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Media Advisory

For immediate release

WWF begins high level tiger meetings with governments

Kathmandu, Nepal – WWF is attending a workshop this week to begin a global dialogue about the threats facing tigers as the world prepares to mark the Year of the Tiger in 2010.

This week's workshop, the first in a series before and during the Year of the Tiger, brings together decision makers from tiger range countries, members of the World Bank's Global Tiger Initiative, NGOs and the world's leading tiger experts. They will discuss the specific actions required to halt the extinction of the tiger in the wild.

What

Kathmandu Global Tiger Workshop

When

October 27-30, 2009

Where

Soaltee Crowne Plaza Hotel, Kathmandu, Nepal

Experts

Mike BALTZER, Leader Tiger Initiative; Dr. Eric DINERSTEIN, Chief Scientist and Vice-President; Dr. Ghana GURUNG, Conservation Program Director; Dr. Bivash PANDAV, Tiger and Asian Big Cats Programme Coordinator; Steven BROAD, Executive Director, TRAFFIC International

Wild tiger populations are at a tipping point. While many important successes have been gained by the global conservation community, tiger populations are still in steep decline and some estimates predict that tigers could be extinct in the wild by the next Year of the Tiger in 2022.

WWF's plans to secure major political commitments for tiger conservation, through the series of political negotiation meetings occurring throughout the year and leading up to a final Heads of State Tiger Summit in September 2010.

The workshop is hosted by the Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, Government of Nepal, co-organized and co-sponsored by the CITES Secretariat, Global Tiger Forum, Global Tiger Initiative, Save The Tiger Fund, World Bank.

For more information, or to arrange interviews, contact:

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NOTE TO EDITORS: For high-res images: https://intranet.panda.org/wwf_photos/index.cfm?albumId=3703
For b-roll of a Sumatran tiger: <http://www.videonewsmanager.com/Default.aspx?i=2583>



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