



## CITES SC67 NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Prepared for the 67th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee



Party: CAMBODIA

Reporting period: November 2014 – June 2016

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## **PART A: Synopsis of NIAP implementation**

Overall, the implementation of the NIAP is largely Limited progress, three are substantially achieved and some are Not commenced. Stop Ivory protocol has been decided by Forestry Administration to use for inventorying and managing ivory seizures in Cambodia.

### **Progress to date**

Seven out of the thirteen actions are rated as limited progress, three are substantially achieved and three more actions are rate as not commenced. Now there are large-scale jurisdictional changes between the Ministry of Environment (MOE) and Forestry Administration, the MOE are undertaking a review of all environmental legislation and developing a new Environmental Code, which includes a plan to develop new legislation to replace the Forestry Law, full draft of the Environmental Code will be completed by the end of 2016.

The Forestry Administration decided to use the Stop Ivory protocol for inventorying and managing ivory seizures, the staff of Stop Ivory to come to Cambodia in March 2016 provided training in the Stop Ivory protocol to 10 FA staff members and 9 Customs officials from Phnom Penh and Siem Reap Provinces. The remaining FA-held ivory cannot be inventoried until the court cases have been completed.

### **Future outlook**

We planned within the next 6-9 months to further develop collaborative efforts between Vietnam and Cambodia to strengthening the wildlife smuggling enforcement.

Implementation of activity 4.1, 5.1 and 6.1 has been substantially achieved. We may continue inventorying and managing ivory seizures in Cambodia, pending cases from courts that not get final verdicts and collaboration with the General Department of Customs and Excise. We are waiting for the cases to be processed by the courts to Cooperate with the General Department of Customs and Excise to discuss the management of ivory seizures and conduct a complete ivory inventory.

We cannot take samples from Cambodia's only large-scale ivory seizure (in Sihanoukville) until the case has been processed by the court, we are following the progress of this case.

**PART B: Summary evaluation of actions (assigned progress ratings)**

CATEGORY/PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Substantially achieved	On track	Limited progress	Pending completion of another action	Not commenced	Unclear
1. [Legislation]			<p>1.1 Revise the Government Prakas (proclamation) No. 020 PR. MAFF on Classification and List of Wildlife Species, to include African elephants on the list of Endangered species*</p> <p>1.2 Issue a Ministerial proclamation on the management of ivory seizures*</p>			
2. [Enforcement]			<p>2.1 Establish a specialised Wildlife Crime Investigation unit within the FA to focus on combating illegal trade and trafficking of wildlife from within and outside of Cambodia*</p> <p>2.2 Determine ways in which inter-agency cooperation could be increased to combat wildlife crime</p> <p>2.4 Establish a system for management of ivory seizures*</p> <p>2.5 Increase cooperation with other countries on wildlife crime investigations and enforcement operations*</p>		2.3 Enhance awareness and capacity of Customs and other relevant agencies of wildlife trafficking *	
3. [Judiciary and prosecutions]			3.2 Increase the capacity of FA officials in wildlife crime investigations to help increase the rate of prosecutions for wildlife crime*		3.1 Increase awareness of the seriousness of wildlife crime amongst prosecutors and judiciary*	

CATEGORY/PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Substantially achieved	On track	Limited progress	Pending completion of another action	Not commenced	Unclear
4. [Drivers and Prevention]	4.1 Develop a national conservation action plan to conserve elephants in Cambodia, including anti-poaching and anti-trafficking efforts*					
5. [Data reporting and analysis]	5.1 Regular reporting and information sharing with relevant agencies				5.2 Explore sharing of intelligence related to wildlife crimes through international mechanisms	
6. Other	6.1 Explore implementation of the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit in Cambodia					

## **PART C: Detailed evaluation of actions**

<b>ACTION</b>	<b>EVALUATION</b>	<b>SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)</b>
<b><i>CATEGORY 1: [Legislation]</i></b>		
1.1 [Revise the Government Prakas (proclamation) No. 020 PR. MAFF on Classification and List of Wildlife Species, to include African elephants on the list of Endangered species*]	<b>[Limited progress]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the previous period consultations were held within FA and drafting of the Prakas had begun but during this period there have been large-scale jurisdictional changes between the Ministry of Environment (MOE) and Forestry Administration. The MOE are undertaking a review of all environmental legislation and developing a new Environmental Code, which includes a plan to develop new legislation to replace the Forestry Law, so we need to participate in this process rather than revise Prakas No 020 of MAFF, before this action can be completed. It is anticipated that a full draft of the Environmental Code will be completed by the end of 2016.</li> </ul>
1.2 [Issue a Ministerial proclamation on the management of ivory seizures]	<b>[Limited progress]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FA decided to use the Stop Ivory protocol for inventorying and managing ivory seizures</li> <li>We invited Stop Ivory to come to Cambodia in March 2016, training in the Stop Ivory protocol was provided to 10 FA staff members and 9 Customs officials from Phnom Penh and Siem Reap Provinces</li> <li>A partial inventory of FA held ivory was completed in Siem Reap in March 2016. The remaining FA-held ivory cannot be inventoried until the court cases have been completed.</li> <li>The next step is to draft a Ministerial Prakas on the management of ivory seizures and coordinate with Customs.</li> </ul>
<b><i>CATEGORY 2: [Name]</i></b>		
2.1 [Establish a specialized Wildlife Crime Investigation unit within the FA to focus on combating illegal trade and trafficking of wildlife from within and outside of Cambodia]	<b>[Limited progress]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very little progress has been made on this due to the jurisdictional changes between MOE and the Forestry Administration and the possible changes to FA responsibilities (and to the Forestry Law) regarding illegal trade and trafficking of wildlife. We will continue to progress this action if appropriate, once the jurisdictional changes are clear and have been finalized.</li> </ul>
2.2 [Determine ways in which inter-agency cooperation could be increased to combat wildlife crime]	<b>[Limited progress]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In February 2017 FA met with the Director General of Customs to request their cooperation on management of ivory seizures.</li> <li>No formal agreement has yet been developed</li> </ul>
2.3 [Enhance awareness and	<b>[Not commenced]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aside from the training of 9 Customs officers in the Stop Ivory inventory method, no implementation has been made to</li> </ul>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i> )
capacity of Customs and other relevant agencies of wildlife trafficking]		<p>date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No funding currently available for this activity</li> </ul>
2.4 [Establish a system for management of ivory seizures]	<b>[Limited progress]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We used the Stop Ivory protocol for conducting the first partial inventory of government-held ivory in Seam Reap province</li> <li>We are waiting for the cases to be processed by the courts to Cooperate with the General Department of Customs and Excise to discuss the management of ivory seizures and conduct a complete ivory inventory</li> <li>The Royal University of Phnom Penh will be able to conduct genetic analysis to identify the species of elephant ivory, but for the origin of ivory we will need to send ivory samples abroad for forensic analysis</li> <li>We cannot take samples from Cambodia's only large-scale ivory seizure (in Sihanoukville) until the case has been processed by the court, we are following the progress of this case</li> </ul>
2.5 [Increase cooperation with other countries on wildlife crime investigations and enforcement operations]	<b>[Limited progress]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Another meeting is planned within the next 6-9 months to further develop collaborative efforts between Vietnam and Cambodia</li> </ul>
<b>CATEGORY 3: [Name]</b>		
3.1 [Increase awareness of the seriousness of wildlife crime amongst prosecutors and judiciary*]	<b>[Not commenced]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No implementation to date but we have begun planning this activity.</li> </ul>
3.2 [Increase the capacity of FA officials in wildlife crime investigations to help increase the rate of prosecutions for wildlife crime]	<b>[Limited progress]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training has been provided to 14 FA rangers in patrolling and anti-poaching, including collecting evidence, judicial procedures and presenting cases to the court in January 2016</li> <li>Limited funding has prevented much progress on this issue</li> </ul>
<b>CATEGORY 4: [name]</b>		
4.1[Develop a national conservation action plan	<b>[SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local level consultations with relevant stakeholders have been held</li> </ul>

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i> )
to conserve elephants in Cambodia, including anti-poaching and anti-trafficking efforts]		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The national action plan has been drafted and national level consultations have been held</li> <li><i>The next step is to finalise the action plan and submit it to the ministries for approval</i></li> </ul>
<b>CATEGORY 5: [name]</b>		
5.1 [Regular reporting and information sharing with relevant agencies]	<b>[Substantially achieved]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reports are completed and submitted as required</li> </ul>
5.2 [Explore sharing of intelligence related to wildlife crimes through international mechanisms]	<b>[Not commenced]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No progress to date. Implementation is not due to begin until November 2016.</li> </ul>
<b>CATEGORY 6: OTHER</b>		
6.1 Explore implementation of the ICCWC Wildlife and Forest Crime Analytic Toolkit in Cambodia	<b>[SUBSTANTIALLY ACHIEVED]</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Ivory action Plan has already committed the Forestry Administration to implement several of these measures by the end of 2017, including changes to or new legislation, enhancement of enforcement capacity and inter-agency coordination, raised awareness of the prosecution and judiciary of the seriousness of wildlife and forest crime, and strengthened information sharing between agencies and countries. We therefore do not at the present see the need to implement the toolkit in Cambodia.</li> </ul>