International Wildlife Protection & CITES

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Domestic versus International Wildlife Advocacy

→ Voting

→ Legal Recourse

→ Information
The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
184 countries are Parties to the Convention

Purpose of the convention is to protect animals and plants “against overexploitation through international trade”
Appendix I  versus Appendix II

“species threatened with extinction which are or may be affected by trade“

species which although not necessarily now threatened with extinction may become so or species requiring regulation as look a likes
Brief History

Most people know CITES for its “ivory ban”

1973: Asian elephant listed under CITES Appendix I

1977: African elephant listed under CITES Appendix II

1989: African elephant listed on Appendix I

1997: Elephants from Botswana, Namibia, and Zimbabwe moved to Appendix II with a restrictive annotation

2000: Elephants from South Africa moved to Appendix II with a restrictive annotation
Appendix II

Not Detrimental

Legally Acquired

Prepared & shipped
Uplisting

NO ELEPHANT SHOULD DIE FOR THE IVORY TRADE

KEEP IVORY WHERE IT BELONGS, IVORYFREE.ORG

END OF IVORY
The Art of Survival
Exhibition

OCT
23 - 25
2019

Christie’s Los Angeles
256 N. Camden Dr. Beverly Hills, CA 90210, USA
Great Elephant Census

Continent-wide survey reveals massive decline in African savannah elephants

Michael J. Chase¹, Scott Schlossberg², Curtice R. Griffin³, Philippe J.C. Bouché⁴,
Sintayehu W. Djene⁵, Paul W. Elkan⁶, Sam Ferreira⁷, Falk Grossman⁸,
Eduard Mbabia Koh⁹, Kelly Landen⁵, Patrick Omondi⁵,
Alexis Pelletier⁵, S.A. Jeanetta Seiter⁵,⁰¹ and Robert Sutcliffe⁶

¹Elephants Without Borders, Kasane, Botswana
²Department of Environmental Conservation, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Amherst, MA, United States
³Department of Biosystems Engineering, Forest Resource Management, Genshine Agro-Bio-Tech,
University of Latvia, Gulbenk, Lithuania
Domestic Markets

U.S. Bans Commercial Trade of African Elephant Ivory
By Jada F. Smith
June 2, 2016
WASHINGTON — The United States Fish and Wildlife Service announced a near-total ban on the commercial trade of African elephant ivory on Thursday.

China Shuts Down Its Legal Ivory Trade
Two years after a joint pledge with the United States to ban the domestic trade in ivory, all of China's government-licensed carving factories and ivory retailers are about to close.

By Rachael Bale
Japan

Japan’s ivory trade loopholes:

- Whole tusk
- Cut pieces of ivory

20,000+ ivory tusks registered since 1995

68.7 tons of ivory tusks registered in Japan

3,400 ivory tusks registered during 2017-2019 campaign

160 tons of ivory tusks registered in Japan

Japan’s illegal ivory trade and fraudulent registration of ivory tusks

EIA-GLOBAL.ORG

WILDLIFE & CITES
Pandemics

Estimated that zoonoses are responsible for 2.5 billion cases of human illness and 2.7 million human deaths worldwide each year.

Figure 1 | Emergence of zoonoses. Over the past century, humanity has witnessed the emergence of numerous zoonotic infections that have resulted in varying numbers of human fatalities. Influenza viruses that originate from birds account for an important proportion of these deaths, and recently many new zoonotic viruses that originate in bats, such as Hendra virus, Nipah virus and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) coronavirus, have caused outbreaks with high mortality rates. Hyperlinks to World Health Organization disease report updates are provided in BOX 1. MERS, Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus.
IPBES pandemics workshop report – “era of pandemics”

Report estimated “five new diseases emerging in people every year”

“1.7 million currently undiscovered viruses are thought to exist in mammal and avian hosts” of which “631,000-827,000 could have the ability to infect humans”

“less than 0.1% of the potential zoonotic viral risk has been discovered.”
Zoonotic diseases emerge not because of wildlife, but because of people.
How do you stop the next pandemic?
A Decade to Act

- Daszak (2020) said that we can expect a COVID-like event every decade.
- G20 High Level Expert Panel made a similar prediction
→ Black list “risky” species
→ White list “safe” species
Roughly 20% of the global wildlife market

Imports at least 225 million live animals and 883 million specimens annually
WILDLIFE TRADE
When the buying stops, the killing will too.
Thank you

Tanya Sanerib, Center for Biological Diversity