



Fifty-seventh WAZA meeting / 250th Anniversary of Schönbrunn Zoo -- Highlights

Keynote speakers	Achim Steiner, Director General, IUCN Claude Martin, Director General, World Wide Fund for Nature Alex Rübel, President, World Association of Zoos and Aquariums
New members	Asian zoo new members and affiliates ZOO, CZA Hagenbeck Tierpark - Carl Hagenbeck
Working groups	Welfare and ethics Aquaria Conservation World Zoo Conservation Strategy Marketing Education



Achim Steiner, Director General, IUCN

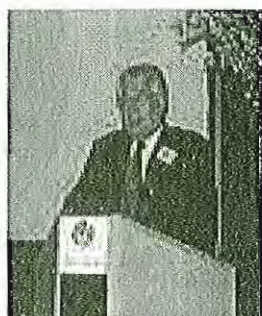
WAZA Conference 2002

After a lavish welcome party the previous night at the historic Vienna Natural History Museum, the 57th WAZA Conference was inaugurated in the ballroom of the Schönbrunn Park Hotel.

The Director of Schönbrunn Zoo, Mr. Helmut Pechlaner, opened the conference with welcoming remarks. Dr. Alex Rübél, President of WAZA and Director of Zurich Zoo, also contributed welcoming remarks.



Alex Rübél, WAZA President



Helmut Pechlaner, Director, Schönbrunn Zoo

Mitchell G. Ash, Historian, University of Vienna gave a fascinating presentation on the history of the Schönbrunn Zoo, well illustrated by rare and valuable photographs and drawings. Dr. Ash is editor of the comprehensive book on history of the zoo which was prepared and published for this event. He is preparing a symposium for the autumn of this year.



Mitchell G. Ash, Historian, University of Vienna

Dr. Günther Liebl, Head of the Department of Nature Conservation and works for the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Affairs, Dr. H.E. Wilhelm Molterer presented the official opening address on behalf of his Minister who was held up in an extraordinary meeting of the government over the flooding disaster affecting Austria and neighboring countries. Highlights of his message included a hearty welcome and the following remarks:

Zoos play an important role in international cooperation in the fields of animal welfare. On the 250th anniversary of the Vienna zoo I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the Director that he managed to invite all the delegates to Vienna for the Congress this year. In the past zoos were menageries where unknown and exotic animals were exhibited. Today zoos have left behind this old fashioned approach. They provide environmental education and training and work to protect species and also practice good welfare. They know how to keep the animals and used this knowledge to keep and breed threatened species. Zoos now also help to protect natural environment. This work must require a complex network of cooperating zoos which helps to protect the wildlife and environment.

This year the Minister gave an environmental award Dr.

Jane Goodall for her work in protecting species and the environment. This year the World Conference on Sustainable Development will be held in Jo'burg, which will discuss sustainable development along with the conservation of biodiversity. Vienna Zoo has participated in many conservation projects such as the reintroduction of the bearded vulture which is fully protected by the Austrian government. Support is given to the Austrian parks, for projects such as Przewalski Horse and vulture in Austria. Protection and conservation of nature is important for *Homo sapiens* and is part of nature and of this world, to protect the environment for them is part of the basis of our own existence. I wish all speakers and delegates a successful congress.

First Technical Session, Wednesday 14 August 2002, Theme: Holistic animal management *ex situ* - the road to conservation *in situ*

Increasing Pressure on Species Diversity and the Role of Zoos

Claude Martin, Director General, WWF International

Over the last 30 years the Living Planet Index - which consists of an extensive accumulation of species population data from the forest, freshwater and marine biomes of the world has decreased by about 35 percent, according to WWF's periodically published Living Planet Report. This is a direct consequence of the increasing "ecological footprint", a measure of humanity's consumptive pressure on the world's natural resources, described in the same report. The human consumption of natural resources overshoot the Earth's biological capacity in the 1980's and is now about 20 percent above the regenerative potential. Humans have started living from the capital rather than just the interest. The Living Planet Index is a stark manifestation thereof, with obvious tendencies to drive more and more species to extinction. We are now losing wild species at a rate that has been estimated to be 100 to 1000 times faster than the historic background rate.

A particularly insidious threat to biodiversity, and species diversity more specifically, arises from the increasingly severe effects of climate change, e.g. in coral reefs and mountain ecosystems. My personal conviction is that scientifically run zoos have an immensely important role to play in species conservation through the safeguarding of genetically viable captive stock, but even more so in terms of their educational role in attracting the curiosity and interest of the broad public and particularly young people to the importance saving wild species, as well as combating the root causes of the degradation of nature. The Living Planet Report can be downloaded from <http://www.panda.org/livingplanet/lpr02/>

Zoos and Aquariums of Tomorrow : Partners in Communicating Conservation

Achim Steiner, Director General, IUCN, The World Conservation Union

Thank you for this opportunity to join your 57th annual meeting here in Vienna and to share with you the IUCN



perspective on the important role of zoos and aquariums in achieving successful conservation of biodiversity. I strongly believe that we are sitting in the same boat, standing in the same queue and more than ever we are now linking in *ex situ* work. We have been linked for a number of years in *ex situ* work and in education, my own motivation for working in conservation started in Zoo Zurich.

IUCN wants 'a just world that values and conserves nature'. Our membership includes more than 320 zoos, aquariums and related regional zoo organisations from 73 countries-you represent an important segment of our constituency. These Zoos and aquaria are visited by more than a 600 million people each year and they represent a significant segment of IUCN's target audience. How can we work together to harness the potential of your organisation to influence and achieve long-term conservation of biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods for humanity?

In 1987, IUCN released a policy statement on captive breeding. In that statement we recognised that habitat protection alone is not sufficient to achieve the expressed goal of the World Conservation Strategy, namely the maintenance of biotic diversity. Establishment of self-sustaining captive populations and other supportive



Jo Gipps, Director, Bristol Zoo; Mark-Stanley Price, Durrell Wildlife Preservation Trust; P. R. Sinha, Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority

intervention was recommended to avoid the loss of many species, especially those at high risk.

Fifteen years have passed since we issued this statement. Habitat destruction, fragmentation and over-exploitation continue. Newly recognized threats in the form of alien invasive species and climate changes are being documented and the situation for biodiversity continues to worsen. The 2000 *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* reports that 24% of mammals and 2% of birds are threatened with extinction. Preliminary studies on other taxa indicate that 20-30% of reptiles, amphibians and fishes are also threatened. Unfortunately very little is yet known of the level of threat facing invertebrate taxa (which contain very large numbers of species), but early indications are that the great majority of species in freshwater habitats are under extreme threat. A further reason for concern is the increase in the numbers of assessed threatened mammals and birds in the Red List Categories of Critically Endangered and Endangered in the last four years alone (1996 to 2000). For example, there has been an increase from 235 Endangered birds in 1996 to 321 in 2000.

The IUCN Conservation Breeding Specialist Group has taken the lead on updating IUCN's 1987 statement and this year we will release a new policy on *ex situ* conservation. We will reaffirm our belief that the goal of biodiversity conservation is the maintenance of existing genetic diversity and viable populations of all taxa in the wild in order to maintain biological interactions, ecological processes and function. However, conservation managers and decision-makers have to adopt a realistic and integrated approach to conservation implementation. Decisions need to be made in consideration of achieving sustainable development as well as biodiversity conservation. The reality of the current situation of continuing threats and dwindling resources is that we shall be unable to ensure the survival of an increasing number of threatened taxa without effectively utilising a diverse range of complementary conservation approaches including *ex situ* techniques.

IUCN is uniquely placed to facilitate solutions. Our membership includes both governments and civil society working together towards common goals. Our Commissions represent the best science available that can be applied to the problems. Our Secretariat is globally distributed - 1,000 staff in 42 offices around the world. You in WAZA are a part of this organization. You can take advantage of IUCN's unique nature to take the message from your world and send it to other audiences. IUCN can benefit from the expertise and commitment of the zoo and aquarium world in order to achieve our mission. But simply keeping threatened species in zoos and aquariums is not the complete answer. Today's zoos and aquariums have the capacity to house and maintain only a small fraction of the world's threatened biodiversity. Your role in conservation goes beyond the animals and plants in your care. Zoos employ hundreds of scientists, educators, and businessmen who have the skills to contribute to the global conservation effort. Results of research conducted in zoos is an important tool to developing a natural resource management plan. Training and exchange of staff provides valuable assistance and increases the capacity of professionals world over.

SSC has a membership of 7000 scientists and experts in over 120 specialist groups. Quite a few of your staff are already in these groups. Zoos should enable staff to participate in SSC and other IUCN projects.

However, perhaps the most valuable asset of the zoo and aquarium community in the effort to conserve biodiversity are the people that come through your gates. Zoo visitors represent a 'captive' audience that visit in order to get closer to 'nature'. The millions that come to your institutions are being nurtured on the material and information that you provide on the biology, status, role in ecosystems and in people's lives are available at every corner. The challenge is how to ensure that the information is providing the right message. Is it helpful to send a message of 'only elephants should I wear ivory' when the people living in African savannahs have to deal with elephants raiding their crops and destroying their horses? People outside of the range countries need a true appreciation of the role of wild plants and animals in local people's lives.

Zoo visitors also represent a significant potential source of resources to support conservation in the field. When educating and inspiring your audiences about the importance of maintaining our environment, zoos can also be a major focal point for highlighting the opportunities to contribute to the effort. Many of your zoos and aquariums already have an active field conservation programme. In this age of partnerships, I can only encourage more of this collaboration with organisations and individuals in the range countries.

IUCN aims to influence encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is 'equitable and ecologically sustainable'. Zoos and aquariums are important partners in this effort. Your visitors will create our future. Let's work together to ensure the best of all possible worlds for people and the biodiversity with which we live.

IUCN



WAZA Group Photo in front of the historic Frühstückspavillon des Kaisers in the Schönbrunn Zoo

WAZA Membership



Total WAZA membership is 213 members as of this year. The total membership is broken down as follows:

193 institutions, 16 associations, 4 affiliates. As a point of reference, at the beginning of 1999, WAZA had 153 members (137 institutions and 16 associations). Seven more institutions were added by the end of that year to bring the total up to 160 members (144 institutions and 16 associations) So membership has grown by 60 members since the beginning of 1999 - 39% increase!

New Affiliate Members

Zoo Outreach Organization, Coimbatore (India) - Ms. Sally Walker
 International Species Information System (ISIS), Apple Valley (USA) - Mr. Nate Flesness
 Central Zoo Authority (India) - Mr. P. R. Sinha, Member Secretary
 International Zoo Educators (USA) - Ms. Annette Berkovits, President
 (Last year: Wildlife Information Network, (UK) - Mrs. Suzie Boardman, Director).

Withdrawal - Association

The New York Wildlife Conservation Society withdrew its 3rd membership (Central Park Zoo).

NFHZG - National Federation of Hungarian Zoological Gardens

New Institutional Members (12):

Everland Zoological Gardens (Korea) - Dr. Nam-shik Shin, Director
 Loro Parque (Spain) - Mr. Wolfgang Kiessling, Administrator General
 Cameron Park Zoo (USA) - Mr. Jim Fleshman, Director
 Zoo La Palmyre (France) - Mr. Claude Cailie, Chairman
 Zoo Landau (Germany) - Dr. Jens-Ove Heckel, Director
 Tiergarten Straubing (Germany) - Mr. Wolfgang P. Peter, Director
 Parco Natura Viva (Italy) - Dr. Cesare Avesani Zaborra, Director
 Parco Zoo Punta Verde (Italy) - Mrs. Maria Rodeano, Director
 Noorder Dierenpark Emmen (The Netherlands) - H. Hiddingh, Director
 Safari Beekse Bergen (The Netherlands) Mr. Wim Verberkmoes
 Santa Barbara Zoological Gardens (USA) - Mr. Richard Block, Director/CEO
 South Carolina Aquarium (USA) - Dr. Christopher Andrews, Director

WAZA Information Packet

WAZA now has an information packet with information sheets on different aspects of the organisation. Attractively printed on separate sheets of heavy paper and kept together in a folder, the packet is an excellent tool for promoting zoos and the organisation that helps the world's zoos set and keep a high moral and ethical standard. They are reproduced here :

What is WAZA?



WAZA is the acronym of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums, which unites, at a global level, zoological gardens, aquaria, national and regional associations, like-minded organizations and individuals willing to abide by its Bylaws and all other rules and regulations set by the Association, including its Code of Ethics. The World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) was founded in 1946 as the International Union of Directors of Zoological Gardens (IUDZG).

The objectives of the Association are:

To promote cooperation between zoological gardens and aquaria with regard to the conservation, management and breeding of animals in captivity.

To promote and coordinate cooperation between national and regional associations and their constituents;
To assist in representing zoological gardens and aquaria in other international organizations or assemblies;
To promote environmental education, wildlife conservation and environmental research.

WAZA unifies close to 200 zoological parks and aquaria, a small number of affiliate members, which support the vision, mission and interests of the association, and 16 national associations with another 800 member institutions.

The 1000 zoos and aquaria organised in the WAZA network and the about 200 institutions organised in national associations not yet members to WAZA receive annually at least 600 million visitors, more than any other group of public, conservation-oriented institutions.

The Association Members of WAZA are:

AIZA Iberian Association of Zoos and Aquaria
AMACZOOA Mesoamerican & Caribbean Zoo & Aquaria Association
ARAZPA Australian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria
AZA American Zoo & Aquarium Association
CAZA Canadian Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums
DAZA Danish Association of Zoological Gardens
EAZA European Association of Zoos and Aquaria
FUNPZA National Foundation of Zoological Parks and Aquaria, Venezuela
JAZGA Japanese Association of Zoological Gardens and Aquariums
FZG The Federation of Zoological Gardens of Great Britain and Ireland

WAZA Facts



UNITED FOR CONSERVATION

PAAZAB Panafrikan Association of Zoological Gardens, Aquaria & Botanic Gardens
SEAZA South East Asian Zoo Association
SZB Sociedade de Zoologicos do Brazil
SAZA Swedish Association of Zoological parks and Aquaria.
UIZA Italian Union of Zoos and Aquaria
VDZ German Federation of Zoo Directors

The HQ of WAZA are located at Berne, Switzerland:

WAZA Executive Office
P.O.Box 23
CH-3097 Liebefeld-Berne
Email: WAZA.Secretariat@bluewin.ch

The WAZA Network - works globally towards *in situ* Conservation



Conservation is not just a question of keeping the last surviving specimens of a species in zoos, nor is it a question of fencing in specific areas to protect specific species. Conservation is a question of saving species from extinction through developments that secure the viability of the populations in an environment that is politically, socially and biologically stable enough to support them far into the future.

Recognising this principle, the conservation activities of zoos

are continuously shifting from simple *ex situ* breeding towards more holistic approach with *in situ* conservation becoming increasingly important.

Ex situ zoo populations can directly support the *in situ* survival of some species by providing the nuclei for re-establishment or reinforcement of wild populations in nature. The World Zoo Conservation strategy emphasizes that such reintroductions and restocking projects, when properly applied (i.e. in agreement with the IUCN/SSC Guidelines for Re-introductions), can bring great benefits to natural biological systems.

Reintroduction and restocking projects have been undertaken with more than 120 species. Typically such projects are carried out by a consortium of zoos and in co-operation with the co-ordinators of the relevant regional *ex situ* programmes and taxon advisory groups. Examples of successful reintroduction projects, each involving several tens of zoos, include the Golden lion-tamarin, the Przewalski's horse, the European bison, the Arabian and the Scimitar-horned oryx, the Addax antelope, the Alpine ibex, the Bearded vulture, the White stork etc.

In addition to the *ex situ* breeding programmes, and the subsequent re-introduction of captive-bred animals to the wild, the zoos' *in situ* activities include now often also educational programmes aimed at the local people and at the politicians, biological programmes (research and monitoring), socio-economical projects, social work among the local people, PR activities and much more on a national and international scale - all in order to secure the conservation efforts far into the future.

WAZA Network - a network of wildlife habitats in urbanised surroundings

Altogether, the 1000 member institutions of WAZA cover an area of more than 300 square kilometers - twice the size of the Swiss National Park, or twice the size of the principality of Liechtenstein. As most zoos are localised in cities or otherwise densely populated areas, they provide an important retreat for many native species, which otherwise could not survive in an urbanised surrounding. Zoos are thus natural islands in an inhospitable environment, serving as step stones or corridors for wildlife.

Several hectares of diverse vegetation, populated with hundreds of animals showing no fear of humans, and food available everywhere - these are factors, which attract wild animals to the zoo. With the exception of a few species, such as red fox, which may decimate bird collections in an unacceptable way, or brown rat, house mouse or certain insects, which pose a major risk of disease transmission, all the animals are welcome. A few species, like wild rabbits or cotton tails, may need some management to keep a balance between vegetation and animals, but the vast majority enjoys full protection, and very often care is taken to provide nesting sites or to otherwise improve their habitat.. The range of wild animal species having chosen to live voluntarily in a zoo is enormous. Mammals comprise

ungulates, like roe deer in Europe, or white-tailed deer in North America; carnivores including fox, raccoon, otter, beech marten, pole cat, stoat or mouse weasel; insectivores like hedgehogs and different shrews; microchiroptera and, in the tropics, frugivorous flying foxes; hares and rabbits; a wide range of tree and ground squirrels and many other rodents.

Zoos are a haven for hibernating birds, but many bird species use zoos also as breeding sites. Among the most conspicuous breeding birds are cormorants, storks, herons, and waterfowl. A closer look will also reveal a large number of passerine species, pigeons and doves, and possibly woodpecker, owls, birds of prey, hummingbirds etc. During a recent wild bird survey at Berlin Zoo, located in the heart of a city of 3.5 million inhabitants, no less than 41 breeding species were identified. The herpetofauna is particularly rich in zoos located in tropical or subtropic areas and includes snakes- up to rock pythons- regularly found at Singapore Zoo, a wide range of lizards, some turtles and also tree frogs and other amphibia.

When visiting your zoo next time, keep an eye on the areas between the enclosures- and you will realise how much your zoo contributes to local biodiversity.

The WAZA network - provides class rooms for environmental education

Zoos reach hundreds of millions of people all over the world, most of them living in urban areas and having little or no contact with nature. They come to the zoo because in one way or another they have an interest in animals.

Consequently, living animals form the basis for education in zoos, however important the manner of exhibition and the addition of other collection components such as plants and non-living materials may be.

Education in zoos focuses increasingly on conservation issues.

The total zoo public, not only children, forms the target groups for informal education in or by zoos, in addition, target groups outside of the zoo can be reached through media presentation. Formal zoo education comprises education that is conducted in the framework of the educational curriculum of schools, colleges etc. within or in relationship with the zoo. Most, if not all zoos, are regularly visited by numerous classes from kindergarden up to university level. These classes receive structured educational tours and lessons focusing around selected themes as part of their formal teaching programme at the zoo. Many zoos have developed professional programmes and facilities for this type of zoo education.

The array of educational possibilities offered by zoo animals is inexhaustible, and certainly does not stop with topics in classical biology. Special emphasis is laid on conservation education. In this context, the Zoo Conservation Strategy recommends that, in addition to approaching conservation issues the view of biological sciences, zoos should also develop educational programmes that elucidate the socio-

economic back grounds of the threats to nature. Through this they should play an active role in increasing the public and political awareness of the connection between consumption and lifestyle and the survival of species and biological systems.

It is of great value that zoos world wide are carrying the same message, and have a network that is demonstrating of nature conservation on a global scale.

Zoo Education worldwide are organised in Zoo Education Associations.

Their global umbrella is the International Zoo Educators Association, an affiliate member of WAZA which organises international meetings on a regular basis, publishes a journal and maintains a website under www.izea.net

The WAZA Network - supports sustainable use of natural resources and environment-friendly production



Considering that most conservation is by protecting habitats or large areas or concentrating on one or more flagship species, remembering that no protected area or species can long exist or be protected in the long term without the support of the local people who live in or around the protected areas or species, and being aware that the local people must have a sufficient income or interest in the protected area to abide by the laws or rules governing the area, it becomes increasingly important to get the interest and support of local communities and people around protected areas.

This often also means to ensure that these people have sources of income and subsistence that are sustainable with the use of natural resources. Often this entails simply providing information and education, but most of the time it also means seeking to assist local people with environmentally friendly production systems and products in and around protected areas. Tourism has been recognized as one way to increase interest in areas or species, however care must be taken to assure that local people and communities benefit from the tourism and not all profits are generated outside the local area. Environmentally friendly production of products such as organic shade grown coffee need to be explored as alternatives to sun grown coffee. Assisting local communities and local coffee companies can have great benefits.

Recently some coffee companies have been willing to contribute a percentage of the sales of their coffee directly back to local conservation efforts. This kind of program benefits local landowners who produce organic shade grown coffee, it supports the local coffee company thereby creating local jobs, it creates funds for local conservation projects and education, while at the same time still providing upper canopy tree cover as habitat for many species. More efforts are needed to assist locals in products such as baskets, carvings, and other handicrafts which create income but do not result in significant increases in forest

destruction, but hopefully will encourage forest or other habitat protection. Butterfly farming as practiced in PNG is another good example where local people are provided with food plants for valuable butterflies, which they plant to attract adult butterflies from the nearby forest to lay their eggs on the plants. The people then harvest some of the butterflies, but must understand that the income from them is clearly dependent on a relatively undisturbed forest habitat for the adult butterflies. This program creates income while encouraging forest protection. Care must be taken to avoid overproduction of any one species which can destroy the market by flooding the limited market for that species.

Conservationists must seek more ways to assist local people in these more sustainable uses of natural resources and environment-friendly production systems.

WAZA News March 2002.

WAZA promotes animal welfare through its Code of Ethics



The continued existence of zoological parks and aquaria depends upon recognition that their operation is based on respect for the dignity of the animals in their care. Whilst recognising that cultural differences exist in different parts of the world, and that each region may have formulated its own Code of Ethics, WAZA strives to develop an ethical tradition which is strong and which will form the basis of a standard of conduct for the zoo profession.

To this effect, WAZA has adopted, in 1999, a Code of Ethics setting basic principles for the guidance of all its members. The Code stipulates that assisting in achieving the conservation and survival of species must be the aim of all members of the profession. Any actions taken in relation to an individual animal. e.g. euthanasia or contraception, must be undertaken with this higher ideal of species survival in mind. Among other things, the Code requests members to

- Promote the interests of wildlife conservation, biodiversity and animal welfare to colleagues and to society at large.
- Cooperate with the wider conservation community including wildlife agencies, conservation organisations and research institutions to assist in maintaining global biodiversity
- Co-operate with governments and other appropriate bodies to improve standards of animal welfare and ensure the welfare of all animals in our care.
- Act, at all times, in accordance with all local, national and international law and to strive for the highest standards of operation in all areas and in particular regarding animal welfare.

-- Acquire preferably captive bred animals by direct zoo-to-zoo contact. This will not preclude the receipt of animals resulting from confiscation or rescues. If animals have to be

obtained from the wild, members must be confident that such acquisitions will not have a deleterious effect upon the wild population.

-- Ensure institutions receiving animals have appropriate facilities to hold the animals and skilled staff who are capable of maintaining high standard of husbandry and welfare. All animals being transferred must be accompanied by appropriate, detailed records allowing the receiving institution to make appropriate decisions regarding the future management of the animal. All animal transfers should conform to the international standards and laws applying to the particular species and, where appropriate, should be accompanied by qualified staff.

-- Consider the possible physiological side effects, as well as the negative impact on behaviour, before a final decisions to implement contraception is made.

-- Follow the IUCN/SSC/Reintroduction Specialist Group guidelines for reintroduction when participating in release-to-the-wild programmes.

-- Euthanise an animal only after all other options have been evaluated, and to ensure that euthanasia is carried out in a manner that ensures a quick death without suffering.

-- Not allow the mutilation of any animal for cosmetic purpose, or to change the physical appearance, and to restrict pinioning of birds as much as possible.

57th WAZA Annual Conference, Vienna 2002.

WAZA's World Zoo Conservation Strategy

In 1993, WAZA published the World Zoo Conservation Strategy, which defines the role zoos and aquaria of the world shall play in global conservation.

The strategy was developed in cooperation with IUCN's Conservation Breeding Specialist Group and received by associations belonging to the global zoo and aquarium network. It is a living document and may be reviewed from time to time.

The aim of the World Zoo Conservation Strategy is to help conserve earth's fast disappearing wildlife and biodiversity. Its main objectives are:

To identify the areas in which zoos and aquaria can make a contribution and determine how zoos and aquaria can support and consolidate the process leading to nature conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

To develop understanding and support for the conservation potential of zoos and aquaria, from national, supranational and global authorities, as well as other social and political bodies and organizations, and, in particular, to convince local zoo and aquarium authorities and conservation agencies that presently the greatest purpose to be served by the existence of these institutions is the contribution they can make to conservation, both directly and indirectly.

To assist zoos and aquaria in the formulation of policies wherein priorities relating to conservation are incorporated.

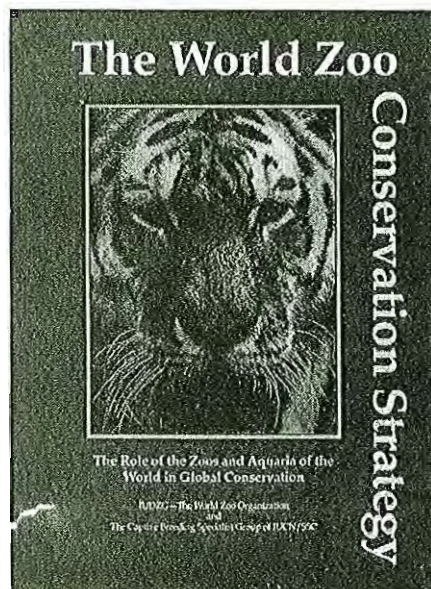
To indicate how contributions by the individual zoo and aquarium can be augmented by extending and intensifying of contacts in the global zoo and aquarium network and other conservation networks.

The World Zoo Conservation Strategy stipulates that zoos and aquaria should: Actively support, through coordinated programmes, the conservation of populations of endangered species *in situ* and *ex situ* and, through these, contribute to the conservation of natural habitats, biotopes and ecosystems.

Offer support and facilities in order to increase scientific knowledge that will benefit conservation, and lend support to the conservation community by making available relevant knowledge and experience.

Promote an increase of public and political awareness of the necessity for conservation, natural resource sustainability, and the creation of a new equilibrium between people and nature.

The World Zoo Conservation Strategy emphasizes that the growing global zoo network seeks to further intensify the integration that is crucial to successful conservation. Each individual zoo can contribute to this by actively cooperating with other parties within and outside the zoo community. The entire global zoo network, comprising over 1000 organised zoos world wide, can contribute by stimulating individual zoos, by providing them with direction and by integrating the efforts of their network with those of other nature conservation-oriented networks, such as IUCN. This great mustering of all available powers will be necessary to give our Earth's biosphere and all its living elements the best possible chance of survival.



New Project of WAZA: Production of the Second Edition of the World Zoo Conservation Strategy

Proposal by: Ulie Seal (CBSG), Alex Rübél (WAZA) and Bert de Boer (previous author)

10 February 2002

Why a second edition of WZCS?

The first edition of WZCS was presented at the WAZA/CBSG annual meeting of 1993. This document had an (unexpected) great impact on the attitude of the zoos and aquariums of the world towards conservation. Additionally, it played a major role in convincing national and international authorities and conservation bodies of the willingness and the potentials of zoos and aquariums to contribute to conservation.

The production of a second edition of this important document is now proposed because:

1. much has changed in the world of conservation, society and science since 1993, and an update of WZCS is needed as a reaction to these changes.
2. a new momentum is needed to bring zoo and aquarium conservation to a next, important step further
3. much experience on possible contributions of the zoo and aquarium communities to conservation has accumulated, which should be shared in order to considerably increase the overall impact.
4. the first edition of WZCS predominantly focussed on the importance of *ex situ* conservation, whereas, meanwhile, a major shift of attention of zoos towards *in situ* involvement has taken place.

Deadline for presentation of the Second Edition

Presentation of the second edition of WZCS is proposed to occur exactly ten years after the presentation of the first edition. That is:

August/September 2003, on the occasion of the WAZA/CBSG Annual Meetings in Costa Rica.

It is proposed to produce the second edition of WZCS under the auspices of WAZA and CBSG; that is the same construction as in 1993, involving the global umbrella organisation for zoos and aquariums as well as the most relevant Specialist Group of IUCN.

Proposed documents to be produced

The Steering Group proposes to produce four (types of) documents:

1. The "Foundation Document". This document will describe the philosophy, the backgrounds, and the main conclusions with regard to the potential contributions of the zoo and aquarium communities to conservation. This document will be comparable to the style, size and format of the first edition of WZCS.
2. "Action Plans". These should be produced at various levels: a. WAZA, b. Regional/National Zoo associations/federations, c. individual zoos.
3. A "Handbook of practical tools". This handbook should

provide the individual institution (zoo/aquarium) with an extensive set of practical suggestions on how to increase its institutional contribution to conservation.

4. A "Marketing Document". This is a document (mainly for WAZA; maybe also for the regional associations) to market the global zoo and aquarium communities' conservation potentials, and to raise funds for these. This document may be similar to the "Executive Summary" of the WZCS in 1993, but with a much more professional marketing style/input.

Proposed working groups

The Steering Group proposes to install working groups for the production of each of the above documents 1-3. Document 4 requires professional PR/Marketing input, which however, cannot be mobilised before the contents of the other three documents is broadly outlined.

It is proposed that the three working groups are composed of Zoo/Aquarium colleagues with broad expertise of the relevant aspects, and with an analytic/synthetic/global view of the zoo-conservation-connection. Formal representation of regional associations in the working groups - for the time being - is considered less important. All emphasis should be on quality and vision.

The Steering Group will provide briefings to all of the three working groups in regard of their composition, their task, and their time schedule.

Ownership and regional input

All sectors of the global zoo and aquarium community should feel ownership of the first edition. This means that all sectors should be involved in the production of the second edition in such a way that they have maximum possibilities for input, without the risk that one of these regions exercises dominance over any of the others. In order to attain this objective, the Steering Group will organise mailings of the "in between products" of the independent working groups to all relevant associations. Additionally, discussions on the various aspects of the production of the second edition of WZCS will be organised at the 2002 annual meetings of CBSG and WAZA (Vienna, August 2002).



CIRCC Committee for Inter-Regional Cooperation in Conservation

Introduction

CIRCC is a standing committee of WAZA charged by WAZA Council to facilitate, promote and support the work of member associations and institutions in wildlife and habitat conservation from a global perspective. A central component of CIRCC's role is to establish cooperative structures that promote and assist cooperation among the regional associations with respect to *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation.

The committee met for one day at Schönbrunn Zoo prior to the CBSG Meeting, with representation from the WAZA Executive Office, AZA, EAZA, ARAZPA and ISIS. (*Editor's note: WAZA has representatives from all tropical regions also but it happened that all -- Africa, Asia and Meso-America -- had flight delays and could not attend*).

International Studbooks

The international studbook program is run through the efforts of the International Studbook Coordinator, Peter Olney, and administered under CIRCC. The program currently oversees the management of 172 International Studbooks. One new international studbook was established during the year, for the Golden snub-nosed monkey. Several changes to studbook keepers or host institutions occurred and five vacancies currently exist. All international studbooks are listed with studbook keeper details and summarised studbook data, in the International Zoo Year Book, volume 37.

Studbook management

CIRCC has noted for some time that, increasingly, regional studbooks are being developed in parallel with studbooks in other regions and those held by an international studbook coordinator. This duplicates effort, both on the part of the studbook keepers, and of the institutions reporting to the studbook keepers.

Consequently, CIRCC has developed guidelines for managing the interaction between international and regional studbooks. These have been agreed upon by the meeting participants, and will be included in studbook procedures in the various regions and in the rules of international studbooks. The guidelines recognise, and aim to support, the key role that regional studbook keepers play, as effective local contacts, often possessing important local knowledge. The guidelines also are directed at establishing channels of communication amongst regional studbook keepers and with international studbook keepers.

Global conservation breeding programs

There are currently a number of avenues by which regional species management programs are broadened to represent a combined global conservation breeding strategy. To date, such programs have largely been developed on an *ad hoc* basis. As a consequence, we currently have very few good working examples of true global conservation breeding program, the Golden lion-tamarin being one such case.

CIRCC is currently developing guidelines aimed at:

- Identifying priority species for which global captive



WORLD ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS
WAZA

WAZA Meetings

Committee for Inter-Regional
Conservation Cooperation
(CIRCC)

Schönbrunn, 9th August 2002



Alcedo pernyi (Kingfisher) at Schönbrunn Zoo's Bird House

management strategies are needed

- Ensuring that global conservation breeding programs include the critical elements to ensure appropriate collaboration and good program management, these being:
- An appropriate, properly representative management structure responsibility for the on-going review of program objectives methodologies
- Appropriate avenues for the input and involvement of range states
- Processes for stakeholder consultation and dispute resolution

Essentially, this will amount to a process by which WAZA can encourage the development of global conservation breeding programs for species of global concern, and formerly recognize and endorse those programs established according to WAZA guidelines. Not only will this result in providing structures for greater collaboration in the zoo and aquarium community, but also will provide WAZA with a valuable promotional tool with which to highlight the work of zoos and aquariums. When completed, CIRCC will present these proposals to WAZA Council for consideration, and seek a role in their implementation.

CITES

The interpretation of international regulations and treaties governing wildlife transactions impacts greatly on our ability

to pursue international collaboration. This was clearly identified during the recent CBSG meeting, and at the preceding CIRCC meeting. Through the Director, WAZA has increased its input into the relevant CITES Committees. One of the many important issues that remain outstanding, is the interpretation of 'non-commercial' in relation to transactions involving CITES I species. Different countries interpret this term differently. CIRCC recommends that WAZA develop a position on the definition of zoo and aquarium conservation breeding transactions, and what constitutes 'non-commercial'.

ISIS

Discussions on the current plans for the development of the next generation of zoo and aquarium data management systems focused largely on a key role for the regional associations in improving current ISIS data in preparation for its conversion to the new system. CIRCC recognized the critical importance of this work and regional associations have committed to provide the necessary assistance. ISIS has been charged with identifying specific actions in the ISIS data clean up campaign which will be most effectively undertaken by regional associations.

Training Grant

The WAZA Training Grant is administered by CIRCC. This is an important WAZA initiative that was established in 1996 as a result of the Denver CIRCC meeting. WAZA funding support is available for training initiatives that are directed towards those regions most in need, particularly of training in the fundamentals, and that develop and encourage inter-regional partnerships. The underlying philosophy of the WAZA training grant program reflects WAZA's aims to enable the less developed regions to benefit from the experience and expertise of the more developed regions.

Only three grant applications were received for the 2002 round. These have been assessed, and recommendations forwarded to the WAZA Council.

CIRCC was concerned that this year's granting round attracted relatively few applications. The Committee reviewed the granting process and has identified a number of areas that could be strengthened, both to provide more guidance to applicants, and to allow WAZA to target, more directly, the training needs identified by CIRCC. CIRCC is currently preparing a new training grant strategy aimed at publicizing the grant more widely, developing more detailed application guidelines and supporting material, and strengthening the review and feedback process.

CIRCC Resource Sharing

One of the primary roles of CIRCC is to establish structures for improving communication and resource sharing among the regions. In many instances, documentation, policy development work, resource manuals and guidelines developed by one region can be of substantial use in other regions. CIRCC has been working towards establishing protocols and mechanisms for resource sharing amongst member associations. CIRCC pages will be added to the current WAZA website, providing the means for storage and access to CIRCC documents such as program guidelines, international studbook information, rules and procedures, WAZA training grant application guidelines and information,

etc. In addition, all CIRCC members will now be provided access to the file download areas of CIRCC member web sites.

Next meeting

CIRCC has now developed an ambitious program for the coming year and has identified the need to meet more often in the short term to progress this. The Committee proposes to convene a mid-year meeting in conjunction with mid-year meetings for the WAZA Council and ISIS Board.

Education Committee -- Vienna 2002.

WZCS

IZE must be part of the partnership working on this new document and should be involved at every stage. Proposal to WAZA Council that there is representation from IZE on the Steering Committee of WZCS Document and also that IZE are involved in reading and commenting on the document throughout the whole process and could provide good input for the 'Tools' component

IZE & WAZA: the future

WAZA has accepted that IZE is the official education arm. But this is not generally known and needs clarification. More IZE board members need to come to WAZA and play an active role.

Specific invitations to specific sessions on specific topics may be a good idea.

Zoo Directors who have a particular interest in coming to the Education Committee to come forward.

Ask WAZA members what education needs they may want to articulate to IZE

IZE will also carry out a needs assessment with their members

Clarify the standing of the Education Committee within WAZA. Should it have Standing Committee Members? These could be IZE board and some members of WAZA.

Improve the linkage between representation of IZE at WAZA conferences.

- People representation
- Location choice

Improving this linkage will help zoos achieve their conservation education goals, both in country and in the field.

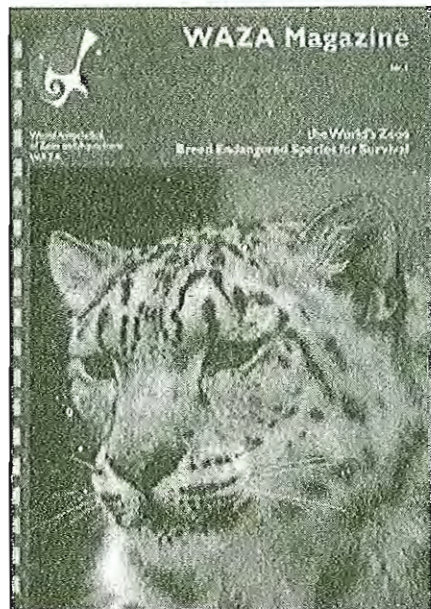


WAZA's Suite of Publications



country and state with in the country. The information is easily accessible and it is clear who are Association Members, Institution Members, and Affiliate Members.

Congratulations to Peter Dollinger and his efficient staff for getting all these high quality publications together so quickly.



WAZA has a new set of publications, ably edited by WAZA Executive Director, Dr. Peter Dollinger. Each publication is meant to serve a very specific function for the membership of zoos and zoo affiliated. The Magazine is intended as a promotional organ for the conservation aim of zoos. Zoos can send copies of the articles to press or donors, use them as the most up-to-date stories of the conservation projects of the established zoo community. Some examples of articles, which are primarily about *in situ* conservation projects of zoos cooperating with one another and with the field community, include the story of the Atlantic Rainforest. Another is the role of aviculture in conservation at Adelaide Zoo. One more is the Game Breeding Centre of the Zoological Gardens of South Africa.

The Newsletter -- WAZA News -- is full of items which are about and of current interest to the zoo community -- a "Page of the President", a letter from IZE, Australian impressions of the Perth WAZA conference last year, Recommendations to WAZA for conservation tasks, the WAZA office, Training Grants, the funds raised for Lion-tamarin Conservation and the blind lion by zoo.

The last publication is the WAZA Directory which lists all categories of members of WAZA by continent,



South Asians at WAZA



P. R. Sinha at opening social event. Also pictured Dr. Bob Lacey (author of VORTEX) and Koehn Browner (Director of EAZA)



Sally Walker and Vienna Zoo Director, Helmut Pechlaner at another zoo social event of WAZA.

