

# CHINA'S WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT NEWS DIGEST

January 2021

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## Shanghai Post Customs Continuously Seized Suspected Tridacnidae Products



**News Release Date:** 5 January 2021

**Seizure Date:** 28 & 29 December 2020

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Shanghai Post Office Customs

**Location:** Shanghai Post Office

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** Two batches: suspected Tridacnidae products in two packs, 3 kg in weight; Tridacnidae Products in four packs, 4.19 kg total.

**Transport Method:** Inbound Mail

**Source Country:** Japan

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Case Progress:** Item detained, transferred to relevant division for identification.

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## Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized 71 Pieces of Ivory Products within One Day



**News Release Date:** 6 January 2021

**Seizure Date:** 27 December 2020

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

**Location:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** Four cases, 71 ivory products including raw ivory pieces, bangle, bead bracelet, amulet, pendant, etc., 1906.4g in total

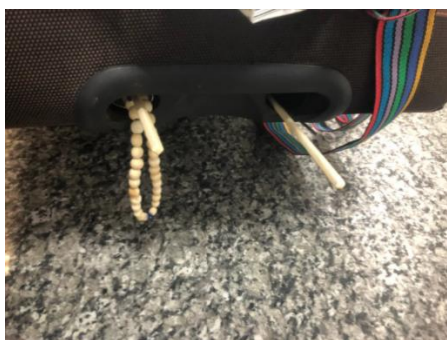
**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's check-in luggage

**Source Country:** Rwanda (Flight no. WB9500)

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

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## Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Seized Three Ivory Products



**News Release Date:** 7 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

**Location:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** One ivory necklace and one pair of chopsticks, 85.1g in total.

**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's luggage (inside of handle)

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Number of offenders:** One

**Case Progress:** It has been transferred to relevant division for further proceeding.

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## Chengdu Customs Seized Ivory Products from Inbound Traveller



**News Release Date:** 10 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Chengdu Shuangliu Airport Customs

**Location:** Chengdu Shuangliu Airport, Sichuan Province

**Species involved:** Two ivory bangles, one bead bracelet, 115 g, 70 g and 40g respectively.

**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's luggage

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Number of offenders:** Three

**Case Progress:** Temporarily rejected passing through.

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## Guangzhou Post Customs Seized Two Ivory Products from Inbound Mail



**News Release Date:** 11 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Guangzhou Post Office Customs

**Location:** Guangzhou Post Office, Guangdong Province.

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** Two ivory products, 93 g in total.

**Transport Method:** Inbound Mail (Declared as “books” and “food supplement” respectively, mixed with books and food)

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

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## Panyu Customs Seized an Erhu with Boa Skin from Inbound Mail



**News Release Date:** 11 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Panyu Post Office Customs of Guangzhou Customs Bureau

**Location:** Panyu Post Office, Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination

**Species:** one erhu drum head of which is made from boa skin

**Transport Method:** Inbound Mail

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Case Progress:** Item detained for further proceeding.

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## Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized One Ivory Product



**News Release Date:** 12 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Guangzhou  
Baiyun Airport Customs

**Location:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport,  
Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** 11 ivory products (bangles and  
pendants), about 330 g in total.

**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's check-  
in luggage (wrapped by tinfoil and putted in  
plastic bag of instant noodles, or in the work  
clothes pocket)

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Number of offenders:** One

**Case Progress:** It has been handed over to  
relevant division.

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## Shenzhen Bao'an Airport Customs Seized Several Endangered Animal Products-I



**News Release Date:** 13 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Shenzhen Bao'an  
Airport Customs

**Location:** Shenzhen Bao'an Airport,  
Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** One ivory accessory, about 40 g; 23  
Tridacnidae products, about 2600 g, 12  
Crocodile skin products, about 2400 g.

**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's  
luggage

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Case Progress:** Items handed over to the  
relevant division.

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## Shenzhen Bao'an Airport Seized Several Endangered Animal Products-II



**News Release Date:** 15 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Shenzhen Bao'an Airport Customs

**Location:** Shenzhen Bao'an Airport, Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** 14 ivory products, one rhino horn product, one suspected antelope skin part. 2.02 kg in total.

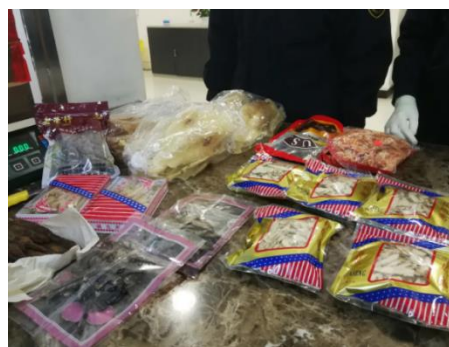
**Transport Method:** in inbound passenger's carry-on luggage and carried with inbound passenger.

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Case Progress:** Items handed over to the relevant division.

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## Waihai Customs Seized American Ginseng from Inbound Mail



**News Release Date:** 18 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Waihai Customs of Jiangmen Customs Bureau

**Location:** Waihai Post Office, Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** slices of American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*), 2.36 kg.

**Transport Method:** inbound mail

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Case Progress:** Parcel temporarily detained by Customs.

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## Maoming Customs Seized an Ivory Fan from Inbound Mail



**News date:** 18 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Maoming Customs of Zhanjiang Customs Bureau

**Location:** Maoming Post Office, Zhanjiang City, Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (image did not match with declaration's)

**Species:** one ivory fan, 62 g.

**Transport Method:** inbound mail

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Case Progress:** Handed over to anti-smuggling division for further proceeding.

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## Capital Airport Seized Two Ivory Products



**News Release Date:** 18 January 2021

**Seizure Date:** 22 December 2020

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Capital Airport Customs

**Location:** Beijing Capital International Airport

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** Two pieces of suspected ivory carvings, 3.702kg

**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's luggage

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## Shanghai Post Office Seized Eight Endangered Succulent Plants



**News Release Date:** 19 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Shanghai Post Office Customs

**Location:** Shanghai Post Office

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** Four plants of three species listed in CITES I: *Pelecyphora aselliformis*, *Mammillaria pectinifera*, *Turbinicarpus pseudopectinatus*; four plants of two species listed in CITES II: *Copiapoa coquimbana*, *Ancistrocactus megarhiza*

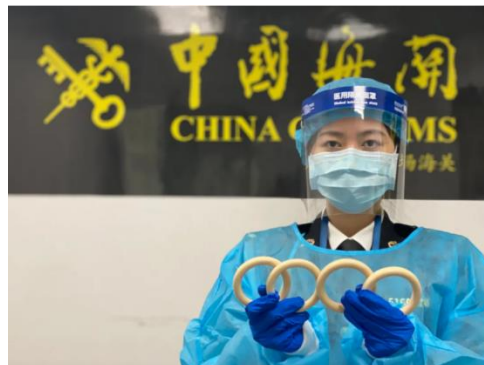
**Transport Method:** Inbound Mail (declared as house ornaments)

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Case Progress:** case filing

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## Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized Eight Ivory Products from Inbound passenger's Luggage



**News Release Date:** 21 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

**Location:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** Eight ivory products including combs, necklaces, bracelets, and bangles, 462 g in total

**Transport Method:** Carry-on baggage of inbound passengers

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Number of offenders:** One

**Case Progress:** It has been handed over to relevant division for further proceeding.

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## Guangzhou Customs Seized Eight Endangered Cactus Plants from Inbound Mail



**News Release Date:** 21 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Guangzhou Post Customs

**Location:** Guangzhou Post Office, Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** routine examination (X-ray)

**Species:** Eight Plants of *Discocactus* spp. Cactaceae.

**Transport Method:** inbound mail

**Region of export:** Europe

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Case Progress:** Processed according to regulations.

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## Kunming Changshui Airport Customs Seized Two Ivory Products



**News Release Date:** 23 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Kunming Changshui Airport Customs

**Location:** Kunming Changshui Airport, Yunnan Province

**Species:** Two ivory products (ring and pendant), 106.9 g in total

**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's carry-on luggage

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Number of offenders:** One

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## Chongqing Jiangbei Airport Seized an Ivory Bead Bracelet



**News Release Date:** 23 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Chongqing Jiangbei Airport Customs

**Location:** Chongqing Jiangbei Airport

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** One ivory bead bracelet, 82 g

**Transport Method:** Inbound passenger's carry-on luggage

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Number of offenders:** One

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## Kunming Changshui Airport Customs Seized Two Ivory Products



**News Release Date:** 23 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Kunming Changshui Airport Customs

**Location:** Kunming Changshui Airport, Yunnan Province

**Species:** Two ivory products (ring and pendant), 41.4 g in total

**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's carry-on luggage

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Number of offenders:** One

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## Kunming Changshui Airport Customs Seized Two Ivory Products



**News Release Date:** 23 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Kunming  
Changshui Airport Customs

**Location:** Kunming Changshui Airport, Yunnan  
Province

**Species:** Two ivory products (bead bracelet and  
pendant), 49.9 g in total

**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's carry-  
on luggage

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Number of offenders:** One

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## Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized 186 Tridacnidae Products illegally carried by inbound passengers



**News Release Date:** 26 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Guangzhou  
Baiyun Airport Customs

**Location:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport,  
Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** 186 suspected Tridacnidae Products,  
about 2 kg

**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's carry-  
on luggage (wrapped in tinfoil and hidden in milk  
powder can)

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Number of offenders:** One

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## Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized A Batch of Precious Sea Shell and Coral Products



**News Release Date:** 29 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs

**Location:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** 106 Tridacnidae products, one shell of Tiger Cowrie (*Cypraea tigris*), 13 products of Scleractinia and one product of Tubiporidae

**Transport Method:** inbound passenger's carry-on luggage

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Number of offenders:** One

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## Guangzhou Baiyun Airport Customs Seized Agarwood from Inbound Mail



**News Release Date:** 31 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport customs

**Location:** Guangzhou Baiyun Airport, Guangdong Province

**Detection Method:** Routine Examination (X-ray)

**Species:** One piece of *Aquilaria sinensis*, about 2 kg

**Transport Method:** inbound mail (declared as "pine wood ornament")

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling

**Case Progress:** transferred to anti-smuggling division for further proceeding

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## Hunchun Forest Police Cracked Down a Major Case of Poaching Endangered Wild Animals



**News Release Date:** 6 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Hunchun Forest Police, Jilin Province

**Location:** Xinzigou of Madida Village, Hunchun City, Yanbian Prefecture, Jilin Province

**Detection Method:** Intelligence and Investigation

**Species:** three wild sika deer (*Cervus nippon*)

**Reason of seizure:** Poaching

**Number of offenders:** One

**Case Progress:** The suspect was taken criminal compulsory measures, and the case is under further investigation.

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## Wulian Forest Police Cracked Down a Case of Poaching Endangered Wild Animals



**News Release Date:** 7 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Forest Police Brigade of Wulian Police Bureau, Rizhao City, Shandong Province

**Location:** Jufeng County, Rizhao City, Shandong Province

**Detection Method:** intelligence and investigation

**Species:** 49 birds, including five national second-class protected animals and 34 national protected animals with important economic value, scientific value or eco-values.

**Reason of seizure:** Poaching

**Estimated Value:** 26,000 CNY

**Number of offenders:** One

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## Limu Mountain Forest Police Bureau Cracked Down an Illegal Logging Case of Tree Fern



**News Release Date:** 8 January 2021

**Seizure Date:** 27 December 2020

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Limu Mountain  
Forest Police Bureau, Qiongzong

**Locations (of Seizure):** Limu Mountain,  
Qiongzong, Hainan Province

**Detection Method:** public tip-off and  
investigation

**Species:** two plants of tree fern (*Alsophila  
spinulosa*)

**Reason of seizure:** illegal logging

**Number of offenders:** 2

**Case Progress:** Under further investigation.

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## Huaihua Police Caught a Man Illegally Transporting Chinese Yew



**News Release Date:** 11 January 2021

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Huaihua police

**Location:** Huaihua City, Hunan

**Species:** four plants of Chinese Yew (*Taxus  
chinensis (Pilger) Rehd.*)

**Reason of seizure:** illegal transport

**Number of Offenders:** one

**Case Progress:** Under further investigation.

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## Dalian Policy Cracked Down A Major Case of Illegal Purchase, Transportation and Sale of Precious and Endangered Wildlife



**News Release Date:** 18 January 2021

**Seizure date:** 2 September 2020

**Law Enforcement Authority:** Dalian Police, Jilin Province

**Location:** Covered more than ten provinces (municipality)

**Detection Method:** public tip-off and investigation

**Species:** confiscated nearly 40 illegal traded wild animal including cougar, serval (*Leptailurus serval*), caracal cat (*Caracal caracal*), etc. Anhui Police has confiscated two servals, three caracal cats and one gibbon.

**Reason of seizure:** illegal trade

**Estimated Value:** over seven million CNY

**Number of offenders:** 18

**Case Progress:** The main suspect Liu was arrested on 28 September 2020 due to illegal purchase and sale of precious and endangered animals. Eight Suspects were detained due to illegal acquisition and selling of precious and endangered animals. The special task also referred nine suspects to other provincial police for investigation.

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## The Verdict of First Instance of the Biggest Pangolin Smuggling Case Was Made by Wenzhou Intermediate People's Court



**News Release Date:** 5 January 2021

**Sentence Date:** 5 January 2021

**Judicial Authority:** Wenzhou Intermediate People's Court, Zhejiang Province

**Species:** 23 tons of pangolin scales traded in the case (confiscated pangolin scales *Manis tricuspis*, gross weight 10940.9 kg, net weight 10645.3 kg)

**Way of transport:** Suspects bought containers abroad and hired a group smuggling frozen food to smuggle the pangolin scales inbound.

**Country of export:** Nigeria

**Intermediate Country:** South Korea

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling, illegal trade

**Estimated Value:** 180 million CNY

**Number of offenders:** 17

**Case Progress:** Yao was sentenced to 14 years in prison and confiscated four million from personal assets; Wang was sentenced to 13 years in prison and confiscated three million from personal assets. Other suspects were sentenced from 12 years to one year and three months, also confiscated personal assets or fined penalty.

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**Fangchenggang Intermediate People's Court Ruled the First Instance Judgement of "8-28" Major Case of Illegal Purchase and Transportation of Endangered Animal Products**



**News Release Date:** 26 January 2021

**Judicial Authority:** Fangchenggang Intermediate People's Court, Guangxi Province

**Detection Method:** Intelligence Sharing

**Species:** 8.795 tons of ivory and 11.912 pangolin scales

**Way of Transport:** disguised and mixed with other items

**Country of Export:** Democratic Republic of Congo

**Transit country:** Singapore, Vietnam

**Reason of seizure:** smuggling, illegal trade

**Number of offenders:** 8

**Case Progress:** The principal criminals Ma was sentenced to 15 years in prison and fined two million CNY, other seven criminals were sentenced from five to 11 years with fines.

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**General Administration of China Customs Announced Results of "Guomenlijian 2020" Anti-Smuggling Mission**



**News Release Date:** 22 January 2021

**Annual Registered and Investigated Cases of Smuggling Endangered Species and their products:** 267

**Confiscated Endangered Species and their products:** 156.1 tons

**Investigated Cases related to ivory:** 53

**Confiscated Elephant Tusk and ivory products:** 590.6 kg.

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## Tianjin Customs Announced Results of “Guomenlijian 2020” Anti-Smuggling Mission



**News Release Date:** 23 January 2021

**Annual Investigated Smuggling Case:** 164

**Number of Confiscated Terrestrial Animals,  
and Plants that Has Been Transferred to  
National Maritime Museum of China:** 1724

pieces. Meanwhile, Tianjin Customs signed the Framework Agreement on the Transfer of Confiscated Terrestrial Wildlife and its products with Tianjin Planning and Natural Resources Bureau and the State Oceanic Museum.

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## **Hong Kong SAR**

### ***Hong Kong Customs seizes over 1 tonne of suspected scheduled dried shark fins***



On 7 January 2021, Hong Kong Customs seized over 1 tonne of suspected scheduled dried shark fins of endangered species with an estimated market value of about \$750,000 at Hong Kong International Airport.

Through risk assessment, Customs officers inspected an air consignment arriving in Hong Kong from the Philippines and found the batch of suspected scheduled shark fins inside.

The case was handed over to the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department for follow-up investigation.

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### ***Three travellers jailed for smuggling dried shark fins and dried seahorses***



Three travellers who smuggled dried shark fins and dried seahorses were convicted for violating the Protection of Endangered Species of Animals and Plants Ordinance, and were sentenced to imprisonment on 11 January 2021.

A spokesman for the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) said that the three travellers arrived in Hong Kong on August 23, 2019, from Manila, the Philippines. About 48, 63 and 72 kilograms of dried fins from silky sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) were respectively found in the check-in baggage of these three travellers by Customs officers, as well as some 0.56kg of dried seahorses in one of the travellers' check-in baggage.

Subsequent to follow-up investigations, the AFCD charged the men with illegal import of listed species in Appendix II to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). They were convicted at the District Court earlier and each sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment on 11 January 2021.

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## Nigeria

- [Nigeria Customs intercepts huge haul of pangolin scales, ivory](#)

## Tanzania

- [Tanzania: Three arrested in southern Tanzania over possession of elephant tusks](#)

## South Africa

- [South Africa: Polokwane court denies bail to trio arrested for illegal possession of elephant tusks](#)
- [Update of 17 Rhinio Horns Case \(in December 2020 report\)](#)
- [Four Suspect Arrested with Ivory Tusk](#)

## India

- [India: Elephant tusks seized, six held](#)
- [India: Rhino horn seized in Karbi Anglong; one arrested](#)
- [India: Ivory Seized; Two Smugglers Arrested In Odisha](#)

## Kenya

- [Kenya: Wanted US fugitive arrested at Mombasa Airport](#)
- [Kenya: Two men jailed for 5 years for being in possession of elephant tusks](#)
- [Man found with elephants tusks freed on Sh1m bond](#)

## Maldives

- [THE MALDIVES: Over 400kg of shark fins found during airport inspection](#)

## Namibia

- [Six Namibian nationals have been arrested for poaching a white rhino in the Okavango district, near the capital Windhoek.](#)
- [Namibia – woman in court after being found with 2 elephant tusks](#)

## Zimbabwe

- [Zimbabwe: Three Bulawayo Men Arrested For Ivory Possession](#)