



ILLEGAL TRAFFICKING OF ANIMALS - INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT INDUSTRY COMMITMENTS

ICS is a signatory to a set of voluntary 'commitments' aimed at representatives of the international transport industry, concerning 'zero tolerance' with respect to the illegal trafficking of wild animals. Members, who are not already signatories are encouraged to consider signing these voluntary commitments themselves and to encourage their member shipping companies to do likewise.

United for Wildlife was created by The Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry. HRH Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, is the patron and leads the campaign. The campaign is a collaboration of seven conservation organisations and unites them under a common purpose: to create a global movement for change.

Whilst animals continue to be killed by criminals, whilst whole species are poached to extinction, the campaign joins together to ask one simple question: Whose side are you on? These issues are having a devastating effect on wild populations of some of the largest and most iconic species like elephants, rhinos and tigers, as well as lesser known species such as the pangolin.

These are United for Wildlife commitments:

- Better On-Site Protection for wildlife
- Reduce demand for illegal wildlife products
- Improve law enforcement
- Work with the private sector to reduce trafficking
- Engage young people with conservation

One aspect of this work has been the establishment of the Wildlife Transport Taskforce to encourage the transport sector to examine its role in the illegal wildlife trade, with the aim of subsequently identifying means by which the sector can break these trade chains.

Signatories involved in international transportation (airlines, shipping companies and express parcel carriers etc.) agree to some general 'commitments' concerning zero tolerance with respect to the illegal trafficking of wild animals. Current signatories include senior industry representatives from aviation and shipping, plus relevant UN agencies, such as IMO and the World Customs Organization (WCO).

The taskforce commitments are general recommendations, encouraging a willingness to help spread awareness of the issue throughout industry (and the development of solutions by agencies such as WCO), are not binding and should not place any onerous burdens on those organisations or companies that choose to sign.

A copy of the declaration and a link to the United for Wildlife website for more information is available on the ICS website.