



**Please ensure a complete ban on the sale of all ivory in HK**  
Anneleise Smillie to: panel\_ea

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Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing to express my full and whole-hearted support for the government's proposal to ban the import, re-export and possession of pre-Convention ivory for any purpose. Ivory poaching has reached unprecedented levels and in addition to the shocking decimation of elephant populations, human lives are being lost in the fight to protect them. 183 countries around the world have already united to close domestic ivory markets and Hong Kong has a responsibility to follow suit. The majority of ivory from pre-convention stocks was from illegal sources and it is almost impossible to differentiate between "legal" and "illegal" ivory. The choice is clear - all ivory should be banned and penalties for wildlife crime should be significantly increased.

I do not support proposals for any compensation to ivory traders as they have been forewarned for 27 years to prepare and sell their ivory, and they also have an additional grace period of 5 years once the legislation comes into effect. No other country has provided compensation and to do so would be abhorrent as many traders are benefiting from the illegal poaching network and should not benefit from public funds when they have had ample time to prepare. China will not be compensating traders when their ban comes into force later this year and Hong Kong should follow their stance.

I sincerely hope that you will choose to enforce a complete ban on the sale of all ivory, increase deterrents for wildlife crime and ensure that these traders receive no compensation whatsoever. Please do the right thing and stand proud knowing that your decision will close the loopholes for illegal ivory, protect wildlife rangers and ensure the survival of elephants for future generations.

Yours sincerely,  
Anneleise Smillie

[Redacted signature block]

HK