Dismantling and disrupting criminal networks illegally trading in endangered wildlife

Workshop at the

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The Wildlife Justice Commission (WJC) is a not-for-profit organisation based in The Hague, the Netherlands. Its mission is to disrupt and help governments dismantle transnational organised wildlife criminal networks. It seeks to work with law enforcement, build technical and operational expertise and increase law enforcement cooperation across the countries/regions of the supply chain. Its main objective is to assist in securing arrests that will lead to successful prosecutions and the disruption of transnational criminal networks dealing in wildlife. Where necessary, the WJC will also hold governments accountable for their failure to address wildlife crime.

The WJC conducts in-depth investigations and makes use of case management and intelligence analysis software employed by law enforcement agencies, which allows the organisation to provide evidence and criminal analyses to law enforcement agencies in a format they are familiar with. During the session, the WJC will demonstrate its operational approach in terms of investigative and intelligence capabilities and explore opportunities for collaboration.

AGENDA

MODERATOR: Heinz-Dieter Meier, rtd. Director Federal Police, today consultant in the fields of ICT, Aviation, Public Security and Geospatial Intelligence for Deutor GmbH.

10.00-10.10: WELCOME SPEECH
Olivia Swaak-Goldman, Executive Director of the Wildlife Justice Commission, will present introductory comments.
10.10-10.30: What is the Wildlife Justice Commission and How does it contribute to addressing wildlife crime?
The Chief of Investigations of the WJC (whose name cannot be listed due to security concerns) will present the serious and organised nature of international wildlife crime and the necessity for an intelligence-led and well-coordinated response. He will demonstrate current threat levels and show how the WJC fulfils a much-needed role.

10.30-11.15: Achieving convictions in Malaysia
Joil Bin Bombon, the Senior Assistant Director of the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP/PERHILITAN) Peninsular Malaysia, together with a Senior Investigator at the WJC (whose name cannot be listed due to security concerns), will demonstrate how undercover work coupled with an effective relationship with the wildlife department (DWNP/PERHILITAN) resulted in custodial sentences for prolific offenders. During the session, the on-the-ground operational support model will be presented and ways in which it can enhance future law enforcement efforts will be explained.

11.15-11.45: Investigating transnational organised wildlife crime from a risk-based approach
Sarah Stoner, Senior Investigations Manager at the WJC, will explain how, unlike many conservation agencies that tackle the problem from a supply chain model, the WJC has developed and applied a risk-based model. During this session, she will present case studies illustrating the advantages of such an approach.

11.45-13.00: Lunch

13.00-13.30: The challenges of transnational financial crime investigations
Pedro Felicio, Head of Unit, Europol, will discuss the advantages and the challenges presented by transnational, financial crime investigations such as the growing use of virtual currencies.

13.30-14.15: The need to recognise the serious and organised nature of wildlife crime
Dr. Edgardo Buscaglia, Senior Scholar in Law and Economics at Columbia University, will discuss parallels between international wildlife trade and other forms of transnational, organised crime. Edgardo served as an adviser to several countries on issues involving public policy, and economic, transnational crimes and he currently serves as a member of the WJC’s Independent Review Panel.

14.15-14.30: Break and short video on the WJC’s work

14.30-14.45: Applying social network analysis to understand structures of organised criminal networks
Sarah Stoner, Senior Investigations Manager at the WJC, will explain how the WJC focuses intelligence efforts on the composition of organised crime networks and uses various techniques to accomplish this, including big data mining by using proven social network analysis tests to identify key connectors between disparate criminal networks involved in the trafficking of reptiles.
14.45-15.15: Kenya Wildlife Service’s Approach to Management of Intelligence

The Head of Intelligence at the Kenya Wildlife Services (KWS) will discuss the recent transformation in the coordination of their intelligence work and the potential impact this may have on the trafficking of ivory globally. Since 2009, more ivory has been smuggled from Mombasa than any other port in the world.

15.15-15.45: Undercover Operatives Management

The Chief of Investigations of the WJC (whose name cannot be listed due to security concerns) will present how the deployment of undercover operatives has aided intelligence development and outline how the WJC can add a valuable dimension for other potential cases. The WJC have deployed its undercover operatives across many countries and enforcement agencies have utilised its assets to further their investigations.

15:45–16:10: How Digital Traces Can Help Disrupt and Take Down Criminal Networks

Stefanie Frey, Managing Director at Deutor Cyber Security Solutions Switzerland GmbH, will present the Deutor methodology and explain how digital traces can help law enforcement to disrupt and take down criminal networks. Criminal networks leave digital traces in every step of the business process and their supply chain. Deutor analyses, in cooperation with all stakeholders, the entire modus operandi of criminal networks and based on the findings creates a technical blueprint of the digital traces. The blueprint contains usable and solid information that can be used by law enforcement and investigators to disrupt and take down criminal networks.

16.10–16:15 Concluding Remarks

Olivia Swaak-Goldman, Executive Director of the WJC, will present some concluding remarks.
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Speakers


Heinz-Dieter worked as a helicopter pilot, flight instructor and manager in the police and air rescue service (total flight experience 6000 h). Often with special forces, he gained extensive experience in police operations. Following the management of administrative modernisation project groups, he drafted a far-reaching reform of BPOL's ICT in 2006, which he subsequently implemented as CIO. After 3 years as Senior Advisor at the German Aerospace Center (DLR) in the sector of Geospatial Intelligence, he is active as a consultant in the fields of ICT, Aviation, Public Security and Geospatial Intelligence for Deutor GmbH.

Chief of Investigations (for security reasons the name cannot be disclosed), the WJC

The Chief of Investigations of the WJC has 30 years of law enforcement experience and has been working in the field of narcotics, organised crime and wildlife crime.

Sarah Stoner, Senior Investigations Manager, the WJC

Sarah is Senior Investigations Manager of the WJC. After gaining an honours degree in Sociology and Cultural Studies, Sarah worked for Greater Manchester Police, in the UK, as an intelligence officer where she was based in Specialist Operational Units, such as the Air Support and Tactical Command Units. She later moved into an analytical role where she was professionally trained as a criminal intelligence analyst, working at the Force Intelligence Bureau, and finally a six-month deployment at the Counter-Terrorism Unit where she worked on several live operations. She later moved to the UK Wildlife Crime Unit where she worked on national wildlife crime issues for four years. Her interest in international wildlife crime led to a role with TRAFFIC in Malaysia. During her four years with TRAFFIC she gained vast experience of intrinsic wildlife trade issues and subsequently published several reports focussing on these entrenched problems. In 2016, she moved to the WJC where she is now Senior Investigations Manager and heads the Intelligence Unit, supporting the Investigations Team to provide timely operational intelligence products.
**Olivia Swaak-Goldman, Executive Director, the WJC**

Olivia is Executive Director of the WJC. She has over twenty years’ experience in international justice and diplomacy, has published extensively on issues of international criminal law and international humanitarian law, and served as a lecturer for both Harvard and Leiden Universities.

Prior to joining the WJC, Olivia was Head of the International Relations Task Force of the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Senior Legal Advisor at the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Legal Advisor at the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal and Legal Assistant at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. She received a BA with honours in Political Science from Trinity College, a J.D. *summa cum laude* from Washington College of Law at American University and a LL.M. with honours from the University of Amsterdam.

**Pedro Felicio, Head of Unit, Europol**

Pedro, stationed since 2014 within the Operations Department of Europol, is currently the Head of the Unit of Economic and Property Crime, the Unit responsible for providing vertical support to the 28 Member States international investigations in the areas of Environmental Crime, Sports Corruption, Missing Trader Intra Community (MTIC), VAT and Serious Frauds as well as Property Crime, Euro and Product Counterfeit.

Before, and for 3 years, Pedro was a Senior Specialist at Europol working as the chief of the Anti-Money Laundering Unit, within the Financial Intelligence Group.

Previously, and for 14 years, Pedro was a supervising and coordinating officer for criminal investigations at the Portuguese Judiciary Police, specialized in the areas of Economic and Financial Crime and Organized Crime.

Prior to that, and for a period of 2 years, he was also a Professional Lawyer at the Portuguese Bar Association.
Dr Edgardo Buscaglia, Senior Scholar in Law and Economics at Columbia University, and President of the “Instituto de Acción Ciudadana para la Justicia y Democracia” in Mexico. Economic Analysis of Complex Crimes Expert.

Edgardo is a well-known international scholar, author and a practitioner within the field of law and economics.

Edgardo's latest field work covers 118 countries within Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East delving into the factors explaining the vertical economic integration of organised crime within the legal economies and the mafia capture of civil societies. As an academic, Edgardo has published widely within the field of law and economics of development and human rights and his scientific articles have been published worldwide in many languages.

Edgardo is also an international philanthropist and civil society leader engaged in supporting non-governmental organisations in their efforts to combat and prevent organised crime, including his support as President of the Board of the “Friends of Wildlife Justice Commission” in the USA and as member of the Independent Review Panel of the WJC. Furthermore, his philanthropic and technical support for preventing human trafficking in Mexico and Central America includes his work as Director of the International Law and Economic Development Centre and as President of the “Instituto de Acción Ciudadana” in Mexico. Edgardo also co-founded the InterAmerican and Iberian Law and Economics Association. The group he cofounded has an annual award named after him. He has also served in the past as a member of the Board on Governance of Transparency International. Edgardo frequently publishes articles and accepts interviews within the mass media, including the New York Times, Al Jazeera, and Financial Times, among many others.

Joil Bin Bombon, Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP/PERHILITAN) Peninsular Malaysia

Joil Bin Bombon is the Senior Assistant Director at the Department of Wildlife and National Parks (DWNP/PERHILITAN) Peninsular Malaysia. He joined Perhilitan in 2003 and transferred in 2006 to become the Head of the Enforcement Unit. In 2011, he worked at Paya Indah Wetland as Head of the Conservation Unit before joining the enforcement division as Head of Intelligence Unit. Joil Bon Bonbon has an extensive track record in wildlife crime and management covering anti-poaching, investigation and analysis as well as forensic support.

Joil Bin Bombon is one of the most experienced and respected wildlife crime investigators in South East Asia. He holds a B.S in Forestry at the University Putra Malaysia (2000).
Dr Stefanie Frey, Managing Director at Deutor Cyber Security Solutions Switzerland GmbH

Stefanie is specialised in developing strategies and solutions against criminal acts in the digital space for states, international organisations and companies in close cooperation with law enforcement and other relevant bodies. Stefanie worked for several years for the Swiss government as coordinator for the implementation of the National Cyber Strategy of Switzerland. Stefanie contributed to the European Network and Information Security Agency’s (ENISA) Cyber Security Working Group and the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Working Party on Security and Privacy in the Digital Economy (SPDE) and has influenced the outcome of the Digital Security Risk Recommendation. In 2017, Stefanie became a member of the Permanent Stakeholder Group of ENISA, which advises the Executive Director on the EU Work Program on Cyber Security and is actively engaged in shaping the regional and global cyber security agenda with international and regional organisations. Stefanie holds a PhD from the Department of War Studies from King’s College London.