

Madam chair, Botswana would like to thank UNEA for bringing the issue of illegal trade of flora and fauna to this meeting, and this evening concentrating on wildlife.

We would also like to recognise and support the outcomes of the different meetings and initiatives, held by different countries in the recent past and how this has brought this important issue to the level of awareness it has today, however the need to fully implement the outcomes is still needed.

As all the speakers have very well-articulated this evening, we believe that we know the problems. What is needed is leadership and coordination so that we can together drive their implementation, not more debate or word-smithing, this takes our eyes off the problem.

Botswana I believe, we have good leadership from our President. We also have cooperation between

our different enforcement bodies, they work together to combat the poaching issue in country this can be seen from the +-200,000 elephants that we now have.

However we need the world to work together to assist and address the poaching throughout the world, trafficking and consumption issues. We cannot overcome these problem without all parties working together.

There are numerous drivers, but I would like to highlight 4; corruption- greed-ignorance-poverty, if we work together we can address and overcome these.

Lastly I would like to inform the body gathered here that Botswana will host follow up meetings to the African Elephant Summit and the UK Illegal Wildlife Trade meeting held earlier this year, on 2 & 3 March 2015.