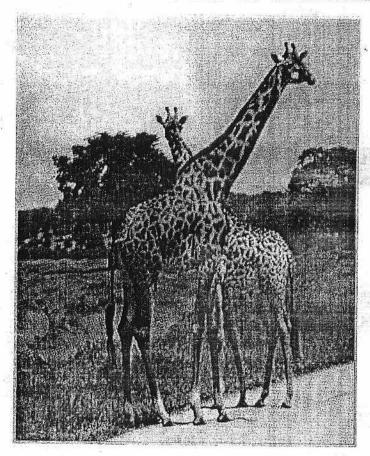


African Buffalo



## THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

# MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND TOURISM THE WILDLIFE POLICY OF TANZANIA



REVISED MARCH, 2007

## VISION AND MISSION

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism is charged with formulating a wildlife policy, overseeing its administration and co-ordinating the development of the wildlife sector in Tanzania. The vision of the Ministry is "sustainable conservation of natural and cultural resources and development of responsible tourism". In this context the vision of the wildlife sub-sector focus on the ministerial vision, as well as the National Development Vision 2025 on aspects regarding environmental sustainability and socio-economic transformation.

The vision for the wildlife sub-sector is "sustainable conservation of wildlife and wetlands resources".

The mission of the wildlife sub-sector is to conserve, manage and develop wildlife and wetland resources, and sustainable utilisation that will contribute towards poverty reduction through:

- Administration and regulation,
- Promotion of participation of stakeholders in conservation and sustainable utilisation of wildlife and wetlands resources.
- Promotion of wildlife and wetlands resources for economic development, and,
- Promotion of information sharing and exchange of expertise nationally, regionally and internationally

## THE WILDLIFE POLICY OF TANZANIA

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Tanzania
REVISED MARCH, 2007

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## 1.0 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The wildlife conservation in Tanzania dates back in 1891 when laws controlling hunting were first enacted by the German rule. These laws regulated the off-take, the hunting methods and the trade in wildlife, with some endangered species being fully protected. The first Game Reserves were established in 1905 by the Germans in the area which now forms the Selous Game Reserve. Game Reserves were chosen mainly for their concentrations of big game rather than their biological diversity.

In 1921 the British Government established the Game Department followed by the gazettement of the first Game Reserve, the Selous Game Reserve in 1922. The roles of the Game Department were to administer the Game Reserves, enforce the hunting regulations and protect people and crops from raiding animals. Later on, the then Ngorongoro Crater Closed Area and Serengeti Game Reserves were established in 1928 and 1929, respectively.

Tanganyika was always famous for its variety of big game, wildlife numbers and diversity of landscapes and in those early days, attracted a steady stream of wealthy hunters. The sport (tourist's hunting) industry dates back to 1946 when Game controlled Areas (GCAs) were established and divided into hunting blocks, where professional hunters and their clients could hunt trophy animals.

The present framework of Wildlife Protected Areas (PAs) in Tanzania comprising of National Parks, Game Reserves and Game Controlled Areas was started after World War II. In 1951 the Serengeti National Park which incorporated the Ngorongoro Crater was gazetted followed by several National Parks (NPs) and Game Reserves (GRs).

In 1961 there were three (3) National Parks and nine (9) Game Reserves and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. After independence it was the policy of the Government to continue with the extension of the Game Reserves and National Parks, and many new parks and reserves were gazetted.

At independence, Tanzania showed her commitment to wildlife conservation when the then President of Tanganyika released a statement, the famous "Arusha Manifesto" as quoted hereunder:-

"The survival of our wildlife is a matter of grave concern to all of us in Africa. These wild creatures amid the wild places they inhabit are not only important as a source of wonder and inspiration but are an integral part of our natural resources and of our future livelihood and well being.

In accepting the trusteeship of our wildlife we solemnly declare that we will do everything in our power to make sure that our children's grand-children will be able to enjoy this rich and precious inheritance.

The conservation of wildlife and wild places calls for specialist knowledge, trained manpower, and money, and we look to other nations to co-operate with us in this important task the success or failure of which not only affects the continent of Africa but the rest of the world as well." Mwalimu J. K. Nyerere, 1961

The Arusha Manifesto" has been used to guide wildlife conservation in Tanzanía until 1998. At independence in 1961, Tanzania's human population was relatively low (only 8 million) making land use conflicts uncalled for, especially under conditions of inadequate technological and scientific development. Parts of land could easily be set aside for the protection of wildlife without seriously inconveniencing local people. Today the Tanzanian human population is over 30 million, with advancement of science and technology, and changing economic policies; land, wildlife and wetlands have values, making suitable land scarce and necessitate land use plans and an elaborate wildlife conservation policy. The Wildlife Policy of 1998 was the first comprehensive policy for conservation, management and development of wildlife in Tanzania.

Tanzania has ratified important Conventions related to conservation and management of wildlife and wetlands resources. It became a member to the CITES in 1981, CMS in 1999, AEWA in 1999, Ramsar in 2000 and signed the Lusaka Agreement in 1996. Tanzania also ratified the SADC Protocol in Wildlife Conservation and Law Enforcement in 2002. All these initiatives are aimed at better protection of Tanzanian's natural heritage, and ensuring equitable benefits therefrom.

## 2.0 TANZANIA WILDLIFE AND WETLANDS RESOURCES POTENTIAL

Wildlife and wetlands of Tanzania are unique natural heritage and resources that are of great importance both nationally and globally. Their importance lays both in the biological value of the species and habitats found in Tanzania, the economic value of the resources and their potential to contribute to the sustainable development of Tanzania.

## 2.1 Biological Diversity of Tanzania

Tanzania has a rich and diverse spectrum of fauna and flora including a wide variety of endemic species and subspecies. The diversity and degree of endemism in Tanzania is clear for primates (20 species and 4 endemic), antelopes (34 species and 2 endemic), birds (22 species globally threatened and 2 species endemic), fish (with many endemic in Lake Victoria, Tanganyika and Nyasa and other small lakes and rivers), reptiles (290 species and 75 endemic), amphibians (40 endemic), invertebrates and plants (around 11,000 species including many endemic). There are likely to be a number of species in Tanzania that are still unknown to science, which await discovery. Besides the diversity and high degree of endemism, Tanzania possesses important populations of species that are globally endangered and threatened. These include critically endangered Black rhinoceros; endangered Wild dog, Chimpanzee, and African elephant; vulnerable Cheetah and Wattled Crane. In total Tanzania habours about 33 species of mammals, 30 birds, 19 fish and 46 invertebrates classified as globally threatened. Furthermore, Tanzania also has large populations of Wildebest, zebra, Giraffe, Cape buffalo and Puku, as well as many species of antelope, which are similarly important in a continental context.

#### 2.2 Habitats

In terms of its habitats, the various grasslands and open woodlands of the Serengeti and Maasai Steppe in the north-west and north-east of Tanzania support some of the greatest concentrations of large mammals in the world. Important areas of wetlands are found throughout the country such as swamps and flood plains (Kilombero Valley, Wembere and Kagera Swamps, Usangu Flats etc.). A rich variety of lakes occur in Tanzania, including large parts of the great lakes (Victoria, Tanganyika and Nyasa), which are important for endemic fish and invertebrates. Tanzania also possesses a number of soda lakes (Natron, Eyasi, Balangida and Manyara), as well as sea grassbeds, inter-tidal flats and coral reefs along its 800 km long coastal line. A biologically diverse range of forests is found in Tanzania, including restricted lowland forests. mangroves and highly dispersed patches of coastal forest and montane forest. These forests, but most especially the Eastern Arc forests (Usambara, Pare, Ukaguru, Udzungwa and Uluguru mountains) are important in terms of diversity and endemism. Unique montane grasslands also occur in some areas (Udzungwa Mountains, Ufipa plateau and Southern highlands) and are important with remarkable endemic flora. While the Itigi Thicket is a unique habitat in the centre of the country, the south and west of Tanzania is largely dominated by miombo woodland containing some of the continent's significant populations of elephants and black rhinos.

2.3 Categories of Wildlife and Wetland Areas

Tanzania's wildlife protected area (PA) network covers 24% of the total land surface area of which about 4.38% is 14 National Parks (NP), 0.88% is Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA), 12.98% is 34 Game Reserves (GRs) and 5.54% is 38 Game Controlled Areas (GCAs). Consequently, Tanzania has 17% of her surface area devoted to wildlife in PAs where no human settlement is allowed, (NPs and GRs) and 6.4% of its surface area to PAs where wildlife co-exists with humans. The forestry sector has also followed conservation policies that greatly increase the total coverage of PAs in the country. A total of about 570 FRs cover around 15% of Tanzania's surface area, of which 3% overlap with PAs devoted to wildlife conservation.

Wetlands in Tanzania cover 10% of the total land area, of which 5.5% is presently 4 Ramsar Sites. Most of the Ramsar Sites so far designated are also protected areas, but which receive low protection such as Game Controlled Areas. The Malagarasi-Muyovozi Ramsar Site, which covers 32,500 Km² has 90% of its area overlapping with protected areas. Moyowosi, Kigosi and Ugalla Game Reserves, which total area 18,000 Km2, are part of the Ramsar Site. Gombe and Luganzo Game Controlled Areas with total area 5,500 Km2, Mpanda Line (4,224 Km2) and Ulyankulu (23,070 Km²) Forest Reserves are also part of the Site. About 70% of the Ulyankulu Forest Reserve and more than 10% of the Mpanda Line Forest Reserve have been cleared for agricultural expansion and settlements, mostly refugees. The remaining area, which is not protected, is a combination of Village and General Land.

Lake Natron Basin Ramsar Site, which is 2,250 Km², has its entire area overlapping with Lake Natron Game Controlled Area. Kilombero Valley Floodplain Ramsar Site, which is 7,950 Km², part of it (6,500 Km²) overlaps with Kilombero Game Controlled Areas. The fourth Ramsar Site, which is the Rufiji-Mafia-Kilwa Marine Ramsar Site, has an area of 5,969.7 Km² of which 822 Km² is Mafia Marine Park.

There are 45 Important Water Bird Areas (IBAs) in Tanzania, 27 of which hold 8 bird species that are of global concern. Of the 45 IBAs 3 are Ramsar Sites and 38 other sites qualify for listing. Of the 8 species of global concern 4 species: Shoebill, Wattled Crane, African Skimmer and Kilombero Weaver are found in the designated 3 Ramsar Sites.

## 2.4 Wildlife and Wetland Resources Utilisation

The network of protected areas and wetlands are important to the Tanzanian economy. The forms of wildlife and wetland resources utilisation currently practised in Tanzania include:—

## 2.4.1 Game viewing

NCA and NPs in northern Tanzania are the main tourist destinations. Game viewing is growing fast in southern NPs and GRs such as the Ruaha and Selous, respectively. Wetland areas such as Lake Natron and Manyara are also high profile game viewing destinations. Game viewing has a great potential for earning considerable local and foreign currency and providing employment.

#### 2.4.2 Tourist's (sport) hunting

Tourist's hunting is an economically viable and sustainable use of wildlife that is consistent with the policy of high quality, yet low density tourism that can contribute significantly to the national economy. At present, tourist hunting is widely practised across many remote areas of Tanzania in GR, GCA, FRs, wetlands and areas outside PAs.

#### 2.4.3 Resident's hunting

It is the right of indigenous Tanzanians to have legal access to wildlife use. Different scales of fees for tourists and residents to hunt have been established through the enabling legislation. Resident's hunting licenses are issued for GCAs and areas outside PAs that are not allocated for tourist hunting.

### 2.4.4 Wildlife farming, breeding and ranching

Game farming and breeding has been undertaken in Tanzania, but not well developed." There are few facilities operating as wildlife farms or breeding centres, mainly established to cater for trade in live animals. Animals that are commonly reared are snakes, lizards, tortoises, chameleons, birds (Ostrich) and to a lesser extent crocodiles. Most of these farms are situated in urban areas mostly Dar es Salaam, Arusha and Dodoma, as well as in small towns such as Mikumi. Wildlife farming and breeding have a potential to significantly contribute to poverty alleviation and at the same time conserve biological diversity as the operations reduce wild off-take. However, the potential negative impacts to the wild population associated with release of the domesticated populations have not been closely monitored.

#### 2.4.5 Eco-tourism

Eco-tourism is an important undertaking in Tanzanian tourism industry due to its consideration to social, cultural and environmental aspects. Eco-tourism therefore, helps to conserve natural resources, as well as social and cultural values. As tourism in Tanzania remains to be based on natural resources there is still a great potential for development of eco-tourism in wildlife and wetland areas.

## 2.4.6 Zoos and Game sanctuary

There are few zoos and game sanctuaries that exist in Tanzania. Typical examples are the State House Zoo, Tabora Zoo, and Mount Meru and Luhira Game Sanctuaries. In promoting local tourism there is a great potential to promote the establishment of zoos and game sanctuaries by the private sector. These establishments could also be promoted for research and education purposes, as well as enhancing conservation.

## 2.5 Wetlands Conservation and Management

Tanzania became a member to the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, 1971) on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2000, and the larger Malagarasi-Muyovozi wetlands as its first Ramsar Site. By acceding to the Convention on Wetlands it implies that the government has agreed to develop a national wetland policy, carry out wetland inventories, and designate Ramsar Sites; as well as to prepare management plans for those sites that are considered of highest priority, and international cooperation through exchange of information and training.

#### 2.5.1 Wetlands values and functions

Wetlands play an important role in poverty alleviation and conservation of the environment. The following values and functions apply:

- Water storage, distribution, filtration and purification
- Provision of natural products water, medicine, pasture, clay and plant materials
- Erosion control and sedimentation
- Flood control
- Support for fisheries and agriculture.
- Attributes, including cultural values, social amenities and future options
- Hydropower supply
- Outdoor recreation, development of research and education
- Provision of habitat for wildlife

Tanzania Mainland surface area covers 883,343 Km2, of which 10% (equivalent to 88,334.3 Km2) is wetlands. According to the National Irrigation Master Plan (2002) of the land surface area of the country over 20,000 Km<sup>2</sup> and over 40,000 Km<sup>2</sup> have high and medium potential for development of irrigation agriculture, respectively. The wetlands of Usangu and the Great Ruaha River are important wetlands to the maintenance of the Mtera Dam, which produces most of electricity used in Tanzania. The Rufiji River Basin is also important in the development of the tourism industry (Usangu and Selous Game Reserves, and Ruaha National Park). The same applies to Pangani and internal drainage basins of the northern Tanzania. This implies that wetlands are important to the Tanzania economy.

Wetlands are easily destroyed but they are difficult and very expensive to restore once they are lost. In case of a lost wetland, services and functions provided by that particular wetland may cease. Misuses of wetland resources upstream of the Rufiji River, such as excessive water abstraction may result to serious loss to economic activities and lives of biological resources downstream. Since wetlands are important in ecological and socio-economic development of Tanzania there is a need for coordination of actions of different sectors for mutual benefits and to ensure wise use of wetlands.

# 2.6 Wildlife and Wetlands Research and Monitoring

Considerable research on wildlife has been undertaken in Tanzania and has contributed greatly to the knowledge and publicity of wildlife in the country. The research so far undertaken has been varied in scope and includes taxonomic descriptions of species and their biogeography, behaviour and ecology of single species, and studies of ecosystem processes. However, very little research has been done on wetlands. A number of monitoring programmes are in place for wildlife, mainly through aerial counts in and around PAs, and through monitoring individual populations during the course of long-term research.

Financial resources and trained manpower have continually limited the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute to undertake all the applied or pure research that might be necessary or desirable.

## 2.7 Human Resources and Capacity Building

There is an elaborate scheme of service for wildlife personnel, which shows the optimal establishment requirements, qualifications and career ladder. The above notwithstanding, there still exist shortfalls in the implementation of this scheme of service. Furthermore, the wildlife sector human resource is less than 50% of the requirement and most of it is of low cadre. Training in wildlife is formally undertaken at: the University of Dar-es-Salaam, SUA and abroad for graduate and post-graduate studies, CAWM for certificate, diploma and post-graduate studies and Pasiansi Wildlife Institute for scouts/rangers certificate. Specialised formal training in wetlands is yet to develop in Tanzania. Regional training colleges exist in Naivasha for short courses and M.Sc is offered at Makerere and Moi Universities in Uganda and Kenya, respectively.

## 2.8 Infrastructure and Equipment

Roads and airstrips, which are important for administration, patrolling and tourism in most protected areas, are inadequate. Equipment in terms of vehicles, field gear and firearms are also insufficient.

## 2.9 International Cooperation

Several Tanzania ecosystems and a number of species are shared with other countries. Wetlands areas for example Lakes Victoria, Tanganyika, Jipe and Nyasa, and Rivers such as Ruvuma, Kagera and Mara, as well as migratory animal species such as water birds, fish, Sea turtles, Wildebeest and Elephant are shared resources. Wildlife PAs for example, are contiguous to PAs of

neighbouring countries indicating that these are one ecosystem separated by a political boundary. Some of those PAs are Mkomazi and Ibanda Game Reserves, and Serengeti National Park, which are contiguous to Tsavo East and Akagera National Parks, and Masai-Mara Game Reserve, respectively. For effective protection and management of these ecosystems and species, regional and international collaboration and cooperation in their conservation and management is necessary.

Tanzania has limited resources to undertake the task of wildlife and wetlands conservation and management. As a result sine has been cooperating in terms of finance and expertise with NGOs, bilateral and multilateral donor agencies.

## 2.10 Problems Facing the Wildlife Sector

Despite its endowment and its economic potentials to the nation and the local communities, the wildlife sector has not been able to develop to its full potential due to the following constraints:—

- (i) Failure of the wildlife conservation as a form of land use to compete adequately with other forms of land use, especially to the village communities.
- (ii) Unawareness by planners, decision makers and the public on values of wetlands.
- (iii) Insufficient of coordination mechanisms for sustainable conservation and management of wetlands.
- (iv) Persistent illegal taking of wildlife and wildlife trade.
- (v) Inadequate wildlife use rights especially to the village communities.
- (vi) Inadequate perspective of gender consideration in

- conservation and management of wildlife and wetland resources.
- (vii) Un-quantified wetlands values and functions.
- (viii) Increased problem animals.
- (ix) Low budgetary allocation for conservation and development of the wildlife sector at the Local Government level.
- (x) Poor remuneration and difficult working conditions in protected areas and wetlands, which results in low staff morale and erosion of professional ethics.
- (xi) Poor infrastructure in wildlife and wetlands areas.
- (xii) Limited human resource to carry out wildlife and wetlands conservation activities.

## 3.0 THE WILDLIFE POLICY

Wildlife and wetlands are natural resources of great biological, economical, environmental cleaning, climate ameliorating, water and soil conservation, and nutritional values that must be conserved. They can be used indefinitely if properly managed. In view of the dynamic and complex nature of these resources and the challenges ahead, the Government policy for the wildlife sector will aim at involving a broad section of the society in conservation and management of the resources. The role of the Government will be to stimulate and guide the public by administering, regulating and promoting wildlife and wetlands resources.

#### 3.1 ROLES OF DIFFERENT INSTITUTIONS

In discharging its duties the government has divided its mandates into central and local governments. The central government includes ministries, executive agencies and independent departments, while the local government includes District Councils, Wards and Village Councils. The government has been undertaking various reforms aimed at ensuring proper and efficient discharge of services to the public by both central and local governments. This policy takes cognise of these reforms. In this respect functions of the government in implementation of this policy will be the following:

#### 3.1.1 The Central Government

The role of the central government is to provide clear national policy and regulatory frameworks, stimulate and promote participation of various stakeholders in the implementation of the policy, manage core wildlife protected areas and oversee the sector's development. The government will not engage itself in conducting business in the wildlife industry and in wetlands instead it will concentrate on being the sector's regulator, facilitator and service provider, as described hereunder:

## Regulatory function:

As a regulator of the Sector the central government main functions are to:

- Administer wildlife and wetlands laws
- Formulate sound strategies and programmes for policy implementation
- Issue and administer all types of wildlife resource user rights and trading licenses
- Administer management plans for wildlife protected areas and Ramsar Sités

### Facilitation and coordination functions:

The central government has a responsibility to ensure that stakeholders effectively take part in conservation, management and development of the sector. In this respect its main functions are to:

- Co-ordinate and monitor policy implementation,
- Give due recognition to operations of other sector policies,
- Pursue sound economic development strategies that are conducive to private and local communities' investment in the wildlife sector.

## Service provision function:

The central government's main function is to provide requisite service to the public. In this respect the functions of the government are to:

- Provide professional standards in conservation, management and utilisation of resources
- Provide technical assistance

## 3.1.2 Local Government Authorities

The role of Local Government Authorities is to implement this policy. District Councils will have a role to provide extension service and lead other agencies in the implementation of this policy in their areas of jurisdiction by:

- Formulating and enforcing by-laws
- Providing technical support and conservation education to villages
- Preparing sound physical and development plans that protect wildlife and wetlands areas

## 3.1.3 The Stakeholders

There are many stakeholders who are engaged in different activities relating to conservation, management, utilisation and development in the wildlife sector. The government recognises these stakeholders and their roles in the implementation of this policy as follows:

## The private Sector

The role of the private sector is to support the government in the conservation, development and sustainable utilisation of wildlife and wetlands resources through investing in the wildlife sector.

## Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

The role of local and international NGOs is to support the government financially and technically in the conservation, management and development of wildlife and wetlands resources. In particular the role of NGOs is to provide conservation education to the public and assisting district councils in provision of extension services.

#### 3.1.4 The Public

The role of the public is to support the government efforts in the conservation, management, development and sustainable utilisation of wildlife and wetlands resources. In addition, local communities living on village lands with viable populations of wildlife have a role of protecting and benefiting from wildlife and wetlands resources, by setting aside wildlife conservation areas on their land.

## 3.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

The wildlife sector is confronted with many challenges related to economic, social and environmental changes in the society. The major challenge in the implementation of this policy is to develop, manage and conserve wildlife and wetlands resources amidst growing human population, which is causing wildlife and wetlands habitat shrinkage and degradation, decimation of some wildlife populations and increased human-wildlife conflicts.

Other challenges includes wide spread poverty, unawareness on values and functions of wetlands, lack of wetlands data base and low human resources capacity, which have facilitated illegal taking of wildlife and unsustainable utilisation of wetlands. Inadequate involvement and participation of the village communities in planning, management and conservation of wildlife and wetlands resources have contributed to unsustainable use of the resources. For many years wildlife and wetlands management responsibility has had a gender bias towards men. Considering changing socio-economy and technology there is a need to look into gender equity in this sector.

This policy will address these challenges through the following objectives:

## 3.2.1 Protection and conservation of wildlife and wetlands

The Wildlife Protected Area (PA) network has objectives that relate both to conservation and socio-economies of Tanzania's people. The overall objectives of Tanzania's PA network are to:

- preserve representative examples of Tanzania's terrestrial and aquatic habitats and their physical environments;
- conserve viable populations of species making up Tanzania's fauna and flora, with emphasis on endangered, threatened, endémic species and their habitats;
- protect areas of scenic beauty and special or cultural values;
- conserve water catchments and soil resources;
- provide opportunities for public enjoyment and the advancement of science;
- provide opportunities for sustainable utilisation of natural resources;
- provide for rehabilitation of particular habitats, local relocation, and re-introduction of particular fauna species;
- create opportunities and conducive environment for access to natural resources for enhancement of rural development.

Issue: Maintenance of viable conservation areas of all important habitats and viable populations of all species.

## Policy statement

In order to achieve the PA network goal, the Government is committed to continuing to maintain the existing PAs, create new ones, secure GCAs and establish a new category of a wildlife protected area to be known as Wetland Reserve for the purpose of conserving in-situ biological diversity.

Wildlife and wetlands are biological resources that are constantly under threat as a result of illegal off-take, over-exploitation, and ecosystem degradation. Consequently, the numbers of certain species have been driven to threatened levels and to near extinction. In order to perpetuate such affected species, specific conservation approaches are required.

Issue: Species conservation.

## Policy statement

The government will give a due consideration to ensure the survival of species classified as endangered, endemic and rare by establishing Partial Game Reserve, designating National Game and Protected Species.

This policy recognises that the PA network will continue to serve as the core for the future in-situ biodiversity conservation, and development of the wildlife sector. The greatest threat to wildlife populations is the illegal taking of

wildlife resources. Wildlife authorities have the mandate to combat illegal taking of wildlife by a dual but interlinked strategy which, focuses both in and outside wildlife PAs. The Government recognises that in order to carry out their law enforcement functions effectively, wildlife authorities responsible for managing areas of land are para-military agencies whose staff wear uniforms, carry arms and have powers of search and arrest. The Government also recognise that successful outcome of anti-poaching operations depends in part on manpower, equipment and staff morale.

Issue: Illegal taking of wildlife resources.

### **Policy Statement:**

The Government will strengthen its capabilities to carry out anti-poaching operations effectively with the aim to reduce and ultimately eliminate illegal taking of wildlife resources. Incentive measures will also be explored and applied in order to encourage compliance of the law.

Besides illegal taking of wildlife, the Game Controlled Area (GCA) category is facing exerted pressures for settlement, agriculture, grazing, mining and logging; compounded by human population increase and over-exploitation of resources. These have resulted to loss of wildlife habitat and wetlands degradation, which threaten viability of the wildlife protected area network. Game Controlled Areas were designated so for the purpose of maintaining wildlife corridors, dispersal areas and migratory routes. Disappearance of GCAs may lead to national parks and game reserves becoming islands thus causing gene erosion and local extinction of species.

Issue: Loss of wildlife habitat, and wetlands degradation.

- (a) In recognition of the importance of conservation of biological diversity to the livelihood of mankind, the State will retain the overall ownership of wildlife. Since land and water resources are owned by the State, and that wetlands constitute these elements, the State will retain the overall ownership of wetlands to ensure that wetlands continue to provide goods and services to the people and the environment for sustainable development.
- (b) The government will access user rights to various stakeholders, to access wildlife and wetlands resources, in order to ensure that national priorities are addressed and abuses are controlled.

- (c) Village communities living adjacent to protected areas, wetlands or in wildlife corridors will be encouraged to establish Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in order to secure habitat for wildlife and halt wetlands degradation.
- (d) The Government will institute measures that will secure wildlife populations from gene erosion and extinction of species by protecting wildlife corridors.

## 3.2.2 Sustainable utilization of wildlife and wetlands

The present system of wildlife utilisation focus more on game viewing, hunting and live animal trade, but has not promoted successfully other forms of utilisation such as, wildlife farming and ranching, development of zoo and game sanctuary, and processing of non-traditional products. Eco-tourism in wetlands is also not developed due to the fact that most wetland areas are inaccessible and its resources and services have not been economically valued. Eco-tourism in accessible pristine wetlands could be promoted to open up other avenues of revenue generation in the wildlife sector. Sustainable utilisation of wildlife and wetlands resources can substantially contribute to an increase in export and domestic economy through tourism, increased value of products, diversification of economic activities, sustaining food security and directly increase production in other sectors, such as fishery, agriculture, transport and support to the informal sector. Wetlands are a major source of livelihood to the villagers.

**Issue:** Wildlife and wetlands economic potentials not sufficiently explored and tapped; and wetlands services not quantified, therefore prone to misuse.

- (a) The government will continue to promote the use of wildlife and wetlands resources in a manner that contribute to economic development, without prejudice to the environment through system planning.
- (b) The government is committed to promote legal and sustainable utilisation of wildlife and wetlands resources through providing clear policy guidelines, stimulating public and private sector investment in the wildlife industry and issuing of permits and licenses.
- (c) The government will continue to encourage private sector to support the development of the wildlife sector, as well as investing in the wildlife industry, including establishing wildlife farms, ranches, zoos and game sanctuaries in order to create employment to the people of Tanzania; promote wildlife

 wildlife authorities, managing PAs and providing technical advice on wildlife outside PAs; and

 central government, bearing the opportunity cost of establishing PAs and providing services nationally;

**issue:** Equitable sharing of benefits arising from wildlife and wetlands utilisation.

#### Policy statement

The government will ensure equitable distribution of costs and benefits that considers stakeholders' roles in relation to categories of land and efforts invested by the institution in conservation.

# 3.2.3 Management and development of wildlife and wetlands resources

Wildlife and wetlands are renewable resources, if well managed could be used in perpetuity. Without sufficient budgetary allocations, wildlife PAs and important wetlands are poorly managed and infrastructure, equipment, facilities and staffs' moral are run down and the natural resource base becomes depleted. The government recognises that for these resources to perpetuate, conservation must finance itself.

**Issue:** Management of wildlife and wetlands resource to sustain perpetuity.

- (a) The government is committed to ensure sufficient and proper allocation of resources for sustainable conservation and effective management of wildlife PAs, Ramsar Sites and nationally important wetlands.
- (b) The government will regulate capture from and translocation of species into the PAs, importation of exotic species, re-location, and re-introduction of a species known to be indigenous to the area, in order to safeguard against negative effects resulting from their introduction and re-introduction into the wild.
- (c) The government is committed to prepare management plans for all core wildlife protected areas and Ramsar Sites. The government will also prepare management plans for endangered and endemic threatened wild animal species in order to safeguard in-situ biodiversity.
- (d) The government recognise the importance of traditional knowledge in management and conservation of wildlife and wetlands resources, and will work with local communities in promoting the use of such appropriate knowledge and technologies.
- (e) In order to safeguard biodiversity the government does not intend to develop mining in core wildlife protected areas and in Ramsar Sites.

(f) The government will develop wildlife and wetlands resources in a manner that they generate enough funds for conservation, and also ensure that such developments are within acceptable levels, not to adversely alter the natural integrity of ecosystems, by enforcing EIA for proposed development activities in core wildlife PAs and Ramsar Sites, as well as enforcing environmental planning in proposed developments in other wildlife areas and nationally important wetlands.

Development of wildlife and wetlands resources requires enormous investment in terms of human and financial resources, which are not always available to the government. The sustainable development and performance of the wildlife sector depends largely on trained human resources. The wildlife sector personnel are vested with the responsibility of ensuring conservation of wildlife and wetland resources for the benefit of the present generation while maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of the future generations. In the light of dynamism in conservation and management of wildlife and wetland resources, implementation of this policy will require suitable knowledge and skills through training at all levels. Appropriate technologies and education are also vital to effect change in wildlife and wetlands managers' attitudes and perceptions.

The government also recognises that the wildlife sector personnel and their families work in remote areas, which lack basic social services like health, education, safe water and entertainments.

Further, these personnel are constantly in danger of dangerous animals, poachers and harsh weather.

**Issue:** Development of human resources; provision of good working environment, and basic social services to staff working in wildlife protected areas.

- (a) The government will develop cooperation modalities with stakeholders in the management of wildlife and wetlands resources outside core wildlife protected areas and Ramsar Sites, which will ensure sharing of responsibilities and empowerment over resources.
- (b) The government will foster private sector participation and other sectors' cooperation in provision of necessary infrastructure systems, including transportation and communication in wildlife PAs, Ramsar Sites and nationally important wetlands, in order to promote tourism products.
- (c) The government is committed to ensure that wildlife and wetlands areas remain pristine to safeguard in-situ biodiversity and tourism products. Accordingly, all major development activities, including mining are prohibited inside core wildlife PAs and selected Ramsar Sites

- (d) The government is committed to provide appropriate training at all levels, good working environment and adequate working facilities in order to sustain the wildlife sector. The government will also ensure that core PAs are manned by adequate number of staffs in order to safe guard wildlife and wetlands resources.
- (e) The government is committed to ensure that wildlife sector employees working in protected areas are provided with adequate basic social amenities for motivation and improving working conditions.

The Tanzanian society is high diverse in terms of cultures and traditions. Moreover, there is a clear division of labour among men, women and children. Gender equity has not been sufficiently addressed in the conservation and management of wildlife and wetlands resources due to cultural and traditional practices.

**Issue:** Gender equity in wildlife and wetlands conservation, management and development.

## Policy statement

The government will strive to promote gender equity in sustainable management, conservation, utilisation and development of wildlife and wetlands resources.

Issue: Problem Animal Control (PAC).

#### Policy statement

The government does not intend to introduce a compensation scheme for damage caused by wildlife. The Government will devolve progressively the responsibility for PAC to operating CBC programmes and continue to give assistance where village communities have not developed this capability. The government will also promote the economic value of wildlife to village communities through CBC.

More than 70% of Tanzanian people live in village areas, where many of the village communities are dependent on wetlands and wildlife resources for their livelihood. It is also evident that 6% of the land with wildlife is occupied by villages. In this regard communities' participation in the management and conservation of wildlife and wetlands resources, and ensuring benefits therefrom is important.

**Issue**: High dependence of local communities on wetlands and wildlife resources for livelihoods.

#### Policy statement

The government will continue to give wildlife and wetlands resources economic value in order to enhance village communities' development without prejudice to the environment, and in such a way that the benefits accrued to them compensate for the opportunity cost to other forms of land use through promotion of WMAs, farms and ranches.

## 3.2.4 Strengthen Resource Monitoring and Research

Research and Monitoring of wildlife and wetland resources remains an integral part of wildlife and wetlands development. So far little research result has been used for decision-making, due to inadequate communication between researchers and wildlife/wetlands managers. Further, wildlife and wetlands research is seriously under-funded thus jeopardising the research agenda.

Although the wildlife sector regulates research in wildlife, there are other institutions with overall mandates for undertaking research work in Tanzania. Additionally, some wildlife species and wetlands ecosystems occur in areas not under the administration of wildlife authorities.

Issue: Use of research results by decision makers and managers in development of wildlife and wetlands resources.

#### Policy statements

- (a) The government recognises the contribution of other sectors, including academic and private sector institutions in the development of wildlife and wetlands research in Tanzania. The government is ready to cooperate with such sectors to promote and strengthen research capabilities of Tanzania institutions
- (b) The government is committed to maintain wildlife and wetlands database and ensuring that research contributes to improving management and conservation of wildlife and wetlands resources.
- (c) The government will regulate, coordinate and undertake wildlife research and monitoring through the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute.

Extension services and good neighbourliness between PA management and village communities permits identification of wildlife/wetlands-related problems and increases the chances of their solutions. Further, extension work is of prime importance in providing technical assistance to wildlife and wetlands resource users, including villagers.

Issue: Provision of technical assistance to resource users.

trade, urban tourism, conservation education and wildlife research; and enhance biodiversity conservation.

(d) Wildlife and wetlands resources have been and will remain to be the prime tourism products in Tanzania. The government will encourage non-consumptive use of wildlife and wetlands resources in order to maximise resource utilisation and safeguard the natural resources base. In order to promote domestic tourism, Tanzanians will benefit from differential scale of fee structure in entering PAs.

Wildlife and wetlands contribute significantly to the gross domestic economy, employment and poverty alleviation. Wildlife and wetlands have cultural importance to local communities. Wetlands are a major source of livelihood to the villagers. In this respect, cultural and traditional practices in some places have facilitated sustainable management, utilisation and conservation of these resources.

Issue: Wildlife and wetlands have cultural values. Cultural and traditional practices have facilitated sustainable management, utilisation and conservation of the resources.

#### Policy Statement

The government recognises the intrinsic value of wildlife and wetlands resources to village communities, and will strive to enhance and promote indigenous knowledge in the conservation and management of the resources. The government will ensure that Tanzanians have rights to legal access to wildlife and wetlands resources. The government will also promote development of village communities living in or close to wildlife and wetlands areas (except in NCA) through facilitating establishment of WMAs.

It is recognised that a range of direct and indirect benefits can be derived from wildlife and wetlands, and that the sharing of revenue is an important aspect in conservation. Wildlife and wetlands areas are potential for other development activities such as agriculture, livestock and settlements. This implies that there is an opportunity cost associated with establishing and maintaining wildlife and wetlands conservation areas. It is also recognised that conservation requires enormous investments. In this respect the policy recognise various stakeholders in wildlife and wetlands conservation as follows:

- village communities and private landholders bearing the cost of property damage by marauding animals and foregoing other social and cultural benefits;
- district councils, bearing the opportunity cost of establishing PAs;

#### Policy statement

The government is committed to promote and support extension services that form a link between wildlife authorities and stakeholders, including village communities.

## 3.2.5 Enhance Communication, Education and Public Awareness

The long-term success of wildlife and wetlands conservation depends largely on the way conservation is perceived by the public. Public awareness campaigns are of prime importance in promoting conservation of wildlife and wise use of wetlands. The knowledge base on economic values of wetlands functions, wildlife and wetland resources are important in changing the attitude of people towards wise use of wildlife and wetlands resources. Additionally, communication is fundamental in developing dialogue, understanding and changing individual actions.

**Issue:** Changing people's attitude and actions for conservation and wise use of wildlife and wetlands.

## Policy statement

The government is committed to develop and implement communication, education, and public awareness programmes that will disseminate this policy and other conservation strategies to be understood by the public

## 3.2.6 Coordinate implementation of the policy

The government recognises that the definition of wildlife adopted in this policy cannot be applied universally across Tanzania due to the responsibility of other sectors for management of wetlands, certain areas of land or of particular classes of animals and plants within the operational definition of wildlife. The situation in which the definition of wildlife may vary, are in the Fisheries and Forestry sectors. Further, wetlands cut across many sectors, including the private sector. Furthermore, wetlands, including Ramsar Sites, may fall under different land management authorities. This policy recognises the jurisdiction of these management regimes over management of pieces of lands and wetlands resources thereon.

**Issue:** Wildlife and wetlands resources management responsibilities.

## Policy statement

(a) Wildlife authorities will retain overall responsibility for the management of all wildlife PAs, as well as all birds and terrestrial species of mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates where these occur outside wildlife PAs, and marine species not covered by the Fisheries legislation.

- (b) The overall executive and overseeing responsibility for the wildlife sector, including wetlands management will be vested with the portfolio responsible for wildlife, which will develop coordination mechanisms with other sectors for the implementation of this policy.
- (c) Wildlife authorities will retain management responsibility of Ramsar Sites or part of, which fall under the jurisdiction of wildlife protected areas. Further, the Director of Wildlife will retain the responsibility to administer and coordinate the implementation of the Ramsar Convention throughout the country, including all Ramsar Sites or part of, which falls under the jurisdiction of different land management regimes.

Wildlife areas in Tanzania are categorised under different protection and management status, and are managed by different regimes. This policy recognises the roles of these management regimes in the management of wildlife resources, given the vastness of wildlife protected areas and their importance in tourism development.

In its implementation this policy interacts with other sectoral policies such as, land, tourism, agriculture, livestock, water, minerals and environment.

**Issue:** Coordination of wildlife and wetlands management responsibilities.

- (a) Wildlife sector institutions with executive and administrative mandates over components of wildlife and wetlands will review or formulate their laws to meet the aspirations of this policy
- (b) The government will retain an overall responsibility for management of wildlife PAs and continue to share this responsibility with designated management regimes such as Tanzania National Parks, Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority and District Councils.
- (c) The overall responsibility for protection and management of wildlife, as well as in-situ wetlands not covered by the Forest and Fisheries Legislation will remain with the Director of Wildlife. The responsibility for management of modified and man-made wetlands will be vested with relevant land management authorities

The Village Land Act of 1999 entrusts village land to the Village Councils. This policy recognises the mandates of the Village Council over the Village Land. It also recognises that wildlife abound on general, village and private land and therefore need to be protected. However, the government does not intend to privatise wildlife resources on these lands, including wildlife in protected areas. Through the Village Land Act No. 5 of 1999 and the

Local Government Act No. 7 and 8 of 1982 it is possible to devolve the responsibility for protection, conservation, management and development of wildlife and wetlands resources to village communities, Local Government Authorities and the private sector.

Issue: Wildlife and Wetlands conservation on Village Land and private land.

#### Policy statement

- (a) The Government will encourage and facilitate establishment of wildlife and wetlands conservation areas on village land and devolve management responsibilities of those areas to village communities through Authorised Associations.
- (b) The Government will encourage establishment of zoos, game sanctuary, wildlife farms and ranches on private land and devolve responsibility to manage wildlife in those to private sector and individuals.
- (c) The State will retain ownership of wildlife and wetlands; and the Government will remain the overall overseer of wildlife and wetlands conservation and management, in order to harmonise this policy with other relevant policies.

Tanzanian government holds wildlife and wetlands resources in trust for the benefit of global humankind. It recognises that Tanzania also harbour wildlife and wetlands resources that traverse its political and administrative boundaries. Given the enormous resources required to conserve natural resources and the importance of natural resources biodiversity in humankind, the international community assists the government in implementation of this policy. In conserving and managing these resources the government has signed wildlife and wetlands related conservation treaties such CBD, CITES, the Ramsar Convention, CMS, AEWA and Lusaka Agreement, and regional protocols such as EAC and SADC, as well as developed bilateral support agreements with a number of international community and development partners. Furthermore, Tanzania has developed sociable joint/cooperative commissions/ agreements with a number of countries aimed at exchanging expertise and fostering economic development.

**Issue:** Conservation of shared resources, international trade and international obligations

#### Policy statement

The government will continue to encourage regional and international cooperation in the conservation and management of migratory species and shared ecosystems, as well as information sharing and resource development. The government is also committed to meeting obligation of treaties that it is a party to.

## 4. CONCLUSION

Tanzania has been successful in establishing PA network, which is a basis for conserving its country's biological diversity and whose long-term goal is to maintain great biological diversity, which contributes to healthy environment and growth of the economy.

In order to attain this goal, the wildlife policy puts emphasis on maintaining and developing the wildlife PA network, and healthy wetland areas and involving all stakeholders in the conservation and management of these resources, especially the local communities, and the private sector. The policy has also clearly identified roles of different stakeholders.

This policy has put forward a number of Government statements aimed at meeting the aspirations of the policy. To operationalise the statement, the government will draw strategies and programmes, through stakeholder's consultations.

The successful implementation of this policy is dependent on the efforts of all stakeholders. The government will take responsibilities to educate, raise awareness and communicate with the public on this policy and laws pertaining to the conservation of wildlife and wetlands resources.

The Government will co-operate with neighbouring countries in the conservation of trans-boundary ecosystems and resources, and with any other country in the conservation of shared migratory wild animal species. The government will promote and welcome support from national, regional and international communities in the conservation, management and development of wildlife and wetlands, and will co-operate with any party interested in the same.

#### 5.0 ANNEXES

## ANNEX 1: Acronyms

Here under are meanings	f acronyms as	used in the text:
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	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
AEWA	African-Eurasian Migratory Water birds Agreement.
CAWM	College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka.
CBC	Community Based Conservation.
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity.
CEPA	Communication, Education and Public Awareness.
CMS	Convention on Migratory Wild Animal
<u> </u>	Species.
CITES	Convention on International Trade in
	Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and
2-2-2-2	Flora.
COSTECH	Commission for Science and Technology.
EAC	East African Community.
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment.
FR(s)	Forest Reserve(s).
GCA(s)	Game Controlled Areas(s).
GMP(s)	General Management Plan(s).
GR(s)	Game Reserve(s).
IBA(s)	Important Bird Area(s).
Lusaka	Lusaka Agreement on Cooperative
Agreement	Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal
1000.	Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora.
MoU(s)	Memoranda of Understanding.
NCA	Ngorongoro Conservation Area.
NCAA	Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority.
NGO(s)	Non-Government Organisation(s).
	3

NP(s) National Park(s). PA(s) Protected Area(s).

PGR(s) Partial Game Reserve(s).

SADC Southern African Development Cooperation.

SUA Sokoine University of Agriculture.

TANAPA Tanzania National Parks.

TAWIRI Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute.

WD Wildlife Division.

WMA(s) Wildlife Management Area(s).

## ANNEX 2: Glossary

In the context of this policy:

Authorised Association means a community-based organisation whose primary objective is to conserve wildlife resources for the benefit of local community members ordinarily residing in that area and given the mandate by the Director to do so on Village Land.

Biological diversity means the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems (adopted from CBD).

Community-Based Conservation means conservation of wildlife and wetlands resources based on the participation of the village communities.

**Core Protected Areas** *means* National Parks, Game Reserves, Ngorongoro Conservation Area and Wetlands Reserves

Corridor means land area used by wild animals in their movements from one part of the ecosystem to another at any given time in search of basic requirements such as water, food, space and habitat.

Ecosystem means a dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit (adopted from CBD).

Farming means the intensive husbandry (breeding/raising) of one or few wildlife species on relatively small surface areas (less than 25 ha) wherever suitable infrastructures and services are available in urban areas, totally enclosed, and under more-or-less heavily managed conditions that tend to domesticate the animals, with the purpose of engaging in different forms of wildlife utilisation.

Game sanctuary means a place where wild animals are reared in captivity, relatively in a large area in a natural state primarily for educational and recreational purposes.

General Management Plan means a tool to guide management and development programmes of a PA and wetlands.

Habitat means the place or type of site where an organism or population naturally occurs (adopted from CBD).

High conservation value means wetland areas that provide vital values and functions described in Section 2.5 of this policy, including those with high degree of endemism, harbour endangered or rare species or habitat which is under-represented in the Tanzania protected area networks.

In-situ conservation means the conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats and the maintenance and recovery of viable populations of species in their natural surroundings (modified from CBD).

Land use means activities carried out on a given piece of land.

Fisheries Act means Fisheries Act of 2004.

Forest Act means Forest Act of 2002.

Local Government Authority means as ascribed to it by the Local Government (District Authorities) Act of 1982, as well as by the Local Government (Urban Authorities) Act of 1982.

Management Authority means recognised established institutions with the mandate to manage a particular PA, or piece of land or wetland

Man made wetlands means constructed wetlands area or terrestrial area purposely impounded with temporary or permanent water with the aim of collecting or storing water to supply goods and services such as electricity, fishery, water and sports.

**Migration** *means* the movement of wild animals commonly birds and mammals over large distances in search of basic needs.

Migratory route means an area, strip or zone of land used by wild animals during their migratory cycles or seasonal movements.

Mining Act means the Mining Act of 1998.

Minister means the Minister for the time being responsible for matters related to the conservation of wildlife and wetlands.

**Modified wetland** *means* naturally occurring wetland area used for crop cultivation or transformed in the process of or for the purpose of undertaking sports.

National Game means animal species declared so by the Minister.

Natural Resources mean biological resources, which include forestry, aquatic fauna and flora, bees, and wildlife.

**Protected Area** *means* a geographically defined area which is designated or regulated and managed to achieve specific conservation objectives (adopted from CBD).

Protected species means an animal or plant species protected by an international convention, or laws of Tanzania or any other country, including a National Game.

Ramsar Site means wetland area of international importance as ascribed by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Iran 1971).

Sustainable utilisation/use means human use of wildlife and wetland resources in a way and at a rate that does not lead to long-term decline of the resources, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations (modified from CBD).

Wetlands in this context *means* areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salty including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres. It may also incorporate riparian or coastal zones adjacent to the wetlands, and islands or bodies of marine water deeper than six metres at low tide lying within the wetlands.

Wetlands Reserves means any wetland area declared to be a wetlands reserve as ascribed in Article 4 of the Convention on wetlands (Ramsar, 1971) by an order made under the Wildlife Act

Wetlands Resource means all resources including soils, water, fauna and flora found in wetlands whose meaning is ascribed in this policy.

Wildlife Resources means resources as ascribed in the meaning of wildlife.

Wildlife Sector means Wildlife Division, Tanzania National Parks, Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority, Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute, College of African Wildlife Management, private sector and individuals directly dealing with wildlife related matters in Tanzania.

Wildlife means those species of wild and indigenous animals and plants, and their constituent habitats, including wetlands and ecosystems, to be found in Tanzania, as well as those exotic species that have been introduced to Tanzania, and those are temporarily maintained in captivity or have become established in the wild.

Wildlife Conservation Act means the Wildlife Conservation Act of 1974.

Wildlife Management Area means an area set aside by Village Council for the purpose of conservation of wildlife and other biological natural resources, under the Wildlife Act.

**Wise use** *means* sustainable utilisation of wetlands for the benefit of mankind in a way compatible with the maintenance of the natural properties of ecosystems.

**Zoo** *means* a place where wild animals are kept in captivity, normally in cages or padlocks for recreation, research and educational purposes.