



Hong Kong Government's Ivory Ban
Andrew Hockings to: panel_ea@legco.gov.hk

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Dear Panel Members,

I am writing to voice my full support Hong Kong Government's proposed Ivory Ban and it's proposed increase in penalties for wildlife crime.

The decision to end the local trade in ivory is an acknowledgement of the significant and shameful role that Hong Kong has played in the decimation of the African Elephant population through the illegal Ivory trade.

Allowing any legal trade in ivory encourages the illegal activities of poaching and smuggling and fuels corruption within the trade, pushing the African Elephant ever nearer to extinction. I am strongly opposed to the payment of compensation to the Hong Kong Ivory traders for their ivory stocks. It is a sure way to fuel the demand for illegally sourced ivory and for traders to dishonestly claim that their stock is 'ethically' sourced.

It is high time that the Hong Kong Government ceases to participate in and rejects this inherently barbaric, corrupt and lucrative trade which is inextricably linked to the black market. Furthermore, I wholeheartedly support increased penalties for wildlife crime to reflect the gravity of these immoral and unlawful acts.

STOP THE BLOODSHED

Yours faithfully,

Andrew Hockings

(Hong Kong resident for 16 years).