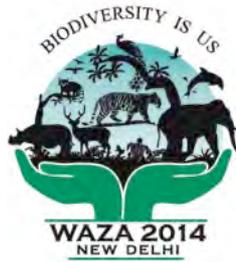


69th Annual Conference of World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) in collaboration with the Central Zoo Authority of India, MOEF&CC, & Govt. of India



After the CBSG meeting and before the inauguration of the 69th WAZA Conference, all participants from both CBSG and WAZA were invited to an afternoon at the National Zoological Park and later to a Sound and Light Show very nearby the zoo.

The 69th Annual WAZA Conference was inaugurated on Monday, 3rd November in the conference hall. After lighting the lamp and having a prayer Sri Bishan Singh Bonal, Member Secretary, Central Zoo Authority gave the first address, followed by many dignitaries. S.S. Garbyal, D.G. of Forests in MOEF & CC began followed by Ashok Lavasa, Secretary, MOEF & CC. Sri Prakash Javadekar, Minister of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, released a variety of publications. Sri Vasumitra, Chief Post Master General, released a Special Postal Cover themed "Biodiversity is US". The Minister, Prakash Javadekar delivered an address. Dr. Lee Ehmke, President of WAZA welcomed the audience and Dr. Amitabh Agnihotri, Director, National Zoological Park, New Delhi delivered a Vote of Thanks.

Keynote speakers were Joel Sartore, Photographer and Fellow, National Geographic Society, David J. Mellor, Professor of Animal Welfare Science and of Applied Physiology and Bioethics, Massey University, New Zealand.

After lunch the Technical Sessions began in the Convention Hall until evening. The President's Reception for new members was held and afterwards the Social Dinner at Convention Hall, Ashok Hotel, New Delhi.

On Tuesday, 4th November, the Technical Congress continued after a Keynote in the Convention Hall, Ashok. There was a presentation of new members in the afternoon and an Exhibition and Poster Session with Cocktails. Following there was an optional RBS Conservation Award Ceremony and dinner at Indira Gandhi, National Center for the Arts.

Wednesday, 5th November Workshops were held through Lunch. and in the afternoon and evening there was a Delhi City Tour and a Tour to Kingdom of Dreams, Guragaon. Later there was an Opera and Dinner at Kingdom of Dreams. The Indian Opera was truly outstanding!

Thursday, 6th November again Workshop was conducted into the afternoon where there was a second Plenary session and later the 2nd Administrative Session. A Gala Dinner was given at Convention Hall, Ashok where dancers convinced most of the participants to join them in traditional Indian dancing.



WAZA discussions on Global Species Management, WAZA Conservation Strategy and TOR for Associations Committee

The working structure of these workshops was made up of presentations followed by discussion of the outcome and suggestion of next actions.

Workshop I focused on *Global Species Management* -Chair and Rapporteur Jenny Gray

Jenny opened the workshop which consisted of four input presentations, each followed by a discussion:

Progress in population management. (Jenny Gray)

1. Progress in global population management (Markus Gusset)
2. ISIS ZIMS R3 population management module (Peter Donlon)
3. AZA's Safe Animals from Extinction (SAFE) initiative (Kevin Bell) Jenny welcomed and introduced the workshop to CPM.

Jenny began by stating that we manage our populations for three reasons:

1. To retain genetic diversity in captive populations,
2. To secure species for display, with reduced need for wild take of animals for display; and
3. To contribute to conservation through breeding and release programmes.

There are a number of tools to support global species management and population management:

- **Taxon Advisory Groups (TAGs)** use data in the studbooks to make breeding and transfer recommendations. TAGs also provide input and support on husbandry and care of animals.
- **Studbooks** track the lineage and history of each species. International Studbooks (ISBs) include all animals held globally.
- **Global Species Management Plans** (GSMPs) consider the international moves or actions that will have the greatest benefit to the genetics of the captive population.
- **ISIS' Zoological Information Management System** (ZIMS) is the electronic platform that holds records of the global animal collection

Outcome/suggested next steps:

- Higher staff efficiency - less effort required for studbooks, programmes, etc.
- More accessible data for local animal management staff;
- "Everything on one page" - integrate ZIMS with regional associations' animal management programme recommendations;
- Beyond studbooks - expand community ability to manage many more species'

populations in a sustainable way, not just the studbook ones;

- One Plan approach - how to link field conservation to the zoo populations, expertise and resources;
- Need to create a central list of species being bred for release - suggested a survey of zoo directors;
- Recommended that a paper on this topic would be useful, as it appears that zoos do more work than is credited to zoos.

Workshop III - WAZA Conservation Strategy Chair & Rapporteur: Rick Barongi

Chair presented overview and update on revision of the 2005 World Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Strategy (WZACS). The revised version of the Strategy will be more targeted to institution directors and board leadership and will include:

- more concise chapter summaries;
- more comprehensive online resource guide;
- new developments since 2005, such as climate change, social media, collection sustainability and the One Plan approach;
- animal welfare and ethics as it pertains to connecting our zoo and aquarium animals to wild populations; and
- Discussions which are more user-friendly, have stronger metrics and have a stronger business case for how supporting conservation is good for your business model.

Outcome/suggested next steps:

- Handed out a sign-up sheet for all participants to volunteer to review and edit chapters in revised version;
- Received consensus on timelines for next steps in development of revised version; and
- Recorded feedback from many participants.

Workshop IV - WAZA Conservation Strategy, Chair & Rapporteur: Rick Barongi

Rotation among three discussion groups:

Markus Gusset (group I): Online resource guide - key components to complement revised version of WZACS.

Jenny Gray (group II): Contributions to conservation success - how do we measure up?

Rick Barongi (group III): Models for successful conservation integrations - inspirational stories and creative marketing ideas

Discussion items were captured and are available on the WAZA website. Many good suggestions were received on how to make the revised version of

WZACS more effective in motivating all institutions to devote more resources to biodiversity conservation.

Workshop V - Animal Welfare Strategy

Chair & Rapporteur: Susan Hunt

This workshop outlined the progress to date on the WAZA Animal Welfare Strategy. It commenced by providing background and summarizing the key recommendations approved by WAZA Council. Then we heard from some of the chapter authors including Prof. David Mellor who has been instrumental in the adoption of the approach that underpins the Animal Welfare Strategy.

Chapter and authors outlined the content of their chapters.

- Heribert Hofer on Research and Animal Welfare (presented by Markus Gusset)
- Markus Gusset on Conservation and Animal Welfare
- Julia Hanuliakova on Exhibit Design and Animal Welfare
- Dave Morgan on Partnerships and Animal Welfare

Following the presentations there were questions and answers from the floor. Issues raised included:

- The need to keep the Strategy accessible and easy to use – concerns that it may be too long;
- that some aspects of the Strategy could be used against zoos, as had happened in some parts of the world;
- to emphasise the professionalism of staff as necessary for good animal welfare;
- work required in linking the chapter intent with recommendations;
- the Five Domains model of animal welfare applied to zoos and the necessity to develop and be clear about the 'spectrum' of animal welfare states;
- how far zoos could progress the notion of animal 'happiness' states;

- we measure stress in animals but need to separate what is 'good stress' and what is stress indicating bad animal welfare;
- control in zoos and how this is related to animal welfare; and
- the imperative to balance conservation and animal welfare requirements in zoos.

Outcome / suggested next steps:

The input from the workshop and other comments received via e-mail and on WAZA's website will be incorporated into the next draft of the Strategy. Members were encouraged to be actively involved in providing input.

Workshop VI - Seven Strategic Directions of WAZA's corporate strategy

The Seven Strategic Directions of WAZA's corporate strategy: An Updated Approach for the Next 5 Years. The workshop divided participants into six different groups, each group was facilitated by a WAZA Council member, so that the outcomes of the discussions could be captured. The discussions focused on the following 7 Strategic Directions for the period from 2015 – 2020.

Strategic Directions for 2015-2020

1. Develop and deliver WAZA's core conservation activities
2. Develop and strengthen WAZA's external partnerships
3. Increase WAZA's visibility and positive impact
4. Require members of WAZA to operate at a higher level in terms of welfare, conservation, animal programmes and communication 1
5. Business stability and growth
6. Develop and deliver WAZA's core welfare activities
7. Collaborate and deliver professional species management at the global level.

Council will consider the inputs at April meeting.



**Dr. Anne Baker
receiving
prestigious Heini
Hediger award**

TOR for Associations Committee

Lee Ehmke and Kris Vehrs

This committee has oversight over facilitating collaboration between and amongst the Association members of WAZA and WAZA. The Committee's general purpose is to strengthen the cohesion and cooperation of the global zoo and aquarium community.

Aim

To strengthen WAZA membership by:

- Providing a venue and/or forum for member Associations to discuss issues that could strengthen global partnering and support and provide WAZA Council with guidance on issues;
- Providing a venue and/or forum for member Associations to discuss their strategic goals, the strategic goals of WAZA and how WAZA and its Association members can support each other's goals;
- Promoting opportunities for member Associations to coordinate their conservation goals with one another and with those of WAZA;
- Facilitating proactive overall communication and cooperation amongst the WAZA member associations;
- Promoting opportunities for member Associations to access/share documents/position statements, etc.

Objectives

The committee meets on an annual basis to share ideas on issues of relevance to the Associations and therefore WAZA. In addition, the Committee can meet virtually on line as needed.

Membership

Vice-Chairs

The President of WAZA has the authority to appoint the vice-chairs as per Article VII, section 2 of the WAZA Bylaws. One of the vice-chairs shall be the President of WAZA Council. Additional vice-chairs shall be the Executive or President of the co-opted members of WAZA Council.

Members of the Committee

All Association members of WAZA may be members of the Associations Committee.

Term of office

The vice-chairs and the Members of the Steering Committee serve for a term of two (2) years with an option of one additional term.

Meetings

Committee work is mainly organized via e-mail or other electronic means, a physical meeting takes place at the occasion of the Annual Conference.

Reporting

The vice-chairs of the committee report twice a year to WAZA Council (at the midyear meeting and at the Annual Conference) and present an update at the annual administrative session.

Decisions

The committee takes decisions by a simple majority.



WAZA Conference logo on a cake!