

# World to discuss fate of endangered species

Delegates from 183 countries discuss urgent ways to tackle illegal trade in wildlife at a crucial meeting in Johannesburg

■ **African elephant:** Proposals by Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa to sell ivory stockpiles to fund conservation initiatives radically opposed by 29 other countries that want to tighten international ban on ivory trade.  
**Around 30% of Africa's elephants have disappeared in last seven years**



■ **Pangolin:** Proposals by 19 countries may ban all international trade in all nine pangolin species in Africa and Asia. **Pangolin is most trafficked mammal on earth with more than a million poached in past decade**



■ **White rhino:** Swaziland wants to sell 330kg of rhino horn from stockpiles and sell another 20kg per year of horn harvested from live rhinos. **Opponents argue proposal would exacerbate current poaching crisis**



■ **African lion:** Nine west African countries want ban in commercial trading of lions. **Populations have declined by more than 40% in two decades**

■ **Sharks:** Three proposals for stringent conditions on trade in silky and thresher sharks as well as devil rays, to be considered. **Species decline due mainly to overfishing spawned by growing appetite for fins in Asia**



■ **Rosewood:** Five proposals could affect trees that are threatened with legal and illegal logging around the world

