

Ivory Ban Testimony
Larry Thomas to: panel_ea
Cc: "'Nina Kamwene'", info

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To all concerned.

I support the ban of Ivory in Hong Kong. I fear the future of this beautiful animal is at the crossroads of extinction.

China can take a giant step to help change the course of destruction that spreads across Africa. Not only are the lives

elephants in doubt, but human lives are also at stake. Many rangers have given their lives to protect the elephants.

The illegal killings of large number of elephants for their ivory increasingly brings together organized crime, corrupt government officials

and well-armed rebel militias.

The profit from ivory buys more weapons and power to fuel more killings and kidnappings. With this ivory ban, I think the Government in China has the power to shine a light on these activities and enlighten its population of the struggles that lie ahead.

The lives of the elephants and humans are not worth the profits of unproven medicines and fancy trinkets.

I do not support proposals for compensation to Ivory traders. The ivory traders have been forewarned for 27 years to prepare and sell their ivory,

and they have an additional 5 year grace period once the legislation comes into force.

Thank you,

Larry Thomas

(U.S.A.)