

Global Tiger Summit Draft Declaration
Suggested Amendments from the SSN Big Cat Working Group

NB: The left column contains the original text with proposed changes. Text to be deleted is crossed out. Proposed new text is underlined.

ORIGINAL TEXT	SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS	EXPLANATION
Because it is our obligation to future generations, and because we must act now, we hereby declare the following		
1. Strive to double the number of wild tigers across their range by 2022.		
2. Do everything possible to effectively manage, preserve, protect, and enhance habitats, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in planning and development processes in tiger habitat; b) Making core tiger breeding habitats inviolate areas within the larger tiger conservation landscapes where no economic or commercial infrastructure development or other adverse activities are permitted; and maintaining the landscapes and creating corridors around and between them where all permitted development activities are tiger- and 		

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<p>biodiversity- compatible;</p> <p>c) Improving protection by using systematic patrolling to safeguard tigers, their prey, and habitats; and</p> <p>d) Working collaboratively on transboundary issues, such as the uninhibited movement of tigers and the management of tiger conservation landscapes.</p>		
<p>3. Work collaboratively to eradicate poaching, smuggling, and illegal trade of tigers, their parts, and derivatives through</p>	<p>3. Work collaboratively to eradicate poaching, smuggling, and illegal <u>all trade of tigers, their in the parts, and derivatives of tigers and illegal trade in live tigers</u> through</p>	<p>To avoid any ambiguity, the opening sentence should be amended to make it clear that no legal trade in tiger parts and derivatives should be allowed.</p>
<p>a) Strengthened national legislation, institutions, and law enforcement to combat crime directed against tigers;</p>		
<p>b) Strengthened regional law enforcement activities through bilateral and multilateral arrangements such as Association of South East Asian Nations Wildlife Enforcement Network</p>		<p><u>Regarding paragraphs 3.b), c), and d):</u> In relation to collaborative efforts to end international illegal trade, paragraphs 3(b) and (d) indicate a lack of appreciation for the leading role that existing intergovernmental agencies</p>

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<p>(ASEAN-WEN), South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SA-WEN), and the Protocol between the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Russian Federation on Tiger Protection;</p>		<p>such as INTERPOL and the World Customs Organisation can play.</p> <p>The absence of consistent international collaboration, coordination and communication were identified as major impediments to ending the tiger trade as long ago as 1994. Effective mobilisation of existing and operational inter-governmental agencies has long been urged to address this.</p> <p>INTERPOL for example, already provides a network to implement these much needed international efforts, as all Tiger Range Countries (except North Korea) are already members of INTERPOL and have National Central Bureaus (NCBs). Using such a network also overcomes the limited geographic scope of the bilateral and multi-lateral arrangements listed in 3 (b).</p> <p>Currently, the draft Declaration makes only a passing reference to the significant skills and experience of these agencies and others such as the CITES Secretariat, the UN Office on Drugs and</p>

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		<p>Crime, and the money-laundering unit of the World Bank.</p> <p>If governments continue to dismiss the instrumental and pivotal role that the international enforcement agencies can play, we will continue to lose tigers (and other endangered species), to the trans-national criminal networks that control the trade.</p>
<p>c) Strengthened international collaboration, coordination, and communication;</p> <p>d) Specialized expertise, where relevant, from international organizations including the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the Financial Market Integrity Unit of the World Bank, and the World Customs Organization, (recognizing that some of these agencies may, themselves, require additional resources); and</p>	<p>c) Strengthened international collaboration, coordination, and communication; <u>led by international organizations with relevant</u></p> <p>⇒ Sspecialized expertise-including the CITES Secretariat, INTERPOL, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the Financial Market Integrity Unit of the World Bank, and the World Customs Organization, (recognizing that some of these agencies may, themselves, require additional resources); and</p>	<p>By merging the language in 3(c) and (d), with minor modifications, the Declaration would indicate a more substantial commitment to combating the international criminal elements.</p>
<p>e) Long-term national and global programs to create awareness of the</p>	<p>e) <u>d</u> Long-term national and global programs to create awareness of the</p>	<p>The draft language in paragraph 3(e) refers to reducing “illicit” demand for</p>

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<p>value of wild tigers and their ecosystems and thus eliminate the illicit demand for tigers and their parts.</p>	<p>value of wild tigers and their ecosystems and thus eliminate the illicit demand <u>for the parts and derivatives of</u> tigers and their parts <u>illegal trade in live tigers.</u></p>	<p>tigers and their parts only, implying that there is a legitimate legal demand. Not only does this confuse consumers and the enforcement community, it provides a loophole for parts and products that have been*, or may be legalised – for example, from so-called farmed tigers. Leading international economists have discredited proposals to legalise trade in farmed tigers, detailing why it is not a conservation solution, but rather a threat to the remaining wild tigers.</p> <p>If wild tigers are to survive, then we must work together towards eliminating <i>all</i> consumption of <i>all</i> tiger parts and products, from <i>all</i> sources. Simply removing the word “illicit” from this sentence would reinforce that message and would be consistent with existing Resolutions and Decisions under the UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), to which your country is a signatory.</p>

*China has legalised trade in skins registered under a national scheme (CoP15 Inf. 6: <http://www.cites.org/common/cop/15/inf/E15i-06.pdf> and State Forestry Administration Notification 206, dated September 2007)