



Support for ivory trade ban
oscarjaa20 to: panel_ea

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Dear Chairman Hon,

My name is Oscar Appleby. I am a student at the university of Nottingham and I have been a resident in Hong Kong for the majority of my life.

I am writing to you to whole heartedly support the proposed ban on the import, re-export and possession of pre-convention ivory. I have many reasons for supporting this ban such as:

- The current 'legal' trade is only providing a front for further illegal trading. Current traders have been known to replenish 'old-stocks' with newly poached ivory.

- there is no deterrent sentencing in place in Hong Kong and penalties against wildlife crime are minimal.

- Poaching has reached unprecedented levels due to demand from Asia. If something is not done soon the African elephant will go extinct in our lifetime. This, in my personal opinion would be a crime against the World for which we would only have ourselves to blame.

I am also strongly opposed to any sort of compensation to be paid out to traders, in the same way a common criminal would not be compensated for his crimes, ivory traders most definitely should not be compensated for theirs. Also, any form of compensation would only encourage further poaching before the ban came into place. Ideas along these lines should not be entertained.

Furthermore, I feel that the penalties for wildlife crime should be greatly increased and strictly enforced.

There is clear support for this ban both domestically and internationally.

Yours sincerely

Oscar Appleby

Sent on the go with Vodafone