



**Support for HONG KONG's Gov't BAN on IVORY**

Nanette Wheeler to: panel\_ea  
Cc: JOHN.SCANLON

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PLEASE, find below a copy of the letter sent to the Legislative Panel on Environmental Affairs, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Of the People's Republic of China

RE: "Legislative proposal to phase out the local trade in ivory and progress of Government's efforts on nature conservation and marine conservation"

Respectfully to Honorable Panel on Environmental Affairs:

This correspondence is to respectfully request your actions to make a global contribution to saving elephants (and 100's of other wildlife). We are asking the Hong Kong Chinese to please pass laws and taking actions to stop the global ivory trade.

By the year 2020, it is predicted that over 70% of the world's wildlife will be extinct! Environmentalists, conservationists and scientists predict, that while human behavior is driving us into the Sixth Extinction, humans can also prevent the loss of our wildlife. In saving keystone species we can save environments that produce the elements to sustain all LIFE on Earth. Least of which is the ELEPHANT!

Hong Kong is in an overwhelmingly significant position to help prevent unimaginable catastrophic tragedies should elephants go extinct. Hong Kong has the ability to help close the gateway to the ivory trade. As a major hub for raw ivory, often smuggled ivory cut off elephants still alive, to be carved into trinkets.

While these carvings were once culturally thought to have a spiritual and financial value, the value of working to SAVE elephants from extinction have a much higher value for humans than any amount of potential monetary wealth.

Elephants manicure two of the three rain forests on our planet. WE need these rainforests to produce 28% of the oxygen required to sustain ALL LIFE. Given the reproductive rate of humans, to deliberately destroy any oxygen producing system are to commit future generations to certain health issues and ultimate death. In essence, to continue to kill elephants for the purpose of possessing ivory carvings is to knowingly commit future Hong Kong Chinese generations to die.

Currently, the demand for ivory is fed by criminal poaching. Elephants are being slaughtered at the rate of (+ -) 100 elephants per day. This means, in the time it took to read this letter definitely one elephant, possibly more, has viciously been gunned down. These are not sacred nor honor deaths. Rather, these deaths are bloody and regarded as highly evil. To think ivory from the death of elephants is OK, is to think murder of a soul is beautiful.

Those that do the killing of elephants (and other highly endangered species) are well-known warlords, wildlife traffickers and criminals. Illegal ivory sold into the Hong Kong market contributes to financing world terrorism. Even as China honorably remains neutral in other nations internal affairs, China is not immune to internal terrorists attacks. Nor, are Chinese diplomats, located around the world, immune from being targeted in terrorist's plots. Clearly, Hong Kong Chinese do not want to be held

in contempt for the demise of not only elephants but to be considered as well, a major financial contributor to world terrorism?

Traditionally, Hong Kong Chinese culture has sought harmony and balance between Men and Society, between Mankind and Nature. This is one of those situations where Hong Kong/ China is out of balance with nature. This imbalance generates global chaos. To which, this is no time to be influenced by the 'Wu Wei' !

We appeal to the Hong Kong Chinese to not be a culture contributing to world terrorism, the extinction of elephants and ultimate pain and suffering of generations to come. Would it not be more honorable to provide world leadership and demonstrate your great strength and concern for our world's ecology? Your passing of laws to ban importation and sales of ivory will allow other countries to join you as you lead the global effort to SAVE our keystone species.

Hong Kong Chinese has a long history for cultural adaptation and assimilation to change. Regarding ivory, the time to "sit in silence facing the wall and think about actions" has ended. The time to STOP the gateway of IVORY into China's carving factories and then blood trinkets back out to the world in NOW. Tomorrow, next year will be too late.

Respectfully,


Nanette Wheeler-Carter

Founder

Connection AFRICA d.b.a.

CA4Elephants, Inc. A 501C3 NON-Profit

7031 Calvin Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 USA

  
www.CA4Elephants.org

Email: CA4Elephants@aol.com

EIN# 47-2274738 D&B# 080129861