

## **Ivory status in Qatar**

### **1- Introduction**

The State of Qatar has joined the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora ( CITES ) , on 2001. The State of Qatar recognized the importance of the convention for wildlife conservation in the world . Qatar share the concern with the international community on conservation of the endangered wildlife species , such as the elephants, elephants ivory , rhinos , rhino horns and others.

### **2- Legislation**

The State of Qatar has enacted law No. (50) of 2006 , for regulation of trade in specimens of endangered species of wildlife and their products. The law has designated Management Authority as enforcement and responsible agency in regulation of trade in all wildlife species.

### **3- Border control**

Qatar CITES Management Authority has trained personnel for control of import and export of wildlife specimens through the airport , sea and land ports. The management authority officials work in coordination and cooperation with the customs and veterinary departments personnel , in Hamad International Airport , Abu Samra Passageway and Doha Sea Port. The employees work 24 hours on shifts.

### **4- Confiscations**

Since the accession of State of Qatar to CITES , the following are the reported seizures of ivory :-

- 1- Five polished small elephant tusks of different sizes , arrived from Sudan without CITES permit in 2005.
- 2- Thirteen specimens of tourist souvenirs made of ivory , arrived from Sudan without CITES permit in 2005.
- 3- Ten specimens of polished elephant ivory arrived from Sudan without CITES permit in 2006.
- 3- Four specimens of worked elephant ivory arrived from Lebanon without CITES permit in 2006.
- 4- Two specimens of worked elephant ivory arrived from Thailand without CITES permit in 2008.
- 5- 156 kilograms of worked ivory arrived from Mozambique on transit to Vietnam without CITES permit in 2014.

## **5- Conclusions**

Qatar CITES Management Authority work in cooperation with the Customs General Authority and the Airport Security Department , to control entry of ivory into Qatar . Qatar prohibit display and sale of ivory products in all markets over Qatar. Elephant ivory products consignments on transit are controlled and inspected by the Customs Authority at the airport.

Consignments without CITES permits are seized and seizure information are communicated to CITES Secretariat and CITES management authority of country of destination for their action.