



GLOBAL MARCH FOR ELEPHANTS AND RHINOS

Marching all over the world in over 100 cities on
October 3 or 4, 2015

To: [Ambassador (embassy in your country) or Government of Gang of 20 or CITES] [Date]

MEMORANDUM OF DEMAND

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

African mega fauna are in deep crisis. It is estimated that an African elephant is killed for its ivory every 15 minutes. An African rhino dies for its horn every eight hours. At last count, there are fewer than 400,000 elephants and 18,000 rhinos left in the wild in Africa.

These iconic animals, as well as many more critically endangered species such as lions and pangolins, are targeted by international criminal networks for their highly lucrative body parts. If the slaughter is permitted to continue at present rates, these species will be extinct within a generation.

Wildlife trafficking threatens global ecosystems and the geopolitical stability of the African continent. Smuggling operations are elaborate and abetted by corruption. Profits accrued by the illicit sale of ivory and rhino horn are in the billions. Profits from poaching sponsors terrorism and threatens national and international security.

The chain of criminality and corruption that is killing these animals will also kill civil society and civilizations. Only the power and will of enlightened governments can break this chain.

Declaration of Demands

We ask that your government recognize this growing global movement and the right of people everywhere in the world to have a say in what happens to our collective natural heritage. Wildlife trafficking must end -- all that is required is an act of political will.

Specifically, we call on your government to:

- 1. Apply pressure on the government of China** to supply the world with a timeline for the implementation of its May 2015 announced intention of “eventually” ceasing the ivory trade: to close the ivory carving factories and the State-sponsored ivory retail shops; to destroy its stockpiles of ivory; to confiscate all ivory imports; and to impose the strictest penalties on any citizens found to be involved in the illegal trade of ivory or rhino horn.
- 2. Lobby CoP17** for the following measures: A. *Amend rule 25* to eliminate secret ballots unrelated to election of CITES officers; B. *Reclassify African elephants as two species*, the Savanna Elephant and the Forest Elephant, with both in APPENDIX 1 across the entire continent; C. *Denial of any petitions to legalize the trade of rhino horn* in South Africa and

elsewhere; D. *Stop the export of rhinos* to non-indigenous locales; E. *Halt the capture of and trade in baby elephants* and other species from the countries of origin to other nations, irrespective of their status on CITES Appendices; F. *End the import/export of trophies*; G. *Add Rhinos, Savanna Elephants, Forest Elephants, Lions, and Pangolins to APPENDIX 1* to halt all hunting and trade of these creatures and/or their body parts and eliminate the exemptions.

3. Support the United States in its continuation of the State-level legislative processes as well as its tightening of federal departmental policies, and creating Executive Orders aimed at ending the trade in ivory and rhino horn within its own borders.
4. Implement a complete ban on international and domestic trade of all endangered wildlife body parts, including, but not limited to, ivory, rhino horn, pangolin, lion, and tiger bone.
5. Shut down all retail outlets for ivory and rhino horn products and terminate all industries associated with these.
6. Adopt more stringent legislation to deter, combat, and punish wildlife crime.
7. Address the systemic corruption linking governmental representatives to criminal enterprises involved in wildlife trafficking by investigating improprieties by elected officials, police, park rangers, and port authorities; by prosecuting traders of poached ivory and rhino horn without exception and to the fullest extent of the law; and adopting and amending legislation further criminalizing governmental corruption.
8. Engage and cooperate with other governments in anti-wildlife trafficking actions.
9. Ensure wildlife trafficking is identified as a serious crime as within the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC), as called for in Resolution 2013/40 of the UN Economic Council.
10. Support adoption of sanctions by the United Nations Security Council and General Assembly against countries in violation of intergovernmental agreements as adopted by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

It is our preference that all stockpiles of endangered wildlife products are verifiably destroyed.

On October 3 and 4, 2015, World Animal Day, people in more than 100 cities around the world will march against the illegal wildlife trade and call on their governments to take action to end poaching and the trade in ivory and rhino horn.

We ask you to show wisdom and leadership, by acknowledging this vital cause and helping to stop illegal wildlife trade once and for all.

Global March for Elephants and Rhinos - [insert city]

Web: <http://www.March4ElephantsAndRhinos.org/>

On Twitter: [Twitter.com/ElRhinoMarch](https://twitter.com/ElRhinoMarch)

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