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

Seventieth meeting of the Standing Committee
Rosa Khutor, Sochi (Russian Federation), 1-5 October 2018

INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM ON COMBATING WILDLIFE CRIME (ICCWC) SIDE EVENT:
STRENGTHENING RESPONSES TO COMBAT WILDLIFE CRIME

This document is submitted by the Secretariat in relation to agenda item 30.2 on the International
Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICCWC), and includes the presentations delivered during the
ICCWC side event on Strengthening responses to combat wildlife crime of 1 October 2018.
THE INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM ON COMBATING WILDLIFE CRIME PRESENTS

SC70 side event: Strengthening responses to combat wildlife crime,
1 October 2018

ICCW C STRATEGIC PROGRAMME 2016-2020 Donors
#SeriousAboutWildlifeCrime

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jILZhvx_zf
Operation Thunderstorm
OPERATION THUNDERBIRD 2017

- 49 countries and territories involved
- 898 suspects identified
- 1400 seizures, worth more than USD 5.1 million, including:
  - 17.8t of marine wildlife
  - 5,200 birds
  - 2,800 reptiles
  - +13 big cats
  - 22,000 products such as medicines/ornaments/carvings
  - 25t of various animal parts
  - +3000 pieces of ivory
  - 300t of wood and timber

For more information, go to www.interpol.int

What If?

- What time of year?
  - Different time each year
  - Send invitation well in advance
  - Not December/late March until April
  - MAY
- Reptile Group
- Umbrella - each decides what they can do
- Community...
  - Inform/innovate
- All inclusive
- Specific targets/intelligence sharing before...more collaboration
- Preparation - organize cross border
- Working together
  - Collaboration
  - Trans National Investigation
  - Intelligence Sharing

India, US, UK, South Africa, Malaysia, NZ, Thailand, Greece, WCO, CITES, INTERPOL
Operation THUNDERSTORM 2018 - Participants

Participating Countries: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Belgrade, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Denmark, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguay, USA, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
INTERPOL

OPERATION THUNDERSTORM
TACKLING THE ILLEGAL TRADE IN WILDLIFE AND TIMBER

93 COUNTRIES

1,400 SUSPECTS IDENTIFIED

1,974 SEIZURES

TONNES

55,700

25

8

1.3

Timber
Wild Meat
Pangolin Scales
Elephant Ivory

7 bears
14 big cats
48 live primates
4,000 birds
20,740 reptiles

INDIVIDUAL PIECES
“OPERATION THUNDERBIRD” result in huge seizures

NEW DELHI: Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) seized a total of 2,524 live species of scheduled animals, 19.2 kg of elephant ivory, 1 tiger skin, 9 carcasses of wild animals, 1 organ pipe coral, 1 jar snake venom, 8 leopard skins and 1 Indian Mijlac skin.

As part of the 6 week global Operation Thunderstorm, Border Force officers made 276 seizures containing tens of thousands of products banned under CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species).
Thank You

Sheldon Jordan
Director General,
Wildlife Enforcement
Environment and Climate Change Canada
RISK MANAGEMENT AIMED AT SUPPORTING FRONT LINE CUSTOMS OFFICERS

WCO ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME
ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE (IWT)

CITES SC 70

Roux Raath
WCO Environment Programme
Mission:
The WCO provides leadership, guidance and support to customs administrations to secure and facilitate legitimate trade, realize revenues, protect society and build capacity

(182 members control / process 98 % international trade)
Unique partnership brings unique solutions to combatting IWT across the entire illicit supply chain

  close to 200 customs administrations
  close to 200 police forces

However, we can strengthen institutions, but need to increase the rate at which we identify and interdict illicit consignments (IWT)

This happens nearly entirely at international borders – markets where consumed far from sources
Size of International Trade?

- TEUs (2016)
- 701,420,047.25 million

Air pax

- 4 billion
- 7.8 billion by 2036 (AP grow & China replace USA)
BALANCING ACT

Trade increased exponentially, but not the number of customs officers controlling flow goods at borders

9/11 – 2001

• Difficulty in balancing requirements with flow of legitimate trade
• Can close borders but 100% examinations are not feasible – impact on global economy cannot be measured
ENABLING: RISK MANAGEMENT
WHICH ONE POSES IWT RISK?
RM PRINCIPLES

• Customs encouraged to introduce risk-based control procedures
• Customs must address risk as early as possible in supply chain
• Increased automation and the submission of more comprehensive information and data earlier in the supply chain
• Data sets (i.e. commercial and non-commercial/enforcement)
• Dedicated resources
1. Legislative – confidentiality clauses in tax legislation
   - Police / Customs Joint Task Teams
   - C2C & C2 other law enforcement

2. IWT a focus area?
   - Revenue
   - Non-fiscal enforcement = improved overall compliance and revenue
   - Understanding of importance of IWT to economy and stability of a country
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Understand the immense control customs has over the supply chain and what it can do wrt IWT

Build **partnerships** with customs:
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Strategic level – ambassador for IWT

Tactical level – share SAR, relevant information, data

Make CUSTOMS your partner in combatting IWT
RM is not an event – it’s a process

Thank-you
Combating corruption
Integrity Guide for Wildlife Management and Enforcement Agencies

Tim Steele, UNODC
The starting point……..

- We will come up with a better title.
- This brief presentation will give:
  - An introduction as to the problem to be addressed
  - An overview of the content of the guide
  - The estimated timeline to complete the guide
Use of illegal trade data to shape responses
West and Central Africa Wildlife Crime Threat Assessment
Preliminary findings
Illegal Trade Report 2016

- Due Oct 2017, most of the 62 submissions were in by Feb 2018
- Missing a few key countries, but more than half the world population covered
- About 20,000 seizures including key destination markets
West and Central Africa Threat Assessment

• Opens with an overview of the vulnerabilities of the region.
• World WISE review of the role of the region in global markets.
• Species markets studies based on fieldwork conducted by seven consultants in eight countries:
  • Ivory
  • Pangolin scales
  • Rosewood logs
  • Others
• Seven country case studies on wildlife response capacity
• Closes with a discussion of impact and implications.
Ivory

- Central Africa (TRIDOM) was previously flagged by DNA analysis as one of two major sources of trafficked ivory
- Models using two different techniques (PIKE and population based) show declining poaching across the continent and in the region
- Model factoring in declining tusk weight shows sharply declining ivory supply
- Field research in East and Southern Africa show declining prices, as do assessments in Asia
- Declining supply + declining prices = declining demand
- Possible militant involvement in Eastern Burkina Faso
Pangolin scales

- Pangolins appear to be harvested in many regions, although most of the largest seizures come from Nigeria, Cameroon, and Uganda.
- Unlike ivory, low barriers to entering market
- Close to 50 pangolin hunters interviewed in three countries (Cameroon, Uganda, DRC).
- Most are non-specialists capitalising on widespread demand, catching 0.5 to 2 pangolins on each hunting trip.
- Local business people who commute to big cities consolidate the loads and sell to known buyers.
- Nigerian and Asian traffickers prominent
• Clear disparities between export and import data
• Main exporters are Nigeria and Gambia
• Nigerian exports appear to involve some imported wood, including from Cameroon
• Gambian exports appear to be mainly Senegalese wood, from Casamance, where violence has been associated with the trade
• Nigerian and Gambian traders found outside their home countries sourcing wood
THANK YOU

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THANK YOU

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