



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China

立法會議員 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBER

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Legislative Council  
Panel on Environmental Affairs  
Chairman Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP

Dear Mr Chan Hak-kan,

I would like to move an item at the forthcoming Environmental Affairs Panel on with regards to Hong Kong's growing ivory trade problem.

According to the latest peer-reviewed science available, 100,000 elephants were illegally killed in Africa from 2010 to 2012, a spiralling crisis that is driven in large part by Chinese consumers. If nothing is done, the African elephant species could become extinct within our lifetime.

Given Hong Kong's historical role in the ivory trade, our city has been highlighted recently as an important transit and consumption hub for illegal ivory.

Numerous reports from multiple NGOs allege that our city's legal ivory trade is providing a cover for a parallel illegal trade in ivory poached from illegally killed African elephants.

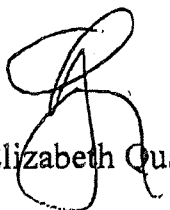
There are many loopholes in the current licensing system in Hong Kong through which freshly ivory can be easily laundered into the market.

Through my own investigations, I have found that Hong Kong's current licensing system is ineffective and is clearly in need of reform.

Furthermore, the links between the ivory trade, money laundering and terrorist financing have been proven.

It is for these reasons that I believe it is of the utmost urgency that the Hong Kong government enact a commercial ivory sales ban without delay.

Yours sincerely,



Elizabeth Quat