

Southern white rhino

KEY FACTS

- The past decade has seen a dramatic escalation of rhino poaching
- Allowing a legal trade in rhino horn would further stimulate demand for rhino horn, undermine enforcement and enable laundering of illegal specimens



Pangolins

KEY FACTS

- Pangolins are the most trafficked mammals in the world. All pangolin species are in decline, primarily due to trade in their scales and meat in China and South-East Asia
- Illegal pangolin trade has risen since 2008, with an increase in trafficking of pangolins from Africa; Hong Kong recently seized more than 13 tonnes of pangolin scales from west Africa in just one month



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Rosewood

KEY FACTS

- Siamese rosewood is a rare timber species found only in Thailand, Laos, Vietnam and Cambodia. Extensive trade in semi-finished products continues under the existing Annotation #5. Annotation #4 is an appropriate replacement to close this loophole
- Increasingly, rosewood species are sought from the African continent. Between 2009-15, imports from African range states have increased by 2,000 times in volume. The most heavily traded species is *kosso*
- Customs and enforcement agencies are struggling to enforce listings of CITES-listed *dalbergia* species. A genus-level listing on Appendix II will better enforce current listings and avoid identification issues



ACTION

ACTION FOR CITES CoP17

CoP17 Prop. 7

REJECT the proposal submitted by Swaziland for trade in rhino horn

ACTION

ACTION FOR CITES CoP17

CoP17 Props. 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12

SUPPORT the transfer of all eight pangolin species to Appendix I

ACTION

ACTION FOR CITES CoP17

CoP17 Prop. 53

SUPPORT the proposal submitted by Thailand to adopt Annotation #4 for the existing Appendix II listing of Siamese rosewood so that trade in all parts and derivatives is prohibited

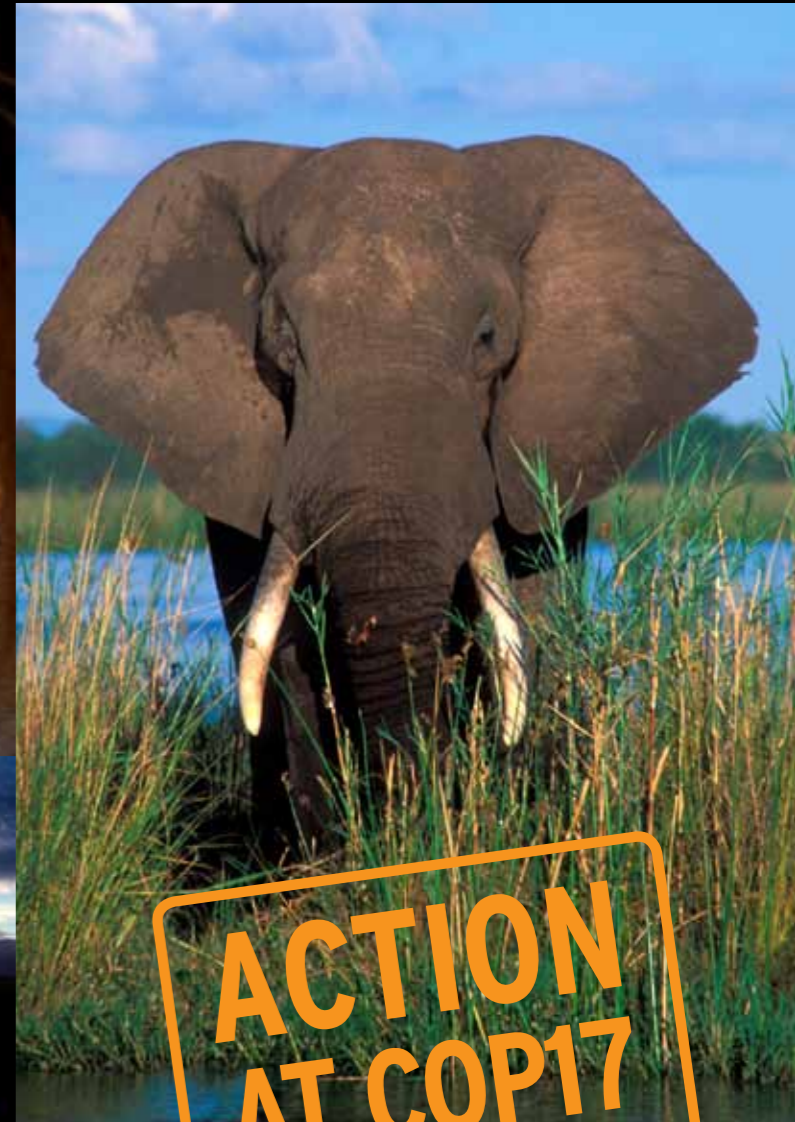
CoP17 Prop.57

SUPPORT the transfer of *Pterocarpus erinaceus (kosso)* from Appendix III to Appendix II without an annotation

CoP17 Prop. 55

SUPPORT the proposal submitted by multiple range states to list the entire genus of *dalbergia* species on Appendix II

ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY (EIA): SUMMARY OF KEY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CITES CoP17 (Sept – Oct 2016)



ACTION AT COP17



Tigers and other Asian big cats

KEY FACTS

- All Asian big cats - tigers, leopards, snow leopards, clouded leopards and Asiatic lions - are listed on CITES Appendix I. Tigers are highly endangered, with fewer than 4,000 wild tigers, while leopard populations in Asia are decreasing
- 2016 has marked a significant upsurge in tiger poaching and trade
- Since 2000, at least 6,394 Asian big cats (skins, live, carcasses/whole taxidermies), 924kg bone, 70 skeletons, 21,063 claws and 357 teeth have been found in trade.
- Leopards constitute the bulk of Asian big cat trafficking (73 per cent)
- There are more than twice the number of tigers (7,000-8,000) in captivity than in the wild, in 'farms' and other facilities in China, Thailand, Laos and Vietnam, with more than 70 per cent in China. These facilities pose a serious threat to wild tigers - they stimulate demand for tiger products and many are implicated in tiger trafficking
- CITES Decision 14.69 adopted in 2007 states that "*tigers should not be bred for trade*" and calls for tiger farms to be phased out



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Totoaba

KEY FACTS

- The critically endangered totoaba fish is endemic to the Upper Gulf of California, Mexico
- In the past six years, there has been a significant increase in the illegal trade of totoaba to satisfy the demand for totoaba swim bladders in China
- Totoaba swim bladders are consumed for their alleged medicinal properties or purchased by collectors for investment purposes. The illegal sale of totoaba swim bladders has been documented in Hong Kong, Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Shantou in southern China
- Totoaba are illegally fished using gillnets and the swim bladders transported to Hong Kong and mainland China, often via the United States
- The illegal gillnet fishing for totoaba is driving the critically endangered vaquita porpoise, another species endemic to the Upper Gulf, to extinction
- There are fewer than 60 individual vaquitas and scientists predict the species will be extinct in a few years if illegal gillnet fishing for totoaba continues



ACTION

ACTION FOR CITES CoP17

CoP17 Doc. 60.1

ADOPT the draft Decisions to assess the trade from and through tiger farms and other facilities that keep or breed tigers

CALL FOR the review of implementation of Res. Conf. 12.5 (Rev. CoP16) to pay special attention to Asian leopards

CALL FOR implementation of Decision 14.69

REJECT the suggestion from the Secretariat that the "question of Decision 14.69" be included in the review under Agenda Item 32 (Implementation of the Convention relating to captive-bred and ranched specimens)

CoP17 Doc. 60.2

ADOPT the draft Decisions proposed by India encouraging Parties to share images of seized tiger skins and carcasses, which would facilitate identification of the source of the seized specimens

ACTION

ACTION FOR CITES CoP17

CoP17 Doc. 74

ADOPT a decision agreeing a series of time-bound actions to strengthen international cooperation to eliminate the illegal trade of totoaba

ADOPT a decision urging all CITES Parties with fish swim bladder consumption, in particular China, to immediately enforce against the illegal import and sale of totoaba, and to undertake awareness-raising activities in key fish swim bladder markets to eliminate the demand for totoaba swim bladders.

Elephants

KEY FACTS

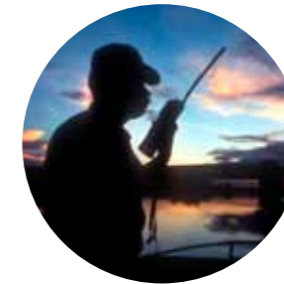
- Since the CITES decision in 2007 allowing a "one-off" ivory sale, poaching and ivory trafficking have dramatically increased
- Between 2007-14, African savanna elephants in eastern and southern Africa declined by 30 per cent primarily due to poaching. Forest elephants in central Africa have declined by 65 per cent. More elephants are being killed than are being born; local and regional extinctions are now a very real possibility
- Between 2007-14, at least 273,547kg of ivory has been seized, equivalent to 40,827 dead elephants
- Demand for ivory is one of the key drivers of elephant poaching
- China is the world's largest destination for *illegal* ivory and also has a large *legal* domestic ivory market. In 2015, China announced it will halt all domestic ivory trade; however, this is yet to be implemented
- The 2016 ETIS report expresses concern about domestic ivory markets in several countries
- Majority of African elephant range States (more than 80 per cent) support the closure of legal domestic ivory markets
- A CITES "National Ivory Action Plan" (NIAP) process is being developed to tackle ivory trafficking; however, this process relies solely on self-assessment



Enforcement

KEY FACTS

- The 'ICCWC indicator framework for wildlife and forest crime' released in early 2016 is a valuable tool for Parties to measure and monitor the impact of their criminal justice responses to such crimes
- While there has been increased attention to tackling wildlife and forest crime over recent years, less attention has been given to tackle corruption associated
- A system for annual mandatory reporting on illegal trade in CITES specimens has recently been established; this is a critical tool for CITES Parties to assess illegal trade



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ACTION

ACTION FOR CITES CoP17

CoP17 Doc. 57.2

SUPPORT the proposal on closure of domestic ivory markets

ADOPT a decision urging China to close its domestic ivory market by the end of 2016

ADOPT a decision urging Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Egypt, Guinea, Japan, Laos, the Philippines, Myanmar, Nigeria, Thailand and Vietnam to close their domestic ivory markets by SC69

CoP17 Docs. 84.2 and 84.3

SUPPORT Doc. 84.2 and **REJECT** Doc. 84.3 to stop the development of a "decision-making mechanism" for future trade in ivory in light of the current levels of poaching and ivory trafficking

CoP17 Doc. 24

CALL FOR NIAP countries to comply with the NIAP Guidelines and include appropriate indicators to demonstrate impact of their plans

ESTABLISH an ICCWC panel of experts to assess NIAP implementation

ADOPT a decision to include Cambodia, DRC, Japan, Laos, Mozambique, Thailand and UAE as NIAP countries of primary concern

CoP17 Props. 14, 15 and 16

SUPPORT Proposal 16 which increases protection for African elephants and **REJECT** Proposals 14 and 15 which removes CITES ivory trade restrictions

ACTION

ACTION FOR CITES CoP17

CoP17 Doc. 16.5

ADOPT a decision encouraging the use of the ICCWC indicator framework for wildlife and forest crime

CoP17 Doc. 28

ADOPT the draft resolution with amendments to strengthen the resolution

CoP17 Docs. 35.1 and 35.2

ADOPT a Decision calling for the timely submission of the new annual illegal trade report in the prescribed format