



Phasing out Domestic Ivory Trade
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Dear Honourable Tanya Chan,

My name is Eleanor Appleby, and I am a student and Hong Kong community member. I wanted to write to express my support for the government's plan to ban ivory trading, and additionally I wanted to oppose recent suggestions of compensation for traders.

I support the ban on ivory trading, and an increase in penalties for wildlife crime in Hong Kong for the following reasons:

1. Today, ivory poaching has reached unprecedented levels driven by unregulated demand. The results of this will undoubtedly lead to the extinction of African elephant populations in the wild in our lifetime. As a lover of elephants and of all animals, I find it extremely distressing to read about the numbers of individuals killed brutally for their tusks.
2. The trade in illegal ivory has economic impacts on wildlife tourism, not to mention the unlawful deaths of dedicated park rangers annually.
3. There is global support pushing for a closing of the ivory markets, with 183 countries/territories of CITES being unified in closing domestic markets that contribute to poaching or illegal trade in ivory.

I further oppose the compensation of traders, for the following reasons:

1. The ivory traders have been forewarned for 27 years to prepare and sell their ivory and they, will have an additional 5 year once the legislation comes into force.
2. I am of the understanding that the majority of traders requesting compensation do not rely solely on the trade in ivory as their only source of income.
3. Finally, and importantly I think, no other country has provided compensation. China will not do so when their ban comes into force at the end of this year.

I hope this email finds you well.

Sincerely,
Ellie Appleby

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