

WAZA international partnerships-WAZA Strategies

Compiled from a Power Point presentation by Gerald Dick, Exec. Dir., WAZA



WAZA has entered a phase of intensified working relationships within the international conservation community which is resulting in increased impact, the use of synergies, enhanced visibility and optimised resource use.

At the World Conservation Congress, Barcelona, held on 5-14 Oct 2008, two WAZA initiatives became priorities for IUCN, e.g. the WAZA amphibian resolution (RES 4.017) and the WAZA endorsed resolution on holding a World Species Congress (RES 4.019).

On 17 December 2008, Executive Director of WAZA signed an MoU with IUCN committing to assisting IUCN in a number of campaigns, e.g.

- Public awareness of conservation issues and improvement of access to research carried out in zoos and aquariums
- Continuing support of amphibian conservation
- Promoting the IUCN Red List design
- Promoting CBD's 2010 biodiversity target and beyond and
- Supporting the assessment of species for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ by making zoo/aquarium based research results available

Of course, it goes both ways: WAZA support helps IUCN and IUCN partnership help zoos to become more closely associated with IUCN activities that can be used to add dimension to zoo conservation activities, zoo marketing, zoo signage and zoo educational material generally.

WAZA has received much response and interest in using the IUCN Red List Design from the following zoos: Barcelona, Belfast, Bern, Bristol, Dudley, Durrell, Jersey, Edinburgh, Frankfurt, Nandankanan, Paignton, Perth.

On 2 December 2008 WAZA signed an MoU with CMS, the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals at the Convention of Parties. WAZA participated in a joint side event with Wildlife Conservation Society with both pledging support

for conservation of migratory species and awareness work.

The first joint focus was the Year of the Gorilla YOG 2009 with 109 zoos are supporting YOG 2009 with numerous events. There are awareness days and weeks, fundraising activities, use of informational material, (leaflets, poster, pins, stickers), an International Gorilla Symposium, Frankfurt, the WAZA/ IZE Education Manual in 4 languages already with 600 downloads and a WAZA Gorilla Magazine.

During RAMSAR CoP 10, 28 October-4 Nov 2008 in Chengwon, Korea, WAZA was there as well as the Wetland activities of Seoul Grand Park Zoo. WAZA signed an MoU with RAMSAR, the Convention on Wetlands, 17 June 2009 which includes support of 2010 biodiversity activities, 2 February World Wetlands Day, CEPA focal points, Exchange of information, **and** RAMSAR endorsement of WAZA Aquarium Strategy.

Regarding CITES there was formalised partnership, but cooperation within the Animals Committee's Transport Working Group. There will be *Ad hoc* cooperations also such as training, confiscated animals, data and information on status of wild species, communication and research.

An MoU between WAZA and Convention on Biodiversity, CBD was signed 4 Oct 2009, in St. Louis. The first focus is 2010 and mutual awareness and support with Zoos relating their success stories to raise awareness. Zoos and biodiversity are obvious partners.

There is also a WAZA Book on biodiversity coming out and a WAZA Poster.

