The extinction of elephants is near. We need to stop it urgently.

Graue Riesen:

Information: <http://graueriesen.jimdo.com/elefanten-elephants-information/>

Aktionen: <http://graueriesen.jimdo.com/elefanten-elephants-aktionen-actions/>

Elefantenmarsch: www.facebook.com/groups/255992957905873

Save Africa's Elephants/Rettet die Elefanten Afrikas e.V.: www.reaev.de

Global March for Elephants and Rhinos: <http://march4elephantsandrhinosaurs.org/>

