

World Association of Zoos and Aquariums WAZA - 77th WAZA Birthday and 67th WAZA Annual Conference

The World Association of Zoos and Aquariums WAZA celebrated the 77th WAZA Birthday and 67th WAZA Annual Conference on 7 - 11 October, 2012 at Melbourne, Australia, which has one of the more excellent zoos of the WAZA community. The theme of the conference "Fighting Extinction" inspired some interesting papers, one of them included as reprint in this issue. There was a morning spent on population management of Australian species. The film "Mission of Mermaids" described ocean acidification and other aspects for a session on that important topic.

Gerald Dick, Executive Officer prepared a list of particular outcomes from the meeting:

1. Future focus on international population management (GSMP development and implementation with financial support)
2. Development of an animal welfare strategy and revision of the World Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Strategy
3. Adoption of Resolution 67.1, endorsing the new IUCN reintroduction guidelines
4. Adoption of Resolution 67.2 on CO₂ emission reduction and compensation
5. Support of the UN Decade on Biodiversity and development of a sponsored project
6. Planned revision of the WAZA Bylaws 2013 with a view to modernize procedures, to become more efficient and restructure the WAZA committees and other bodies
7. Heini Hediger Award presented to Dr Alex Rübél of Zoo Zürich which was reported in October issue of ZP and will be in the next WAZA News.

Jorg Junghold, President of WAZA, attended all sessions and led several of them which added to the cohesion of the conference.



How to recognise a real zoo man or woman. They can't resist a chance to touch or get close to a legitimately acclimated animal. They can be further recognised by the blissful expression, no matter how crabby otherwise. Jorg happy with a koala and Sally zoning out with an Australian dingo.



Kris Vehrs reporting on her CITES workshop.



Below and left : New WAZA members meet WAZA Council members at the Annual New Members icebreaker.



WAZA Associations Meeting moderated by WAZA President

