

HSI 關於象牙6月6日聽證會意見書 Iris Ho to: panel_ea@legco.gov.hk Cc: Audrey Delsink

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尊敬的立法會環境事務委員會陳主席淑莊:

請查收HSI(國際人道對待動物協會)關於6月6日象牙聽証會的意見。

感謝立法會對打擊象牙貿易的努力。

何燕青敬上

Iris Ho
Program Manager, Wildlife
iho@hsi.org t 301.258.1407 m. 301.318.2423 f 301.258.3022
twitter: @irislovesdc skype iho@hsi.org
Humane Society International
1255 23rd Street NW, Suite 450, Washington DC 20037
hsi.org

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HSI testimony to Hong Kong LegCo 20170606 public hearing_signatures.pdf





香港特別行政區立法會環境事務委員會 2017年5月29日

尊敬的陳淑莊主席您好:

我們謹代表國際人道對待動物協會(Humane Society International, HSI),協會各分地會,以及位於全球各地的上百萬會員們,向您感謝讓敝會呈交有關 6 月 6 日逐步淘汰香港象牙聽証會意見書的機會。HSI 是美國人道對待動物協會的國際部門,是全美規模最大的動物保護團體。HSI 堅定支持您對於打擊非法象牙貿易所作的努力。

我們讚揚立法會持續高度重視和關注逐步淘汰香港象牙貿易;我們也讚許立法會認 真廣泛徵詢各界意見。有鑑於香港在全球象牙貿易裡的重要角色,加上中國國內將在今年 底關閉象牙市場,目前全球正緊密關注著香港當局的每一步措施。

敝會繼續支持修改立法會保護瀕危動植物物種條例以及三步計劃,包括禁止進口以及再出口象牙和狩獵品,逐漸淘汰香港本地市場,加重走私象牙的罰則。但是,我們也瞭解到目前關於象牙商補償事宜有極大爭議。我們不同意向象牙業界做出補償。美國聯邦政府在去年大幅關閉象牙貿易,美國好幾州,例如象牙市場較大的紐約州、加州以及夏威夷,也採取法令禁止象牙貿易。但是美國政府對於古董商或是其他象牙業者都沒有做補償。根據香港象牙業者,他們宣稱他們的象牙絕大多數都是 1990 年 CITES 公約前進口的,這表示他們有近二十多年的時間販賣他們的象牙製品。另外,三步計劃給予業者到2021 年 12 月底的緩充期。業者有非常充裕的時間處理庫存。

HSI 致歉我們無法親身參與聽証會,但是我們繼續全力支持立法會以及漁護署就打擊走私象牙和其他野生動物犯罪所做的各項努力。

敬頌 時綏

何燕青敬上

Audrey Delsink

野牛動物部經理

國際人道對待動物協會非洲總經理

國際人道對待動物協會

Legislative Panel on Environmental Affairs
Legislative Council
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

The Honorable Madame Tanya Chan:

On behalf of Humane Society International (HSI), our affiliates and millions of supporters worldwide, we thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for the June 6 public hearing regarding the legislative proposal to phase out Hong Kong's ivory trade. HSI is the global affiliate of The Humane Society of the United States, the largest animal protection organization in the United States. HSI is in firm support of your effort to combat ivory trafficking.

We applaud the Legislative Council's continued priority and attention on phasing out Hong Kong's ivory trade, and the Council's diligence in soliciting input from a wide range of stakeholders. Given Hong Kong's prominent role in the global ivory trade, and the imminent closure of China's domestic ivory market by the year's end, the world is closely watching the steps taken by the Hong Kong authority.

We continue to support the legislative proposal to prohibit the import and re-export of ivory specimens, phase out the domestic trade, and strengthen criminal penalties for ivory trafficking. Moreover, we understand that there is an ongoing debate regarding the compensation to traders for their remaining ivory stockpiles. We disagree with the request of the traders for compensations. The United States implemented a near-total ban on ivory sales last year. Several states, such as New York, Hawaii and California with large ivory markets, also adopted state laws to prohibit ivory sales. Neither the federal nor the state governments provided compensations to antique dealers or other ivory businesses. Most of the Hong Kong ivory dealers claim that they had imported the ivory before the CITES ban in 1990. The dealers would have already had decades to sell and deplete their stockpiles. In addition, the phase-out period gives the dealers an additional five years to sell their items until December 31, 2021.

HSI regrets that we cannot attend the public hearing in person to express our support for the proposed legislation. We stand ready with the Legislative Council and the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) as you move forward with the efforts to curb ivory trafficking and other wildlife crime.

Sincerely yours,

Iris Ho

HSI, Wildlife Program Manager

Audrey Delsink

HSI-Africa Executive Director