

**Question for written answer E-005832/2016  
to the Commission**

Rule 130

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Subject: African elephants

African elephants constitute a fundamental part of the heritage of many African countries. Nonetheless, due to the partial legalisation of the ivory trade, elephant poaching and the illegal ivory trade have increased in the last decade. It is estimated that between 35 000-50 000 elephants were illegally killed to satisfy ivory demands between 2010 and 2012.

The African Elephant Coalition (AEC), formed by African elephant-range states, has made five proposals which would allow for stricter international law from the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) coinciding with its 17th meeting in September 2016 (CoP17). These proposals advocate the inclusion all African elephant populations in Appendix 1 of CITES, the destruction of ivory stock, stopping the decision adoption mechanism for the sale of ivory, the closure of national ivory markets around the world and the restriction of the trade in live elephants.

What is the Commission's opinion with regard to these five proposals to guarantee the protection and conservation of the African elephant?