

**News Advisory
For May 3, 2007**

International Tiger Coalition

**Tiger Experts to Testify Before Congress
Against Lifting of China's Tiger Trade Ban**

House CITES Oversight Hearing on Threatened Species in Trade

Washington – Experts on tiger trafficking and use of tiger bones in Chinese medicine will testify at a congressional oversight hearing Thursday on trade of endangered species. Both will oppose the reopening of trade in China of tiger parts.

The oversight hearing will provide members of Congress with a preview of priority issues for the U.S. government delegation attending next month's meeting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The meeting, in The Netherlands from June 3-16, brings together 171 nations to discuss changes to the world's biggest wildlife trade treaty.

Tiger breeders in China have been putting pressure on the Chinese government to lift a 14-year-old ban on trade in tiger bones and other body parts, an issue that will likely be raised at the CITES meeting. Re-opening the trade would have a devastating impact on the world's remaining wild tigers, which number fewer than 5,000.

What: House Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans
Oversight Hearing on CITES

When: Thursday, May 3, 2007, 10 a.m.

Where: Room 1324 Longworth House Office Building

Who: **Crawford Allan**, director of TRAFFIC North America and an authority on wildlife trade

Lixin Huang, president of the American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine in San Francisco and an expert on use of tiger bone in traditional medicines in China

Other witnesses will be announced on the committee's web site: XXXX.

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