

## Foreign Ministry of Trangalla

### Country Background:

Trangalia is one of the largest countries in the region, both in land area and population, with just under one billion people. The government is a partial democracy in which, although elections are held, citizens have little knowledge about the activities of those who exercise real power. There are few civil liberties.



Trangalia is a regional leader in terms of manufacturing, industrial products, and agricultural exports. Manufacturing and agriculture are the primary employers as the country continues to diversify from its roots as a predominantly agricultural nation.

Mining of natural resources is an important export and manufacturing is a growing industry. Trangalia is a member of the G-20 and is currently elected to the UN Security Council for the next two years.

Although Trangalia is forward thinking in its economic interests, traditional ways still play a large part in its culture. Pangolin has long been one source of protein for Trangalians, but is even more important for its use in traditional medicine. Local species of pangolins have been decimated by unregulated hunting, so citizens of Trangalia have turned to Keneselles for pangolin meat and scales.

The booming population growth of Trangalia and the rising standard of living make the demand for pangolin ever more urgent. As pangolin populations decrease, it becomes more expensive and therefore elite conspicuously consume it as a sign of upward social mobility. The decline in pangolin populations and intensified efforts to curb the illegal trade in other countries have led to rising prices for pangolin products - further enticing organized crime rings to smuggle the endangered animals.

The Trangalian government is resistant to limitations on their use of pangolins. Other countries in the region have been putting pressure on it to become signatories to CITES. The government of Trangalia indicates that it will, but never actually follow through. The chances of ratification appear to be very low under the present circumstances. The demand for pangolins in Trangalia is creating instability in the region and encouraging a rise in wildlife trafficking.

### Opening Position:

- You want DOS and neighboring countries to recognize Trangalia's sovereignty and the importance we play politically and economically in the region.
- You suggest that Keneselles should do more to tighten its border against wildlife traffickers.
- You support the free market of supply and demand for your citizen's use of pangolin meat and pangolin scales in traditional medicine.

### Questions to Consider:

- How could the government of Trangalia be influenced to alter its lack of policy with regards to the illegal importation of pangolin?
- Is it possible for Trangalia to create and enforce laws that would protect the native pangolins?
- What facts can you gather to support the current policy towards pangolin in Trangalia?
- What implications do the decisions made by Trangalia have on the future of endangered species, especially the almost decimated local pangolin market and the supply and demand for the product?
- What are some possible solutions that would respect the culture's traditional ways, but provide greater protection for pangolins?