

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

1.2.2006

0007/2006

WRITTEN DECLARATION

pursuant to Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure

by David Martin and Glyn Ford

on the illegal trade in tiger and leopard skins

Lapse date: 1.5.2006

0007/2006

Written declaration on the illegal trade in tiger and leopard skins

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Rule 116 of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. noting with concern the role of organised criminal networks engaged in the international trafficking of tiger and leopard skins from India into China via Nepal,
- B. noting that India, Nepal and China, as signatories to the UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, have a duty to prevent illegal trade in endangered species,
- C. noting the declaration issued by the Eleventh UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Bangkok in April 2005 calling upon UN Member States to take effective measures to strengthen international cooperation in tackling organised crime and trafficking in protected species of flora and fauna,
- D. acknowledging the role that European Union Member States can play in providing technical and financial assistance to domestic and regional enforcement efforts,
 1. Calls on the Indian, Nepalese and Chinese governments to improve domestic enforcement efforts by establishing full time multi-agency wildlife crime enforcement units;
 2. Urges the Indian, Nepalese and Chinese Governments to improve regional intelligence sharing and cross-border enforcement cooperation;
 3. Calls on EU Member States to encourage action and offer financial and technical assistance to India, Nepal and China to facilitate improved enforcement;
 4. Asks the Chinese Government to confirm that it does not intend to reopen domestic trade in tiger bone;
 5. Instructs its President to forward this declaration, together with the names of the signatories, to the Council, Commission, Member States and relevant Indian, Nepalese and Chinese authorities.