



**Ban all Ivory Trade**  
Elisabeth to: panel\_ea

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Dear Sir/Madam,

It has come to my attention that the Legislative Council of Hong Kong is currently discussing the ban on the ivory trade in Hong Kong and is therefore holding a meeting to “receive public views”. I would like to add my voice to this discussion as follows:

Hong Kong was and still is an important link in the legal and illegal trade in ivory. Although a ban on the the sale of new ivory pieces had been introduced in Hong Kong some time ago, it has been reported in the press that traders simply pass on new ivory for old by changing the appearance of the piece or other schemes of deception. It is absolutely unacceptable that some traders are obviously known to be breaking the law and still this trade is able to continue in Hong Kong.

Furthermore, all traders must have realised a long time ago that their business is not sustainable any longer and should have changed their line of business, like anybody else affected by economic and environmental changes has to.

Please help to end the horrible slaughters of a beautiful species before it is too late. People who circumvented the existing laws to sell new ivory should not be rewarded for breaking the law. No compensation should be paid to people who either broke the law or disregarded for a long time the facts that their prey is disappearing fast. On the contrary, they speculated on this horrible end of the species and were waiting to cash in on rising prices once the animal is gone forever.

Following this reasoning, I strongly support:

1. A complete ban on the ivory trade
2. Severe prosecution and strong deterrent penalties for those engaging in illegal sale of ivory
3. No compensation in any form for any ivory traders in Hong Kong

Sincerely,

Elisabeth Büchi, Sai Kung