Response by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to Notification to the Parties No. 2011/014

The United Kingdom employs stricter measures regarding the trade in tigers and their parts and derivatives. The commercial trade in dead tiger parts and derivatives, and live wild-taken specimens, is banned. Applications will only be considered for worked antiques and live captive-bred specimens. Applications for the sale of live captive-bred specimens will be refused except where the specimen is to be used for conservation purposes.

In addition, the United Kingdom is a member of the Global Tiger Forum and is engaged in the Global Tiger Initiative process.

Recent UK enforcement activities on specimens which contain tiger and other Appendix I Asian big cats:

Customs seizures:
- 2 jumpers with cheetah skin & head (Acinonyx jubatus (I))
- 30 Units of Tiger blood & Tissue (Panthera tigris (I))

Traditional Medicine Seizures:
- 9 containing Tiger bone (Panthera tigris (I))
- 8 containing Leopard bone ((Panthera pardus (I))

Prosecutions:
- In July 2009 leopard bone plasters were found on sale in Manchester, offender was fined £1,000 and ordered to pay £115 costs in November 2009.
- In September 2010 two individuals were fined £937.50 and £250 costs for a number of offences where they kept animals for commercial purposes, including a leopard, at their zoo without the required certification.
- In March 2010, two individuals received 44 weeks in prison suspended for 18 months and 200 hours community service after they imported and sold exotic carcasses from the United Kingdom and overseas, including a lion cub on eBay.
- In August 2010 an individual was found not guilty of keeping tiger parts for sale in his freezer when the prosecution accepted that the parts were not intended for commercial use.

Enforcement activities:
- The UK took part in INTERPOL's Operation TRAM, which ran throughout February 2010 where enforcement officers visited premises trading in traditional medicines across the UK.