



Permanent Mission of Germany
to the United Nations
New York



Permanent Mission
of the Gabonese Republic
to the United Nations
New York



INVITATION – Side event to World Wildlife Day

We cordially invite Permanent Representatives, delegates, and other colleagues to an open event highlighting the range of ongoing international action against Illicit Wildlife Trafficking (IWT), and discussing ways to further incorporate outcomes from the IWT conferences into global and regional frameworks and national implementation efforts, including through future work at the UN:

Illicit Wildlife Trafficking: Bringing Together the Global Response

Co-sponsored by Botswana, the United Kingdom, Vietnam, Thailand, Germany, and Gabon, in co-operation with the Wildlife Conservation Society, UNODC and CITES

3 March 2017, 1.15–2.30pm, UN Conference Room 7

SPEAKERS

H.E Ambassador Peter Wilson, UK Deputy Permanent Representative (Chargé)

Outcomes from the IWT conferences, challenges and priorities looking ahead to London 2018

Christian Samper, President and CEO, Wildlife Conservation Society

Moderator's opening statement

H.E Ambassador Nguyen Phong Nga, Permanent Representative of Vietnam

Eradicating the Market for Illegal Wildlife Products

H.E Ambassador Charles Ntwaagae Permanent Representative of Botswana

Sustainable Livelihoods and Economic Development

John Scanlon, CITES CEO

Ensuring Effective Legal Frameworks and Deterrents

Jorge Rios, Chief of Global Programme on Wildlife and Forest Crime, UNODC (TBC)

Strengthening Law Enforcement

H.E. Mrs. Chulamane Chartsuwan, Deputy Permanent Representative of Thailand

Improving legislation and law enforcement at national level: lessons learned

H.E Ambassador Jurgen Shulz, Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany and H.E Ambassador Baudelaire Ndong Ella, Permanent Representative of Gabon (TBC)

Summary of discussions, including outstanding global, regional and national frameworks and the way forward

CONCEPT NOTE

The aim for this event is to bring together the range of ongoing international action against Illegal Wildlife Trading (IWT), and discuss ways to continue to incorporate and synthesize outcomes from the three IWT conferences into global and regional frameworks and national implementation efforts, including through future work at the UN.

The International IWT conferences were held in London, February 2014; Kasane, March 2015; and Hanoi November 2016. They have driven IWT up the international agenda and catalyzed global action on the issue. The next conference is scheduled to be held in London in 2018.

During this time we have also witnessed the inclusion of specific wildlife crime targets in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the first ever General Assembly resolution(s) on IWT and a historic set of CITES CoP resolutions to further protect a number of highly threatened marine and land species

Through the landmark General Assembly resolutions, member states agreed to make trafficking in protected species involving organized criminal groups a serious crime under national and international law; ratify international conventions related to trade in endangered species, transnational crime, and local corruption; and develop sustainable livelihoods for communities affected by wildlife trafficking. The resolutions recognize that illegal trafficking undermines good governance and the rule of law and, in some cases, threatens national stability and requires enhanced regional cooperation and coordination in response.

The outcomes of the IWT conferences and General Assembly resolutions, together with the vision and relevant targets in the SDGs and the CITES CoP resolutions represent a new international consensus for action to combat the scourge of wildlife crime in recognition of its devastating social, economic and environmental impacts.

The Hanoi Conference called for enhanced and rigorous implementation of this broad set of global agreements as a matter of high priority.

Panelists will discuss how the outcomes of the IWT conferences can be aligned with the implementation of the SDGs, General Assembly and CITES resolutions, to move forward the global response and address ongoing challenges. The reflections from stakeholders can inform other World Wildlife Day events, and contribute to discussions by member states of a third General Assembly resolution on Illegal Wildlife Trafficking.

Please RSVP to max.dixon@fco.gov.uk

NON UN BADGE HOLDERS: Contact max.dixon@fco.gov.uk no later than Tuesday 28 February to register for event tickets and receive instructions on the rendezvous point outside of UNHQ