

# Wildlife Law Enforcement Briefing

√ 2 traffickers arrested with 32 kg of elephant tusks in Côte d'Ivoire



## **Summary**

2 traffickers, including a Burkinabe, arrested with 32 kg of ivory in Côte d'Ivoire. The ivory, concealed in a rice sack, was trafficked from Liberia. The Burkina Faso national denounced the other trafficker for being a known big ivory trafficker. The traffickers took care to split the large ivory tusk in two and then concealed it in two big rice bags. One of the traffickers arrived the place of transaction first, was arrested and he quickly denounced the other.



### Cameroon – LAGA

- The Deputy Director held an online meeting with officials of the Environmental Investigation Agency on preparations for the forthcoming CITES meeting and the strengthening of collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Head of the Legal Department held a meeting with the Head of the National Control Brigade at the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Legal Team held meetings with several State Counsels to follow up cases pending at their various jurisdictions.
- The Deputy Director featured on documentary film: "Les heros de l'ombre" (Unsung Heroes) by the French cable TV channel Canal Plus, with an interview. The film is dedicated to Africans work-

ing in conservation and who are barely known. He discusses species extinction, wildlife conservation and law enforcement.



# Republic of the Congo – PALF

- The Coordinator held discussions with the Director General of Forestry, to discuss wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration.
- He held a meeting with the Director of the Zoological Park and they met with the Director General of Forestry to discuss wildlife law enforcement and strengthen collaboration.
- He held a meeting with the Project Manager of the International Academy for the Fight against Environmental Crime, on future collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime. The academy
- that shall be based in Brazzaville is going to be a regional centre carrying out training in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Legal Team held a meeting with Commander of the Niari Gendarmerie Region

# Togo – EAGLE Togo

- The Coordinator held a meeting with the Director of Forest Resources Inspection on the handling of cases of illegal trafficking in wildlife specimens.
- He held a meeting with CAAT (Airport anti-trafficking unit) agents at the airport cargo terminal to strengthen collaboration in the fight against illegal wildlife trafficking.
- He met with the Head of the Customs Brigade Section of the Airport Customs Operations Division to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.

# Senegal – EAGLE Senegal

- The Coordinator met with a delegation from the security service of the Embassy of the United States of America in Senegal to strengthen collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- The Legal Team held meetings with judicial officials of the Pikine Guédiawaye District and the Rufisque District Courts to establish smooth collaboration with the authorities.
- The team welcomed two new activists from the Guinea project to strengthen their operational abilities.

### Côte d'Ivoire – EAGLE Côte d'Ivoire

- 2 traffickers, including a Burkinabe, arrested with 32 kg of ivory. The ivory, concealed in a rice sack, was trafficked from Liberia. The Burkina Faso national denounced the other trafficker for being a known big ivory trafficker. The traffickers took care to split the large ivory tusk in two and then concealed it in two large rice bags. One of the traffickers arrived the place of transaction first, was arrested and he quickly denounced the other.
- The Interim Deputy Coordinator held a meeting with UCT officials to discuss operations related issues and to strengthening collaboration in the fight against wildlife crime.
- He met with the Technical Director of the OIPR (the Ivorian agency managing the national parks) and discussed strengthening collaboration in the fight against crime among other issues.





#### **Guinea - EAGLE Guinea**

- The Team followed up on the registration application filed with the National Department for the Regulation and Promotion of Association (DNAR-PROMA), attached to the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization.
- The Team held a meeting with an experienced examining judge of the Dixnn Court of First Instance to discuss issues related to wildlife law enforcement.
- They met with met with the Assistant State Counsel of the Dixnn court to discuss issues related to wildlife law enforcement in the area.

# **Uganda - EAGLE Uganda**

- 2 traffickers were sentenced to 11 months in prison. They were arrested in March 2021 with 28 kg of elephant tusks.
- The Interim Coordinator was hosted by the Kampala City Council Authority for a meeting with the District NGO Committee and they held an interactive session as a key requirement for the permit renewal process.
- Recruitment was intensified for positions in the investigation and legal departments.

#### THE EAGLE Network

EAGLE: Eco Activists for Governance and Law Enforcement, is a network of members across Africa, who are replicating effectively a program and operational model to undertake wildlife law enforcement, which is based on the LAGA-Cameroon model, trailed, practiced and tested since 2003. The EAGLE Network currently operates in nine African countries and keeps expanding.

The over-arching objective of the EAGLE Network is: Developing civic activism and collaborating with governments and civil society to improve the application of national and international environmental legislation, through a program of activities: investigations, arrests, prosecutions and publicity. Through this, EAGLE aims to generate a strong deterrent against the illegal trade in wildlife, timber and related criminal activities, including corruption.

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