

# Egypt 's National Ivory Action Plan ( Final Version )

Submitted to the CITES Secretariat



## **Background**

### **1- Rationale:**

#### 1.1 Problems issues to be addressed :

Due to the geographical and strategic location of Egypt as a link between Africa , Asia and Europe , it is considered a critical area for illegal wildlife trade trafficking and one of the largest illegal markets for elephant ivory in Africa.

Tusks are smuggled in from the African countries mostly via Sudan.

#### 1.2 Legislations & Enforcement:

Egypt government is aware of this issue and in an effort to controlling this issue , it enacted a number of legislations which include :

- Ministerial decree # 1150 Of 1999 declared in compliance with the implementation of CITES states that " it is a violation to possess , to offer or display for sale , to import , export or introduce from the sea any specimen of a species listed in appendix I , II and III of CITES.
- Environmental law # 4 of 1994 which amended by law # 9 of 2009 which are in compliance with the implementation of CITES
- The Egyptian Wildlife Service, which is the government agency that implements Egypt's wildlife laws.

#### 1.3 Stakeholders and target beneficiaries :

The action plan will address the concerns of various stakeholders including :

- The environmental police.
- The Military borders forces.

- The Customs.
- The animals quarantine Vets.
- NGOs.
- These stakeholders usually collaborate closely with The Egyptian wildlife officers in monitoring , manage and implement of CITES provisions concerning control of illegal trade of endangered species of wildlife particularly elephant ivory.

Further details on activities, prior actions, indicators, implementing agencies are shown in the schedule of Egypt' s National Ivory Action Plan ( Revised Version ) .

## National Ivory Action Plan for Egypt

**Lead Agency responsible for overseeing the Development and Implementation of the Action Plan, and for providing feedback to the CITES Secretariat**

**Table 1: Priority Actions to be undertaken**

Law Enforcement Pillar	Priority Actions	Responsible national agency	By 30 April 2015	By 31 October 2015	By 30 April 2016	By 31 October 2016
<b>A. LEGISLATION</b>	<p><b>A.1.1 Prepare summary of wildlife legislations and laws as well as the penalties for dissemination to Judiciary and other stakeholders.</b></p> <p><b>A.1.2 Produce leaflets of the national environmental legislations.</b></p>	<p><b>-The Management Authority of CITES</b>  <b>- General Department of Wildlife.</b>  <b>- Environment Police.</b></p>				
	<p><b>A1.3 Disseminate to all courts all over Egypt ( 27 Governorates ) and other stakeholders.</b></p>					

	<p><b>A.2 Strengthening wildlife penalties to ensure all major wildlife crime violations are treated as serious crimes and its penalties act as effective deterrents, (despite the environmental law #9 for the year 2009 amended from law #4 for the year 1999 , which is applied in 2011, magnified the penalties “ either fine or imprison or both “</b></p>	<p><b>-Ministry of Agriculture</b> <b>-Ministry of Environment</b> <b>- Ministry of Justice.</b></p>			
	<p><b>A.3 Communicate and discuss the neighbouring countries for potential harmonization of wildlife legislations.</b></p>	<p><b>-The Management Authority of CITES</b> <b>- General Department of Wildlife.</b></p>			
<p><b>B. PROSECUTION</b></p>	<p><b>B.1.1 Capacity building programs to increase the level of awareness for illegal trade of wildlife and seriousness of wildlife crimes by organizing workshops and training courses for wildlife officers , environment police ,Prosecutors , Judiciary and other stakeholders who are responsible for implementation of CITES.</b></p> <p><b>B.1.2 Practical session to the trainees with the demonstration of wildlife specimens including the Ivory and means of identifications.</b></p> <p><b>B.1.3 Dissemination of educational materials such as CDs , Posters , Brochures , stickers and leaflets.</b></p>	<p><b>-The Management Authority of CITES</b> <b>-General Department of Wildlife.</b></p>			
	<p><b>B.2 Prepare summary of wildlife articles &amp; penalties in law #9 for 2009 for dissemination to Judiciary and other stakeholders and notify the Judiciary and other stakeholders to take prompt actions.</b></p>	<p><b>-The Management Authority of CITES</b> <b>- General Department of</b></p>			

		Wildlife. - Environment Police.			
<b>C. INTELLIGENCE &amp; INVESTIGATIONS</b>	<b>C.1 Carry out a technical review of the intelligence and investigation procedures in place in order to identify areas of weakness and potential interventions to increase the effectiveness and implement recommendations ( Monitoring of Ivory markets , carving shops , touristic areas )</b>	- General Department of Wildlife. - Environment Police.			
	<b>C.2 Increase the numbers of shops inspection units periodically with special emphasis to touristic areas , and triple patrol missions compared to current situation</b>				
	<b>C. 3 Appoint a focal point in the general Department of Wildlife for forensic wildlife crimes investigations techniques after getting a required training and working in cooperation with the environment Police.</b>	- General Department of Wildlife.			
	<b>C.4 Develop a framework for the development of Egypt's forensic Medicine , in case of seizure of Ivory more than 500 Kg., a sample of that ivory will be sent to the forensic medicine for DNA &amp; isotope analysis , consequently a result will be sent to any of CITES Reference laboratory for evaluation.</b>	-The Management Authority of CITES - General Department of Wildlife. - Ministry of Health.			
	<b>C.5.1 Carry out an audit of Egypt's current systems for storage.</b>	-The Management Authority of CITES - General Department of Wildlife.			
	<b>C.5.2 Implement the audit recommendations (marking and the security system ) of confiscated ivory.</b>				

	<b>C.6 Present a report on the Confiscated Ivory to the CITES Secretariat and the Interpol.</b>	-The Management Authority of CITES - General Department of Wildlife				
<b>D. NATIONAL &amp; INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO COMBAT WILDLIFE CRIME.</b>	<b>D.1 Implement training courses and workshops for customs , quarantine veterinarians and ports authorities with regards for detection of wildlife contraband and implementation of CITES in cooperation with the international organizations for conservation of wildlife.</b>	-The Management Authority of CITES - General Department of Wildlife.				
	<b>D.2 Provide ports , harbours and land borders with extra contraband detection materials and trained personnel.</b>	- General Department of Wildlife.				
	<b>D.3 Establishment of a frame network for neighbouring countries for wildlife crime collaboration mechanism.</b>	-The Management Authority of CITES - General Department of Wildlife.				
<b>E. LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>E.1 Deploy additional wildlife law enforcement staff at key/major entry and exit border points.</b>	-Ministry of Agriculture. - Ministry of environment.				
	<b>E.2 Strengthen collaboration with other law enforcement agencies including Customs, Police , Ministry of environment and the National Army to fight illegal ivory trade and other wildlife related crimes, this will be achieved through the monthly meeting of the Management Authority of CITES ( include members of law enforcement agencies which mentioned before) and also through phone calls and world wide website whenever require.</b>	-Ministry of Agriculture. - Ministry of environment. - Environment Police.				
	<b>E.3 Strengthen regional cooperation and exchange</b>	-The Management Authority				

	<p>information as a tool to curb ivory trade.</p>	<p>of CITES. - General Department of Wildlife.</p>				
	<p><b>E.4 Triple the number of controls of Ivory shops , hotels inspections and touristic resorts particularly during the touristic seasons through patrolling with close surveillance to enforce the law continuously and , punishing violations.</b></p>	<p>- General Department of Wildlife. - Environment Police.</p>				
<p><b>F. Capacity Building &amp; Public Awareness</b></p>	<p><b>F.1 Produce and distribute an extra printed publications such as leaflets , brochures , posters , stickers in Multilanguage's for local people and tourists.</b></p>	<p>- General Department of Wildlife. - NGOs.</p>				
	<p><b>F.2 Publicize on the official website of wildlife a " warning " for both local people and tourists that . according to the Egyptian legislations it is forbidden to sell or purchase the ivory and ivory products and bring them out of Egypt.</b></p>	<p>- General Department of Wildlife. -The Management Authority of CITES.</p>				



**Table 2: Indicators to Monitor Impacts of the Priority Actions**

<b>Law Enforcement Pillar</b>	<b>Proposed indicator(s)</b>	<b>Baseline data and means of verification</b>
<b>A. LEGISLATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Production of leaflets for all national environmental legislations and laws as well as the penalties ( environmental law No.9 for year 2009 ) for dissemination to Judiciary and other stakeholders. Disseminate to all courts all over Egypt. and other stakeholders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- It will disseminate to all the Egyptian courts over 27 Governorates ie to a 100 % of the Courts.</li> <li>- As a sequel of that smuggling of Ivory might be decreased to 50 % .</li> </ul>
<b>B. PROSECUTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4 Capacity building programs. ( 2 in lower Egypt plus 2 in upper Egypt ) with around 160 attendants of prosecutors , Judges and other stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Awareness of the importance of wildlife species and their exposing to the danger of extinction , enforce the prosecutors to take prompt actions.</li> </ul>

<b>C. INTELLIGENCE AND INVESTIGATIONS</b>	- Success of Wildlife crime intelligence operations will be increased by 100 % .	- Caring of confiscated ivory. - Stock of confiscated stored in a secured way following the recommendations of the audit.
<b>D. NATIONAL &amp; INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO COMBAT WILDLIFE CRIME</b>	- Nine ports , Harbours and land borders will be provided with additional staff and contraband detection materials.	- Confiscation of Ivory will be dramatically increased and will diminish ivory trade in the country.
<b>E. LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS</b>	- Increase in amount of confiscated Ivory and Ivory products.	- Dramatic increase in the amount of confiscated Ivory& Ivory products by 100% .

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