(f) **African elephant worked ivory.** You may export or re-export from the United States worked African elephant (*Loxodonta africana*) ivory and then re-import it without a CITES document if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The worked ivory is a personal or household effect that meets the requirements of paragraphs (c) through (e) of this section and you are a U.S. resident who owned the worked ivory before leaving the United States and intend to bring the item back to the United States.
2. The ivory is pre-Convention (see § 23.45). (The African elephant was first listed in CITES on February 26, 1976.)
3. You may not sell or transfer the ivory while outside the United States.
4. The ivory is substantially worked and is not raw. **Raw ivory** means an African elephant tusk, or any piece of tusk, the surface of which, polished or unpolished, is unaltered or minimally carved, including ivory mounted on a stand or part of a trophy.
5. When you return, you are able to provide records, receipts, or other documents to show that the ivory is pre-Convention and that you owned and registered it before you left the United States. To register such an item you must obtain one of the following documents:
   1. U.S. CITES pre-Convention certificate.
   2. FWS Declaration of Importation or Exportation of Fish or Wildlife (Form 3–177).
   3. Customs and Border Protection Certificate of Registration for Personal Effects Taken Abroad (Form 4457).

[72 FR 48448, Aug. 23, 2007, as amended at 73 FR 40986, July 17, 2008]

§ 23.17 **What are the requirements for CITES specimens traded internationally by diplomatic, consular, military, and other persons exempt from customs duties or inspections?**

A specimen of a CITES species imported, introduced from the sea, exported, or re-exported by a person receiving duty-free or inspection exemption privileges under customs laws must meet the requirements of CITES and the regulations in this part.

§ 23.18 **What CITES documents are required to export Appendix-I wildlife?**

Answer the questions in the following decision tree to find the section in this part that applies to the type of CITES document you need to export Appendix-I wildlife. See § 23.20(d) for CITES exemption documents or § 23.92 for specimens that are exempt from the requirements of CITES and do not need CITES documents.
Decision Tree for Export of Appendix-I Wildlife

Was the specimen collected from the wild or from captive parents that mated in the wild (§ 23.24(j))?  

Yes → Is the export of the specimen for noncommercial purposes?  

No → STOP. Export not allowed.

No → Has the importing country confirmed that a CITES import permit will be issued (§ 23.35(e)), which indicates the source code as “W” (§ 23.24(j))?  

Yes → Requires export permit (§ 23.36) that shows the source code as “W.” Article III of the Treaty.

No → STOP. Export not allowed.

Does the specimen qualify under CITES as bred in captivity?  

Yes → Is the export of the specimen for noncommercial purposes?  

No → Requires export permit (§ 23.36) that shows the source code as “F.” Article III of the Treaty.

Yes → Has the importing country confirmed that a CITES import permit will be issued (§ 23.35(e)), which indicates the source code as “F” (§ 23.24(j))?  

No → STOP. Export not allowed.

Yes → Is the commercial breeding operation listed in the Secretariat’s register for that species (§ 23.46)?  

No → Requires export permit (§ 23.36) that shows the source code as “D” (§ 23.24(c)). No import permit required. Article VII(4) of the Treaty.

Yes → Was the specimen bred for commercial purposes?  

No → STOP. Export not allowed.

Yes → Was the specimen bred at a facility involved in a cooperative conservation program?  

No → Requires export permit (§ 23.36) that shows the source code as “F.” Article III of the Treaty.

Yes → Requires a bred-in-captivity certificate (see § 23.41) that shows the source code as ‘C’ (§ 23.24(b)). No import permit required. Article VII(5) of the Treaty.

Is the export of the specimen for noncommercial purposes?  

No → Requires export permit (§ 23.36) that shows the source code as “F.” Article III of the Treaty.

Yes → Has the importing country confirmed that a CITES import permit will be issued (§ 23.35(e)), which indicates the source code as “F” (§ 23.24(j))?  

No → STOP. Export not allowed.

Yes → Requires export permit (§ 23.36) that shows the source code as “F.” Article III of the Treaty.