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REGIONAL NEWS

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Editorial

DEAR READERS

Zimbabwe and Botswana say they are ill-equipped to deal with poachers without the money from ivory sales, especially because earnings from tourism have dwindled due to COVID—19 related travel restrictions since 2020. Zimbabwe has opened an international conference to try

to win international support for its campaign to be allowed to sell its stockpile of seized ivory. See lead article for more information.

WARM REGARDS
GISELA PIERCEY



GISELA PIERCEY,
EDITOR «SWISS REVIEW
SOUTHERN AFRICA»

Zimbabwe:

Diplomats assess ivory stockpile in Zimbabwe and discuss conservation

The Zimbabwe Parks Management Authority (ZimParks) recently opened its closely guarded vaults containing 151'000 tonnes of ivory and rhino horn to a team of Western diplomats led by the Ambassador of Switzerland, Mr. Niculin Jäger.

Zimbabwe's estimated 70,000 elephants are over the carrying capacity of its national parks. There has been increased human-wildlife conflict in national parks that are close to human settlement.

The ZimParks director-general, Fulton Mangwanya said a "one-off sale" of the collection, taken from smugglers and poachers, and harvested from carcasses found in the country's national parks, could raise US\$600 million, and the proceeds go towards wildlife management.



The sale of ivory has been banned since 1989 by Cites, the international body that monitors endangered species. © Richard Nyamanhindi 2021

The sale of ivory has been banned since 1989 by Cites, the international body that monitors endangered species.

"Conservation and prevention of illegal wildlife trade is an international issue because of the involve-

ment of criminal syndicates in illegal wildlife trade, hence there is a need to strengthen international cooperation," said Ambassador Jäger.

On behalf of the delegation, Ambassador Jäger said Zimbabwe has a rich bio-diversity and the delegation was keen to continue providing support towards the conservation of the endangered animals.

Zimbabwe: Swiss-Zimbabwe Business Chamber elects new board of directors

The Swiss-Zimbabwe Business Chamber has announced a new expanded Board of Directors in order to foster a vibrant business community while serving as a convenor and catalyst for economic cooperation between Switzerland and Zimbabwe.

With Switzerland being one of the leading European investor in Zimbabwe, the board members of the Business Chamber have promised to play a significant role in promoting the trade relationship between the two countries going forward. The new board will also act as a platform for cooperation with various players including small-to-medium enterprises, multinational companies and the



Government of Zimbabwe in marketing the country and the engagement policy.

The new five member board include Raphael Curiger of Pure Africa, Luke Gomes, Managing Director of Nestlé Zimbabwe, Karen Chawatama of Roche Products Pvt Ltd,

Nigel Drummond of Swiss Bioceutical and Geoffery Ndungwa, the Managing Director of Lafarge Cement Zimbabwe.

The Swiss-Zimbabwe Business Chamber was created in June 2021 as a business platform built to strengthen bilateral trade and investment ties between the two countries.

From left to right: Nigel Drummond (Swiss Bioceutical, CEO), Karen Chawatama (Roche Products Pvt. Ltd, Zimbabwe representative), Luke Gomes (Nestlé Zimbabwe, CEO) and Niculin Jäger (Ambassador of Switzerland to Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi). © Embassy of Switzerland in Zimbabwe

TimeDate Music – for peace in the world

On the International Day of Peace, 21st of September 2023, this major event will take place on many stages around the world. The event is based on the idea by Swiss musician and project initiator Helena Rööslü.

On this day, choirs around the world, will perform «The Peacemakers», a composition for choir and orchestra by Karl Jenkins. Based on the different time zones, the words of peace in this musical work will resound around the globe uninterrupted for 24 hours.

Give peace a voice

With this idea and unique message of peace the organisers are hoping to send out a signal for worldwide solidarity and human dignity. An issue more relevant and urgent than ever!

At the concert in Switzerland Lea Suter – the activist «Peacemaker» and UN peace representative – will demonstrate her experience in the field. Her impressive portraits of «current Peacemakers» from war zones will accompany the concert and strengthen the musical appeal for the global search for peace.

It would be desirable for the concerts in other countries to also be accompanied by an active peace messenger.

«An appeal to all of us, wherever we are, to contribute to an uncompromising desire for peace and a 'never-again-war' attitude». QUOTE BY LEA SUTER – WWW.PEACEPRINTS.CH

The association TimeDate, with its headquarters in Lucerne – Switzerland, has taken the responsibility for organising this unique worldwide musical event for the International Day of Peace on 21st September 2023. The association is further responsible for the concert in Lucerne.

Have we sparked your interest?

We are looking for enthusiastic choirs (globally), supportive sponsors and creative contributors, who, through music, would like to strengthen positive peace efforts throughout the world.

Join the movement and raise your voice with us. United our call for peace will be stronger!

If you have any questions or would like to contact us, please write to us at: info@timedate.ch

ASO News

Dear fellow Swiss, finally there seems to be some movement on the E-Voting front. Regarding the Banking Issue, ASO is currently in the process to negotiate easier access to banking facilities with the BCGE. Pierre Yves Roten is the 2nd ASR Council member for the Southern African Region. He lives in Mauritius. I met with him in Mauritius at the End of May.

We are extremely grateful for the excellent cooperation with the Regional Consular Centre in Pretoria and also with Embassy in Pretoria.

I will attend the ASO Congress in Lugano from 19 to 21 August.

HANS-GEORG BOSCH, aso@hbosch.com

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■ Dear Fellow Swiss in the greater Pretoria Region. When you read this, our first event of 2022, namely the Fondue Evening on 25th June will have taken place. Our long serving Secretary – Biffy van Rooyen has resigned from her post as Secretary at this year's AGM. We thank her for her outstanding service to the club. Caroline Silvester will take over from her. On 30th July, we will host the annual 1st of August Celebrations at the German Church Hall next to the DSP.

On a very sad note we extend our sincere condolences to Caroline and the Jensen and Silvester families, on the passing of Caroline's father Werner Jensen.

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SWISS COUNTRY CLUB REST

«The Courier», T 011 805 3040

Devan Govender, C 079 519 3563,

Tue-Sat 11-21h30

■ Rest./kitchen, 11-24h Bar, Sun 10-17h

Our Clubs of Society: Amicale Suisse

Romande, Boccia, Skittling Club.

Associated Groups: Swiss Choir, Swiss

Rifle Club, Swiss Golf, Senior Swiss Circle

meets every 2nd Saturday of the month

for Lunch, Swiss Ladies meet every

4th Thursday of the month for lunch.

SWISS RIFLE CLUB JOHANNESBURG

Contact: info@srcjhb.co.za

Website <http://www.srcjhb.co.za/>

■ We shoot every 4th Sat of the month, from 9am. We normally shoot two different programs, with Swiss rifles, provided by the club. Visit our Facebook site or call *Daniel*: 082 569 9146

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■ JASS EVENTS: This is held on the second Friday of each month and will commence at 2 p.m. and is held at Rolf Klein Jass Stube, 3 Bona Terra Road, Assagay (directions on our website).

■ SPORT TARGET SHOOTING: Held on the 4th Saturday of each month (weather permitting) commencing at 08:30 a.m. - Nottingham Road (calendar available on our website).

*For more up-to-date information regarding times/venues/directions, please visit our most informative website – www.swissclubnatal.org.za

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IMPRESSUM

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FOR ADDRESS CHANGES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICIAL SWISS REPRESENTATION IN YOUR COUNTRY AND DON'T EMAIL THE EDITOR OF SWISS REVIEW SOUTHERN AFRICA. THANK YOU.

NEXT REGIONAL ISSUE DEADLINES

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