



CITES NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Prepared as requested by the 69th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee

Party: MALAYSIA

Reporting period: 1 September 2017 – 30 June 2018

PART A: Synopsis of NIAP implementation

Malaysia has been implementing the National Ivory Action Plan (NIAP) since September 2013, when it was first introduced in the 63rd and 64th Standing Committee meetings in Bangkok on 2nd and 14th March 2013.

Subsequently, based on the current circumstance resulted from previous CITES' 17th Conference of Parties and 69th Meeting of Standing Committee, Malaysia has revised our NIAP. The 11 actions developed and outlined in the revised NIAP are focused on programmes which are aimed to deter the illegal wildlife traders from continuing using Malaysia as the main transit route. Malaysia appreciates the assistance and guidance received from the Secretariat during the process of developing the revised NIAP.

To firmly stating our position, Malaysia would like to reiterate that it does not have a domestic industry or market for ivory product but implicated in the illegal trade of ivory as transit country. In the year 2017, enforcement activities by the Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD) in curbing the threat of illegal ivory consignments going through Malaysian ports resulted in confiscation of 4,000kg of ivory. The Department of Wildlife and National Park (DWNP) in collaboration with other enforcement agencies throughout the period had intensified measures to combat the illegal ivory trade at all entry and exit points nationwide, including intelligence sharing, setting up roadblocks and conducting joint operations.

Overall, Malaysia had substantially achieved the milestones set out in the NIAP and is on track to improve the legislations and regulations (stronger penalties) and developing specific national level risk profiles and indicators to combat wildlife trafficking. Malaysia is committed to ensure the successful implementation of the NIAP and appreciates the continuous support from CITES Secretariat and other partners.

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

PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Achieved	Substantially achieved	On track	Partial progress	Pending completion of another action	Not commenced
1. Legislation and regulations			1.1 Revise the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 (Act 716) to deter ivory trafficking and illegal wildlife trade through strong penalties, including custodial sentences.			
			1.2 Conduct a review of wildlife crime cases before court to identify measures to improve successful prosecution rate.			
2. National level enforcement action and inter-agency collaboration		2.1 Various collaboration among enforcement agencies conducted				
	2.2 Conduct capacity building activities for enforcement agencies in combating wildlife crime					
		2.3 Plan and initiate at least five joint national intelligence driven wildlife crime operations targeting places most affected by or used for wildlife crime, particularly at protected areas and border points				
			2.4 Develop country specific national level risk profiles and indicators to combat wildlife trafficking, in particular ivory trafficking			

PILLAR	PROGRESS RATING					
	Achieved	Substantially achieved	On track	Partial progress	Pending completion of another action	Not commenced
3. International and regional enforcement collaboration	3.1 Participate in regional and international program to improve networking, intelligence sharing and joint enforcement collaboration in dealing with wildlife crime					
		3.2 Establish record of DNA samples of wildlife seizures by National Wildlife Forensic Laboratory for further analysis				
4. Outreach, public awareness and education		4.1 Increase public awareness on activities related to enforcement of wildlife crime				
5. Reporting		5.1 Initiate stock-count process and complete an inventory of national ivory stockpiles using an appropriate inventory protocol, to facilitate reporting on ivory stockpiles in accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) para. 6 e).				
		5.2 Develop and put in place a mechanism to ensure prompt reporting of all ivory seizures to ETIS as required by Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP17), Annex 1, para. 4.				

PART C: Detailed evaluation of actions

ACTION	EVALUATION	SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)																
PILLAR 1: Legislation and regulations																		
1.1 Revise the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 (Act 716) to deter ivory trafficking and illegal wildlife trade through strong penalties, including custodial sentences	Penalty for ivory trafficking is an administrative fine not less than MYR50,000 and not exceeding MYR500,000 or to imprisonment for a term not less than three years or both	On track	<p>To deter illegal trade of elephant specimens, DWNP is in the midst to amend the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 (Act 716), whereby elephants classified as Totally Protected under this Act. Stringent penalty will be introduced to discourage smuggler from using Malaysia as transit hub for illegal ivory trade. (See Annex 1)</p> <table><tr><th>Type of offence</th><th>Current regulation</th><th>Amendment proposed</th></tr><tr><td>Import/export/re-export without special permit:</td><td>Fine between MYR30,000 and MYR100,000 AND jail term not exceeding 3 years.</td><td>Fine MYR20,000 for every specimen seized OR fine between MYR500,000 and MYR1 million AND jail term not less than 4 years.</td></tr><tr><td>Use of elephant specimens without special permit</td><td>Fine not more than MYR100,000 AND jail term not exceeding 3 years or both.</td><td>Fine between MYR50,000 and MYR500,000 OR jail term not less than 3 years OR both.</td></tr><tr><td>General offence</td><td>Fine not exceeding MYR10,000 OR jail term not exceeding 1 year OR both.</td><td>Fine not exceeding MYR50,000 OR jail term not exceeding 3 years OR both.</td></tr><tr><td>Online promoting for illegal wildlife trade</td><td>None</td><td>Fine not less than MYR30,000 up to MYR100,000 OR jail term not less than 3 years OR both (For person). Fine between MYR50,000 and MYR100,000 (for body corporate).</td></tr></table>	Type of offence	Current regulation	Amendment proposed	Import/export/re-export without special permit:	Fine between MYR30,000 and MYR100,000 AND jail term not exceeding 3 years.	Fine MYR20,000 for every specimen seized OR fine between MYR500,000 and MYR1 million AND jail term not less than 4 years.	Use of elephant specimens without special permit	Fine not more than MYR100,000 AND jail term not exceeding 3 years or both.	Fine between MYR50,000 and MYR500,000 OR jail term not less than 3 years OR both.	General offence	Fine not exceeding MYR10,000 OR jail term not exceeding 1 year OR both.	Fine not exceeding MYR50,000 OR jail term not exceeding 3 years OR both.	Online promoting for illegal wildlife trade	None	Fine not less than MYR30,000 up to MYR100,000 OR jail term not less than 3 years OR both (For person). Fine between MYR50,000 and MYR100,000 (for body corporate).
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5.2 Conduct a review of wildlife crime cases before court to identify measures to improve successful prosecution rate	5% increase in successful prosecution case over 18 months	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A workshop on prosecution wildlife cases “Justice for Silent Victims Countering Wildlife Crime in Malaysia Trial Advocacy Program (Part 3)” was conducted in collaboration with Court of Appeal Judges of Malaysia, U.S Department of Justice, U.S Embassy, Deputy Public Prosecutors, DWNP prosecuting officer and local NGOs (September 2017)Justice For Silent Victims (Part 4) : Trial advocacy training for DWNP prosecuting officers in collaboration with Department of Justice U.S, U.S Embassy and local NGOs (February 2018)															

ACTION	EVALUATION		SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and comments)
PILLAR 2: National level enforcement action and inter-agency collaboration			
2.1 Various collaboration among enforcement agencies conducted	Standard Operating Procedures for wildlife crime established	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the investigation of wildlife crime and management of wildlife seizure drafted on November 2017. The SOP was tabled at the Malaysian Wildlife Enforcement Network Meeting on March 2018 for consultation with relevant enforcement agencies. Special Meeting with the RMCD conducted on May 2018 to coordinate the investigation and prosecution of wildlife trafficking cases and handling of wildlife seizures.
2.2 Conduct capacity building activities for enforcement agencies in combating wildlife crime	At least four capacity building activities held to strengthen enforcement officers' capacity in enforcement of wildlife trafficking	Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination meeting with Management and Scientific Authorities on January 2018 for the budgeting and implementation of capacity building programs for year 2018. Various training activities to strengthen capacity in enforcement of wildlife trafficking were conducted throughout the period which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic Forensic Science Fingerprint Identification & Development Course (September 2017) i2 IBase Designer, User and ANB Training Session (November 2017) Executive Talk: Combating Wildlife and Forestry Crime 2017 at Bangi, Selangor (November 2017) Introduction to CITES Policy and International Trade of Wildlife for enforcement officers of various agencies at Kuala Lumpur International Airport (January 2018). Training on Marine CSI, conducted by US Fish and Wildlife Services, participated by enforcement agencies that mostly base in Kota Kinabalu among others Marine Police, Sabah Parks, Sabah Fishery Department and Sabah Wildlife Department (SWD) (February 2018) Training on 'Crime Scene Investigation and Management For Front Line Enforcement Officers', conducted by United Nation on Drugs Crime, participated by enforcement agencies, among others SWD, RMCD Sabah, and Royal Malaysia Police (RMP) (March 2018) Introduction to Intelligence Profiling & Analysis Wildlife Crime Report System (iPAW) course (5 sessions were conducted in March 2018 & April 2018)
2.3 Plan and initiate at least five joint national intelligence driven wildlife crime operations targeting places most	Law enforcement activities are strategically targeted towards the places at national level that are most affected by or used for wildlife crime.	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Malaysian Wildlife Enforcement Network Meeting conducted on March 2018 and discussed enforcement activities with relevant enforcement agencies. Special Meeting with the Royal Malaysian Customs Department conducted on May 2018 to coordinate the investigation of wildlife trafficking cases. DWNP collaborate with RMCD in investigations of ivory seizure cases. Both agencies working together in investigation of 7 ivory seizure cases between June 2016 and August 2017. Joint patrols between DWNP, RMP and Malaysian Armed Forces at protected areas were conducted on monthly basis with 11 operations between September 2017 and July 2018 to deter poaching and wildlife trafficking activities. The operations resulted in arrestment of illegal poachers and seizure of various wildlife

ACTION	EVALUATION		SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
affected by or used for wildlife crime, particularly at protected areas and border points			<p>species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24 Enforcement operations conducted at targeted areas by DWNP in collaboration with Marine Enforcement Agency and Malaysia Border Control Agency between September 2017 and July 2018
2.4 Develop country specific national level risk profiles and indicators to combat wildlife trafficking, in particular ivory trafficking	A set of country specific risk profiles and indicators to combat wildlife crime and ivory trafficking are in place and regularly updated as needed	On track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Meeting with the Royal Malaysian Customs Department conducted on May 2018 to coordinate the investigation of wildlife trafficking cases
PILLAR 3: International and regional enforcement collaboration			
3.1 Participate in regional and international program to improve networking, intelligence sharing and joint enforcement collaboration in dealing with wildlife crime	At least participate in two international/regional wildlife enforcement programs.	Achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in the 4th Regional Dialogue on Combating Trafficking of Wild Fauna and Flora at Bangkok, Thailand, 11-15 September 2017 Participated in the 28th Crime Working Group Meeting organized by Interpol from 9-13 October 2017 in Singapore Joined Wildlife Inter - Regional Enforcement Meeting for Customs Officers at Hanoi, Vietnam, 16-18 October 2017 Interpol International and PERHILITAN successfully conducted Regional Investigative Support Meeting from 12 to 15 March 2018 in Kuala Lumpur which serves as a discussion platform to collaborate in investigation and combating transnational organized crime. Participants are from Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Lao PDR, India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Bhutan. WCO/IATA Illicit Wildlife Trade (IWT) Assessment 2017-2018 Meeting on 8th March 2018 at KLIA. Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT): Understanding the Malaysian perspective in the global illicit trade organized by British High Commission, Kuala Lumpur on 6-7 March 2018. Malaysia and Wildlife Conservation Society hosted the Tri-Lateral Workshop between Malaysia, Lao PDR and Thailand on Enforcement Modus Operandi in 5-7 March 2018. The workshop was supported by the US Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs which promoted intelligence sharing mechanisms and conduct case reviews between the countries

ACTION	EVALUATION		SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participated in the 14th ASEAN Working Group on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement (AWG CITES & WE) held in Luang Prabang, Lao PDR on 20th – 22nd March 2018 and subsequently the 1st Meeting of the SOMTC Working Group on Illicit Wildlife and Timber Trafficking organized by UNODC at Bangkok, Thailand on 29-30 March 2018. Organized WCO INAMA Program : Regional Train-the-Trainer event on Illegal Wildlife Trade at Royal Malaysian Customs Academy (AKMAL) Melaka from 9 to 19 April 2018. The workshop was attended by 20 participants from the Asia/Pacific region. Participated in the Meeting Of Representatives Of Parties Concerned With The Development And Implementation Of National Ivory Action Plans at Maputo, Mozambique, on 1-4 May 2018 Participated in the INTERPOL & WCO led Operation Thunderstorm, May 2018 Participated in Counter-Transnational Organized Crime (C-TOC) Course at Hua Hin, Thailand on 25 June-1 July 2018.
3.2 Establish record of DNA samples of wildlife seizures by National Wildlife Forensic Laboratory for further analysis	Wildlife seizures sampled for DNA analysis collected for high-profile cases	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Meeting with the RMCD conducted on May 2018 to coordinate the investigation and management of ivory seizures. National Wildlife Forensic Lab in DWNP had received certification from Malaysia Book of Records as a lab equipped with the highest collection of wildlife biomaterial for references in Malaysia. Had started international collaboration, for instance in processing ivory samples from Hong Kong case and rhino horn from Lao PDR case to assist in investigations. Collaboration in development of wildlife forensic with TRACE Wildlife Forensics Network, UK DNA sampling of ivory seized on 29 August 2017 deposited in the National Wildlife Forensic Lab in DWNP. (See Annex 2a and 2b) Collaboration with Center from Conservation Biology, University of Washington in analysis and investigation of seized ivory DNA samples.
PILLAR 4: Outreach, public awareness and education			
4.1 Increase public awareness on activities related to enforcement of wildlife crime	All major seizures and wildlife crime enforcement activities reported in the media	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife crime enforcement activities were reported in mainstream and social media. (See Annex 3a and 3b) Anti-Human and Wildlife Trafficking Campaign hosted by Malaysia Airport Berhad (MAB) at KLIA Sepang, Selangor, 15-17 November 2017 Bunting banner placed at strategic locations within Kuala Lumpur International Airport to raise public awareness on wildlife crime. Launching of Anti-Snares Year Program 2018 in conjunction with World Wildlife Day 2018 celebration at Tangkak, Johor. As of July 2018, 191 anti-snare operations were conducted by PERHILITAN with the

ACTION	EVALUATION		SUMMARY OF PROGRESS (and <i>comments</i>)
			achievements of 649 snares have been destroyed. (See Annex 4a and 4b)
PILLAR 5: Reporting			
5.1 Initiate stock-count process and complete an inventory of national ivory stockpiles using an appropriate inventory protocol, to facilitate reporting on ivory stockpiles in accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) para. 6 e).	Ivory stockpile inventory and management practices in place and reporting in accordance with the provisions of Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP17) para. 6 e) promptly done on an annual basis.	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special Meeting with the Royal Malaysian Customs Department conducted on May 2018 to coordinate the investigation and management of ivory seizures. • All government-held ivory stockpiles in are marked with indelible ink on both ends of each raw ivory. Additional info also written on these ivories using specific format. All stockpiles are well-recorded and kept in vaults.
5.2 Develop and put in place a mechanism to ensure prompt reporting of all ivory seizures to ETIS as required by Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. CoP17), Annex 1, para. 4.	100 % reporting to ETIS on ivory seizures.	Substantially achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the investigation of wildlife crime and management of wildlife seizure drafted on November 2017. The SOP was tabled at the Malaysian Wildlife Enforcement Network Meeting on March 2018 for consultation with relevant enforcement agencies. • Special Meeting with the Royal Malaysian Customs Department conducted on May 2018 to coordinate the investigation and prosecution of wildlife trafficking cases and handling of wildlife seizures. • Currently, all ivory seizures had been reported through ETIS.

Part D: Annex (supporting information) (OPTIONAL)

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ACT 2010

Amendment vital to curb wildlife poaching, says Lam Thye

KUALA LUMPUR: Animal rights activist Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye has called on the government to introduce a more stringent law to curb wildlife poaching.

Lee said poachers were using cruel methods to trap and capture endangered animals, stressed that there was a need for the government to amend the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010.

He said the amendment should include a mandatory jail term not just for those who were found guilty, but for those who possessed carcasses of wild animals.

"Although the Wildlife Conservation Act, which was passed in 2010 to replace the Wildlife Protection Act 1972, is tough on law breakers, some quarters have claimed that it is not deterrent enough.

"It is learnt that the Wildlife and National Parks Department (Perhilitan) had proposed the amendment to the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 so that poachers will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

"It will provide harsher punishment, while a minimum period of imprisonment will be introduced."

He urged the authorities to be proactive in their efforts to curb the sale and purchase of endangered animals through effective national and international legislation and enforcement, including the implementation of the latest technology.

"I hope that the enforcement agencies can strengthen their cooperation to cripple poaching syndicates.

"The agencies involved must use the latest technology, including drones, remote sensing and camera trapping.

"Greater public awareness, better law enforcement and stronger political will are needed to not only prevent illegal wildlife trade but also to avoid over-exploitation of natural resources."

Lee, however, stressed that protecting the wildlife was not the responsibility of the enforcement agencies alone but required collaboration from various parties, including non-governmental organisations, the government, corporate stakeholders and local communities.

"Animal cruelty must not be tolerated and we need to care for all them as they also have the right to live and share this planet."

He urged Malaysians to play an active role by reporting wildlife-related crimes to the Perhilitan hotline at 1-800-88-3151 (office hours) or the 24-hour Wildlife Crime Hotline at 0193564194.

The *New Straits Times* reported on Friday that a group of Vietnamese poachers who were detained in Kuala Lipis on July 4 were found to have been gaining lucrative returns by harvesting wildlife parts.

Wildlife parts, including bear teeth and claws, python skins, a serow's tail, wild boar tooth, as well as parts of tigers and clouded leopards were seized from the premises where the poachers were found.



Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye

Annex 1: New Straits Times – 14.07.2018



Annex 2a: DNA sampling process – matching and selecting



Annex 2b: DNA sampling process – sample collection

Wildlife smuggling syndicate crippled

JOHOR BARU: Police have crippled a syndicate which acted as middlemen and traded in protected wildlife for medical purposes in foreign countries. Federal police Internal Security and Public Order Department director Datuk Seri Zulkifli Abdullah said police and Department of Wildlife and National Parks Peninsular Malaysia (Perhilitan) confiscated butchered parts of tigers and other protected animals with a total street value of RM1 million in two raids in Pasir Gudang on July 12. Five local men, aged 29 to 72, were arrested in the raids at two houses in Masai and Johor Jaya. Zulkifli said all the animals were believed to have come from Indonesia, and police suspect the syndicate might have used illegal

water ways to smuggle the cargo into Malaysia.

Investigations showed that the syndicate was using Malaysia as a transit point, and planned to smuggle the items to a third country.

"We need more details to identify the destination," he said at the Seri Alam police station yesterday.

Police believe the syndicate has been active since 2010. Also present were Johor police chief Datuk Mohd Khalil Kader Mohd and Johor Wildlife director Jamahun Nasir Ibrahim.

The case will be investigated under Section 68 of the Wildlife Protection Act 2010 which carries a fine between RM100,000 and RM500,000, and a jail term of up to five years.



LOW SOCK KEN/
THESUN

From left:
Mohd Khalil,
Zulkifli and
Jamahun Nasir
inspecting the
seized items.

Annex 3a: The Sun – 15.07.2018



Annex 3b: RMCD officers with ivory and pangolin scale seized on 29 August 2017

150 SPECIES RESCUED IN 2016, 2017

Ministry committed to protecting country's biodiversity, says Wan Junaidi

BADRUL KAMAL ZAKARIA
AND HAI ROZZAMAN JALAL
TANGKAK
news@nst.com.my

THE Wildlife and National Parks Department (Perhilitan) rescued 150 wildlife species between 2016 and last year.

It also destroyed more than 2,000 snares in 630 operations from 2013 to last year.

Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar said the ministry, through Perhilitan, was committed to preserving wildlife in Peninsular Malaysia to protect the country's biodiversity.

This, he said, was in accordance with National Transformation 2050, through which Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak had stressed the importance of preserving the environment to ensure that the country's wildlife did not go extinct by 2050.



Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar (left) launching the World Wildlife Day 2018 celebration in Tangkak, Johor, yesterday. With him is his deputy, Datuk Hamim Samuri (second from left). PIC BY ADI SAFRI

"In line with the theme of World Wildlife Day, 'Big Cats: Predator Under Threat', we are focusing on the threat posed to the big cats, including lions, tigers, panthers, pumas, jaguars, leopards and cheetahs.

"Their population has declined at an alarming rate due to loss of habitat, human-wildlife conflict, illegal poaching and trade.

"Among the species under

threat in Malaysia is the Malayan tiger. Its population is estimated to be between 250 and 340 in Peninsular Malaysia."

Wan Junaidi was speaking at the launch of the World Wildlife Day 2018 celebration and the launch of the Sungai Kesang rehabilitation project in Dataran Ledang here yesterday.

Present were his deputy, Datuk Hamim Samuri, ministry deputy

secretary-general (Environment Management) Datuk Dr Azimuddin Bahari and Perhilitan director-general Datuk Abdul Kadir Hashim.

Wan Junaidi said hunting, in particular the use of snares, was one of the major cause of extinction.

He said snares, besides being cruel and inhumane, could harm humans.

"Statistics from 2015 to 2017 show that 25 animals died due to snares. Among them are Malayan tigers, leopards, elephants, tapir, mountain goats and deer. This causes a food chain disruption.

"We have declared 2018 as the year of battling the use of snares. This campaign is being undertaken via the Blue Ocean Strategy through operations with enforcement agencies."

Annex 4a: New Straits Times – 02.04.2018

12 | NEWS / Nation

EERIE IMAGES ON CAMERA TRAPS

POACHERS USING BRUTAL METHOD

Pahang Perhilitan discovers horrific injuries on animals caught in snares set by foreigners

T.N. ALAGESH
AND AMIN RIDZUAN ISHAK
KUANTAN
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AN elephant calf captured with a wire snare around its wounded leg, a three-legged leopard roaming for food and a tapir with maggot-infested wounds on its neck.

These are the horrific injuries sustained by wild and endangered animals caught in wire snares laid out by poachers in the jungles of Pahang.

This brutal method adopted by poachers, who are foreigners, inflict slow but painful deaths on endangered species, including tapir, sun bear and leopard, if the animals fail to receive treatment.

State Wildlife and National Parks Department (Perhilitan) director Ahmad Azhar Mohammed said animals crossing a path laden with traps would definitely get injuries to the leg and neck.

He said camera traps set up by Perhilitan in selected jungles here had captured "eerie" images of injured animals.

Some had bloody wounds, while some were missing legs.

"There were three-legged sun bears and leopards who lost their legs due to wire snares.

"There was also a tapir with a



Pahang Perhilitan director Ahmad Azhar Mohammed (right) showing a sample of a wire snare used by foreign poachers. PIX COURTESY OF PERHILITAN

snare around its neck, causing deep wounds. (The Tapir was rescued by Perhilitan.)

"Failure to receive immediate or proper treatment can lead to their deaths.

"If the wounds fail to recover (wild animals lick their wounds) or Perhilitan fails to track down the injured animals, then the animals could face slow deaths as they cannot move around to hunt for food," he told the New Straits Times Press.

Azhar said Perhilitan rangers had tracked down the widespread

use of wire snares in jungles here and, surprisingly, the culprits were not locals.

"The Orang Asli said they never laid such traps and did not know of such techniques.

"We suspect foreign poachers, including those from Vietnam, Thailand and Cambodia, are behind these traps, which are more painful as they catch the animals by their necks or heads.

"In most cases, the snares are meant to trap wild boars. But, other animals end up getting caught.

"These homemade wire snares inflict terrible injuries that cause extreme pain."

He said Perhilitan had begun an operation to track down and de-

stroy snares laid out by poachers.

"2018 has been declared as the year against snares ('Tahun Perangi Jerat') and Perhilitan will cooperate with other agencies, including non-governmental organisations and the Orang Asli, who have information on the routes and areas targeted by poachers.

"We want to raise awareness about the dangers of using snares."

He said the use of snares was a criminal act under the Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 (Act 716), and if found guilty, one is liable to a fine of not less than RM50,000 and not more than RM100,000, or a maximum of two years' imprisonment.

Annex 4b: New Straits Times – 19.06.2018



KEMENTERIAN AIR, TANAH DAN SUMBER ASLI
(Ministry of Water, Land and Natural Resources)
BAHAGIAN PENGURUSAN BIODIVERSITI DAN PERHUTANAN
(Biodiversity and Forestry Management Division)
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Our Ref.: KATS 600-2/17/21 (24)

Date : 3 August 2018

CITES Secretariat
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SWITZERLAND
(johannes.stahl@cites.org & info@cites.org)

Dear Sir,

MALAYSIA NATIONAL IVORY ACTION PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

May I respectfully refer to your letter dated 22 June 2018 regarding the above.

I am pleased to submit herewith Malaysia National Ivory Action Progress Report for the period of 1 September 2017 until 30 June 2018 for your kind perusal.

Apologies for the delay of this submission due to the restructuring of the new government of Malaysia. Please contact us at CITESMalaysia@kats.gov.my should you need further clarification.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(DR. MEGAT SANY BIN MEGAT AHMAD SUPIAN)
National Focal Point of CITES/Malaysia
Under Secretary
Biodiversity and Forestry Management Division
for the Secretary General
Ministry of Water, Land and Natural Resources
Malaysia

c.c.:

Dato' Dr. Secretary General
Dato' Deputy Secretary General (Natural Resources)
Enforcement Authorities