



The whole World is watching Hong Kong. BAN THE IVORY TRADE

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TO THE LEGCO ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS PANEL:

I am a resident and taxpayer in Hong Kong, and I am happy to be living in this wonderful city.

However, I am thoroughly ashamed when I have guests and they see the blatant sale of ivory and shark's fin soup.

Now we have the chance for proper change, at least with regard to the ivory trade; **BUT YOU MUST ACT.**

The time to ban ivory sales has long gone in most civilised countries. Alas, Hong Kong allows the loophole to cheat the next generation out of a world containing the elephant in all its power and glory.

Unscrupulous and dishonest traders have been flaunting the feeble rules that have been in place for the last 27 years, aided by spineless or greedy politicians who have continually ignored calls to tighten the regulations. During that time, the elephant population in Africa has been driven to the brink of extinction.

I have read that the ivory traders are demanding compensation if their stocks become unsellable due to a ban. This is wholly unacceptable and must be resisted. The traders have had more than enough time to sell their "products", and they will have an additional five-year grace period; if compensation were introduced now, many traders may seek to boost their stocks to claim more money, thereby actually increasing the amount of poaching and slaughter that will happen in Africa.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Legislative Council: The whole World is watching you. For the good of a magnificent but vanishing species, and for the good of the worldwide reputation of Hong Kong, please implement the ivory ban, without compensation.

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