



Please BAN the disgraceful Ivory trade .
Lionel Mok to: bc_06_16

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Dear Hon Kenneth Leung,

Public Hearing on September 6th 2017: Cap 586 Amendment Bill

I am Lionel Mok, a permanent resident of Hong Kong who has lived here since around 1992.

I would like to express my support for the government's proposed Cap 586 Amendment Bill. As someone who is in his late twenties, I am still to inherit the planet that your generation will leave behind. I hope you can understand why I feel it would be an egregious injustice that future generations will be denied the joy of learning about these majestic creatures if our government fails to strengthen and uphold penalties under the Protection of Endangered Species ordinance (Cap 586).

Furthermore, I am strongly against any proposition to compensate traders or buy out their stocks. My reasons are as stated:-

- Providing any form of compensation will signal that Hong Kong is 'buying' ivory, likely triggering a surge of poaching in Africa.
- Compensation would establish a dangerous global precedent for other countries working to ban the trade.
- The Hong Kong Government is not depriving ivory owners of all use of property.
- Traders and others who have speculated on ivory have done so, knowing the risks of a shrinking legal market.
- The heritage value and traditional skills of carvers are not a reason to continue the trade.
- Carvers and traders have had over two decades since the international ban, to diversify and/or switch trades.

Most have done so.

Regards,
Lionel Mok