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SEMINAR

The Fate of Tigers and the Status of Endangered Species Conservation in Vietnam

in celebration of the International Tiger Day 29 July 2019

& NATIONAL LAUNCH EVENT

of the EU Action: *Partners against Wildlife Crime*

Vietnam is one of 13 tiger range countries worldwide, but the number of tigers in the country is declining dramatically. According to statistics by forest ranger departments nationwide, in 2001, the tiger population in Vietnam was estimated to be more than 100 individuals. However, after 10 years, the study of Viet Nam Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources (IEBR) in 2011 showed that the number of wild tigers in Vietnam had been seriously declined, with only about 27-47 individuals. More alarming, the data updated by WWF in 2016 even warned that the number of wild tigers in Vietnam may be less than five individuals and is considered to be a critically endangered species. Due to many predictions, after the death of the last rhino in 2010, the tiger will be Vietnam's next large mammal to be listed as extinct in the wild.

At St Petersburg International Tiger Conservation Conference in 2010, along with 12 countries with tiger habitats, Vietnam pledged to double the number of wild tigers by 2022. To fulfill this target, in 2014, the Prime Minister issued Decision No.539 approving the National Tiger Conservation Program for the period of 2014-2022 to "protect, conserve tiger, tiger's habitat and prey, contributing to preventing the decline, and gradually recovering, improving and increasing the number of wild tigers by 2022". Although there are no statistics on the number of tigers in the wild at present, the figures above have shown the challenges of Vietnam in implementing its global commitment.

After five years of implementing the National Tiger Conservation Program, nine years of signing a global commitment, the International Tiger Conservation Day this year is the right time to review the tiger conservation efforts of Vietnam. This also offers an opportunity to review the on-going wildlife conservation programs in Vietnam to identify constraints, challenges, prospects and opportunities in the future.

The seminar "***The Fate of Tigers and the Status of Endangered Species Conservation in Vietnam***" is co-organized by PanNature and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), to discuss the above issues.

In addition, the two partner organizations will formally launch the new project *Partners against Wildlife Crime*. Funded by the European Union (EU), the project aims to support and strengthen government actions to combat wildlife trafficking and forest crime by leveraging partnerships with non-governmental entities in the disruption of illicit supply chains.

Time: 8.00 A.M– 11.00 A.M, 29/7/2019

Venue: Vietnam Trade Union Hotel (Khách sạn Công đoàn Việt Nam), Tran Binh Trong str., Hoan Kiem dist., Hanoi

Agenda:

- 8.00: Registration
- 8.30: Opening speech - *Mr Trịnh Lê Nguyên, PanNature*
- 8.45: Roundtable: *Facilitated by Mr Trịnh Lê Nguyên, PanNature*
- Challenges to the National Tiger Conservation Program
 - The root causes of the decline of endangered and protected species in Viet Nam (tiger, elephant, primate, turtle ...)
 - Wildlife conservation programs in Vietnam: challenges, opportunities and solutions
 - Policies and law enforcement on wildlife protection and wildlife trade prevention to support the conservation program
- 9.45: Q&A with journalists: *Facilitated by PanNature and WCS*
- 10.00: Keynote speech: Commitments on environment protection and wildlife conservation in the framework of bilateral cooperation between EU and Viet Nam
- Representative from the EU Delegation in Viet Nam
- 10.20: “Partners against Wildlife Crime”: a new project to enhance conservation efforts -
Representative from WCS
- 10.40: Q&A
- 10.55: Closing

Panelists:

- Ms. Nguyen Thi Van Anh, Department of Biodiversity Conservation, MONRE
- Dr. Le Xuan Canh, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology
- Ms. Sarah Baker Ferguson, TRAFFIC in Vietnam
- Dr. Benjamin Rawson, World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
- Mr. Tran Le Tra, German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ)