



## HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

### **INVITATION TO NGOS – Deadline Thursday August 27th**

Dear Colleagues,

In late July 2015, our community received the disturbing details about an American trophy hunter slaying a famous lion named Cecil who lived in Zimbabwe's Hwange National Park. The details of the killing and the gratuitous nature of a person traveling thousands of miles across the world to kill a beautiful creature in a head-hunting exercise produced an outpouring of anger and a clamor for reform.

Since that time, Humane Society International and other organizations have been in touch with more than 250 airlines, asking them to stop shipping trophies of the so-called African Big Five: African lions, leopards, African elephants, rhinos and Cape buffalo. In response to this pressure from our movement, 41 airlines and counting have established or have confirmed bans that were already in place on transporting these trophies. Other airlines and carriers, such as South African Airways and UPS, have resisted the idea of changing their policies for the better, while some others have yet to respond.

We would like to send letters, signed by your organization and hundreds of others in our field, to all airlines and air carriers. We will thank airlines that have banned all or some trophy transport; we will urge airlines that have not taken a position to do so; and we will urge airlines that have declined to change their policies to reverse course. Please see the language of each statement below for your consideration.

If you wish to sign your organization on to all three letters, please send an email to [rregnery@hsi.org](mailto:rregnery@hsi.org) with the name of your organization as you wish it to appear on the letter **by Thursday August 27<sup>th</sup> (the deadline has been extended)**. No logo, signature or name of a particular individual from your organization is required.

With thanks,

Rebecca Regnery  
Deputy Director, Wildlife  
Humane Society International

### **STATEMENT TO AIRLINES THAT HAVE BANNED TROPHY TRANSPORT**

Dear XXXX,

The undersigned ## organizations, from around the world, hereby express our deepest appreciation to XXXX for agreeing to ban the transport of trophies of the African Big Five—African lions, leopards, African elephants, rhinos and Cape buffalo.

As you know, the brutal and allegedly illegal killing of Cecil the Lion in Zimbabwe by an American trophy hunter has sparked outrage around the world. People are demanding reform in the wake of the barbaric slaying and calling on air carriers to help provide important protections for wildlife. Four of the five

Africa Big Five species are listed or about to be listed as threatened with extinction under the terms of the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Millions of people throughout the world travel to Africa to see the continent's glorious wildlife, while only a few thousand trek there to kill these creatures, as a step in the process of adorning a den or mantle with the trophy.

The future economic health of so many African nations depends on brisk ecotourism. Maintaining populations of African wildlife is worth billions to African nations. We and our members greatly appreciate XXXX's strong commitment to protecting Africa's wildlife from the trophy hunting threat.

Humane Society International

The Humane Society of the United States

List names of other organizations (no individual names or logos)

## **STATEMENT TO AIRLINES THAT HAVE NOT RESPONDED TO REQUESTS TO BAN TROPHY TRANSPORT**

Dear XXXX,

The undersigned ## organizations from around the world, urge XXXX to join the growing list of airlines that have banned the transport of all hunting trophies or at least those of the African Big Five— African lions, leopards, African elephants, rhinos and Cape buffalo. We hope you will make a public declaration joining so many other airlines in indicating you won't ship trophies from the African Big Five.

As you know, the brutal and allegedly illegal killing of Cecil the Lion in Zimbabwe by an American trophy hunter has sparked outrage around the world. People are demanding reform in the wake of the barbaric slaying and calling on air carriers to help provide important protections for wildlife. Four of the five African Big Five species are listed or about to be listed as threatened with extinction under the terms of the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Millions of people throughout the world travel to Africa to see the continent's glorious wildlife, while only a few thousand trek there to kill these creatures, as a step in the process of adorning a den or mantle with the trophy.

The future economic health of so many African nations depends on brisk ecotourism. Maintaining populations of African wildlife is worth billions to African nations. We and our members urge XXXX to make a strong commitment to protecting Africa's wildlife from the trophy hunting threat.

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## **STATEMENT TO AIRLINES THAT HAVE REFUSED TO BAN TROPHY TRANSPORT**

Dear XXXX,

The undersigned ## organizations from around the world, are deeply disappointed that XXXX has stated that it will continue to transport hunting trophies, including the heads and hides of the African Big Five. We urge you to reverse course and make a public declaration to join nearly three dozen airlines in announcing a ban on these shipments.

As you know, the brutal and allegedly illegal killing of Cecil the Lion in Zimbabwe by an American trophy hunter has sparked outrage around the world. People are demanding reform in the wake of the barbaric slaying and calling on air carriers to help provide important protections for wildlife. Four of the five African Big Five species are listed or about to be listed as threatened with extinction under the terms of the U.S. Endangered Species Act. Millions of people throughout the world travel to Africa to see the continent's glorious wildlife, while only a few thousand trek there to kill these creatures, as a step in the process of adorning a den or mantle with the trophy.

The future economic health of so many African nations depends on brisk ecotourism. Maintaining populations of African wildlife is worth billions to African nations. We and our members urge XXXX to reconsider your decision to continue shipping trophies and join the growing list of forward-thinking airlines that have made the decision to end their role in perpetuating this harmful and cruel trophy hunting hobby.

Humane Society International

The Humane Society of the United States

List names of other organizations (no individual names or logos)