

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES  
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

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Sixty-sixth meeting of the Standing Committee  
Geneva (Switzerland), 11-15 January 2016

Strategic matters

A SUMMARY OF KEY EVENTS AND MEASURES RELATED TO ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE

This information document has been prepared by the Secretariat in relation to agenda item 13 on *United Nations General Assembly resolutions on Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife and Sustainable Development Goals* and item 32.1 on *Enforcement matters*.



# INCREASING ATTENTION ON ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE – A visual summary of key events and measures since 2012

GLOBAL

REGIONAL

NATIONAL



**Jun 2012**  
Rio+20 recognizes the importance of CITES, which 'stands at the intersection between trade, environment and development', and emphasizes the economic, social and environmental impacts of illicit trafficking in wildlife, 20-22 June 2012

**Dec 2012**  
UN Security Council acknowledges links between wildlife crime and regional security, calls for investigation into involvement of Lord's Resistance Army in poaching and ivory smuggling, 19 Dec 2012

UN General Assembly expresses concern at impacts of transnational organized crime, including wildlife crime, A/RES/67/189, 20 Dec 2012

**Mar 2013**  
CITES CoP16 – a 'watershed moment' for combating wildlife crime, Parties adopt powerful suite of decisions to combat wildlife crime, 3-14 Mar 2013

ICCWC Ministerial roundtable on wildlife crime, CITES CoP16

ICCWC first global meeting of wildlife enforcement networks, CITES CoP16

ADB/ICCWC symposium on combating wildlife crime, CITES CoP16

**May 2013**  
Marrakech Declaration calls for action to combat wildlife trafficking undermining Africa's development, 30 May 2013

Prince of Wales illegal wildlife trade conference, 21 May 2013

**Jun 2013**  
G8 Summit recognizes need to combat wildlife trafficking, 17-18 June 2013

**Jul 2013**  
ECOSOC urges States to make wildlife crime a serious crime, 2013/40, 25 July 2013

**Oct 2013**  
UN Security Council notes that poaching among factors that fuel crisis in Central Africa, 2021(2013), 10 Oct 2013

**Sep 2013**  
Wildlife crime discussed in margins of UN General Assembly, illicit wildlife trafficking as a growing international challenge, 25 Sep 2013

**Jan 2014**  
UN Security Council endorses sanctions on armed groups involved in wildlife trafficking in Central Africa, 2134/2136(2014), 28,30 Jan 2014

28 countries join forces in Operation COBRA II, month-long operation ends 27 Jan 2014

**Dec 2013**  
UN General Assembly reaffirms ECOSOC resolution, and need to consider wildlife crime as serious crime, 68/193, 18 Dec 2013

UN Group of Friends on poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking established, Germany and Gabon chair, Dec 2013

**Feb 2014**  
London Conference on illegal wildlife trade boosts political momentum, 12-13 Feb 2014

8<sup>th</sup> session of open working group on SDGs recognizes that wildlife crime undermines sustainability, 5 Feb 2014

**Mar 2014**  
Tokyo Conference on combating wildlife crime, 3-5 Mar 2014

**May 2014**  
23<sup>rd</sup> UN Crime Commission focuses on collaboration to combat wildlife crime, incl. ICCWC, 12-16 May 2014

**Jun 2014**  
UN Environment Assembly adopts resolution on illegal trade in wildlife at first session, 27 Jun 2014

Customs co-operation Council declaration on illegal wildlife trade, Jun 2014

**Nov 2014**  
IUCN World Parks Congress World Leader's Dialogue on illegal wildlife trade, 17 Nov 2014

INTERPOL General Assembly adopts resolution on emerging threats to environmental security, AG-2014-RES-03, 3-7 Nov 2014

**Jul 2014**  
65<sup>th</sup> meeting of CITES Standing Committee, focus on illegal wildlife trade, particularly ivory, 7-11 Jul 2014

**Mar 2015**  
Kasane Conference and Statement on illegal wildlife trade, effort since London reviewed, 25 Mar 2015

Wildlife crime chosen as theme of 2<sup>nd</sup> World Wildlife Day, 3 Mar 2015

Informal plenary session of UN General Assembly on wildlife crime, 4 Mar 2015

**May 2015**  
Operation COBRA III results in largest ever cross-border wildlife crime operation, 62 countries participate, May 2015

**Jun 2015**  
GEF funds new USD90m global wildlife programme, 4 Jun 2015

G7 leaders reconfirm commitment to fight illegal wildlife trade, 8 Jun 2015

**Sep 2015**  
UN General Assembly adopts SDGs with targets on illicit trafficking in wildlife, 25 Sep 2015

**Jul 2015**  
UN General Assembly adopts resolution on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife, A/RES/69/314, 30 Jul 2015

**Jan 2016**  
66<sup>th</sup> meeting of CITES Standing Committee, 11-15 Jan 2016

**Sep 2016**  
CITES CoP17, Johannesburg, South Africa, 24 Sep - 5 Oct 2016

**Sep 2012**  
APEC Leaders Summit Declaration expresses concern over escalating illicit trafficking, 9 Sep 2012

**Mar 2013**  
Ministers of Economic Community of Central African States adopt emergency plan to combat poaching and wildlife trade in Central Africa, 21-23 Mar 2013

**Oct 2013**  
APEC Bali Declaration aims to combat wildlife trafficking, 8 Oct 2013

Source, transit and destination States unite to combat illegal trade in rhino horn, CITES Rhinoceros Enforcement Task Force, 29-31 Oct 2013

West Asia workshop agrees to strengthen regional cooperation to combat wildlife crime, 29-31 Oct 2013

**Dec 2013**  
African elephant summit adopts urgent measures to halt illegal ivory trade, 2-4 Dec 2013

Élysée Summit roundtable on poaching and wildlife trafficking, 5 Dec 2013

**Apr 2014**  
EU expert conference reviews approach to wildlife trafficking, 10 Apr 2014

ASEAN technical workshop on environmental crime, 22-25 Apr 2014

**Nov 2014**  
Arusha Declaration on wildlife crime, new bilateral agreements between African States, 13 Nov 2014

ASEAN Members adopt EAS declaration on combating wildlife trafficking, 13 Nov 2014

**Feb 2015**  
Geneva declaration on rhinoceros-related crimes, key States commit to further action, 14 Feb 2015

**March 2015**  
African Ministerial Council (AMCEN) agrees to develop continent-wide strategy on wildlife crime, Decision 15/2, 2-6 March 2015

African Elephant Meeting follow-up to African Elephant Summit, 23 Mar 2015

ASEAN Regional forum on combating wildlife trafficking, 30 Mar 2015

**Apr 2015**  
Brazzaville declaration on illicit trade in wild flora and fauna, African strategy developed, 30 April 2015

**May 2012**  
US Senate Foreign Relations Committee 'ivory and insecurity', addresses the global implications of poaching in Africa, 24 May 2012

**Nov 2012**  
US Secretary of State 'call to action' to combat illegal wildlife trade, 8 Nov 2012

**Jul 2013**  
US President issues Executive Order on combating wildlife trafficking, 1 Jul 2013

**Feb 2014**  
Viet Nam Prime Minister issues Directive to strengthen responses to wildlife crime, 20 Feb 2014

**May 2014**  
Tanzania holds national summit to stop wildlife crime, 9-10 May 2014

**Jan 2015**  
CITES expert workshop on tackling demand for illegal ivory in China, 28 Jan 2015

**Feb 2015**  
Nepal hosts symposium on zero poaching in Asia, 2-5 Feb 2014

**Jun 2012**  
Ivory crush – Gabon, 4.8 Tonnes, 27 Jun 2012

**DESTRUCTION OF NATIONAL STOCKPILES OF CONFISCATED IVORY AND RHINOCEROS HORN**

Earlier ivory crushes...  
Zambia, 9.5 Tonnes, 1992  
Kenya, 12 Tonnes, 1989; 5 Tonnes, 2011

**Jun 2013**  
Ivory crush – Philippines, 5 Tonnes, 21 Jun 2013

**Nov 2013**  
Ivory crush – USA, 6 Tonnes, 14 Nov 2013

**Feb 2014**  
Ivory crush – France, 3 Tonnes, 6 Feb 2014  
Ivory crush – Chad, 1.1 Tonnes, 21 Feb 2014

**Jan 2014**  
Ivory crush – China, 6 Tonnes, 6 Jan 2014

**Apr 2014**  
Ivory crush – Belgium, 1.5 Tonnes, 9 Apr 2014

**May 2014**  
Ivory crush – Hong Kong, China, 28 Tonnes, commenced on 15 May 2014

**Sep 2014**  
Rhino horn burn – Czech Republic, 70 kg, 21 Sep 2014

**Apr 2015**  
Ivory crush – UAE, 10 Tonnes, 29 Apr 2015

**May 2015**  
Ivory crush – China, 0.7 Tonne, 29 May 2015

**Jun 2015**  
Ivory crush – USA, 1 Tonne, 19 Jun 2015

**Jul 2015**  
Ivory crush – Mozambique, 2.4 Tonnes ivory, 86 pieces rhino horn, 6 July 2015

**Aug 2015**  
Ivory crush – Thailand, 2.2 Tonne, 26 Aug 2015