



香港城市大學
City University
of Hong Kong

香港九龍達之路
Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon,
Hong Kong



生物及化學系
Department of
Biology and Chemistry

Hon. Chair Lady,
Panel on Environmental Affairs
Legislative Council
Hong Kong SAR

Email: panel_ea@legco.gov.hk

2 June 2017

Dear Hon. Chair Lady,

Proposed Ban of Ivory Trade in Hong Kong

I write to support the Hong Kong SAR Government's proposed legislation and the provisions therein to ban ivory trade in Hong Kong.

The drastic decline in elephants in the world, especially in Africa, due to illegal poaching for their ivory tusks has been well known locally and internationally. As Hong Kong and mainland China are the largest ivory markets in the world, it is very important to close these trades, so as to send a strong signal to the world on our determination to protect the remaining elephants. The value of ivory is NOT for display nor as a traditional craft. The value of ivory is within the body of the elephants, so that they can use their tusks (part of their teeth) for defense, gathering food and stripping bark from trees to eat.

Mainland China has already announced to ban ivory trade by the end of 2017. Hong Kong should follow and build a concerted effort in this regard. When I was Chairman of the Endangered Species Advisory Committee of the Hong Kong SAR Government, the destruction of the stockpiles of seized ivory was endorsed and implemented. I hope that the proposed ban of ivory trade would be fully supported by your panel.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul K.S. Shin'.

Paul K.S. Shin, PhD, MH, FCIWEM
Associate Professor (retired), City University of Hong Kong
Former Chairman, Endangered Species Advisory Committee, Hong Kong SAR Government