

## Progress update – European Zoo Nutrition

The European Zoo Nutrition Group (EZNG) received the formal support of the EAZA Research Committee to establish the European Zoo Nutrition Centre (EZNC) on 19 September 2001, during the EAZA conference in Prague. The EAZA Research Committee also endorsed the adoption of the nutrition software programme 'Zootrition' as the standard nutrition programme for EAZA zoos. Additionally, Joeke Nijboer was invited to become a member of the EAZA Research Committee to represent EZNG.

During the EAZA conference seven people united to form the first EZNG committee; more people will be invited to join the committee in the future. The EZNG will be a discussion forum on zoo nutrition issues.

The EZNG agreed upon the following priorities:

- Establish a bibliographical database of nutritional references relevant to TAGs.
- Develop a 'zoo nutrition' education package suitable for all zoo staff, from keeper level upwards, that covers the elementary aspects of nutrition, diet data collection and that promotes the use of Zootrition software.
- Contact TAGs for husbandry guidelines, offer to review nutrition sections and make suggestions on how best they can standardise their diets over a period of time.
- Seek external funding and sponsorship for the Centre.

The European Zoo Nutrition Centre is based at the EAZA Executive Office and was officially opened in January 2002. Walter Jansen (Jagran ZR&D) and Joeke Nijboer (Rotterdam Zoo) will each dedicate one day per week to the centre throughout the year to coordinate the priorities described above.

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## Bushmeat and Brussels – the EAZA Bushmeat Campaign

by Bryan Carroll, chairman EAZA Bushmeat Working Group, Bristol Zoo Gardens, United Kingdom

*Since October 2000 EAZA zoos have been working together on the bushmeat campaign. The EAZA Bushmeat Campaign involved zoo visitors in three ways: awareness, collecting signatures for the petition and fundraising for projects in the field. As Chair of the EAZA Bushmeat Working Group my role has been to oversee the development of the campaign, its implementation across Europe, and how to carry the campaign to its next stage. As part of that next stage the petition went to Brussels, the seat of power in the European Union. Working in collaboration with International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), who have supported the campaign throughout, we embarked upon a three day programme which included a half-day Roundtable Hearing within the Parliament, the presentation of the petition (twice), and a series of meetings with key decision-makers and influencers within the Commission and the Parliament.*

The petition closed at the end of October 2001 and across Europe many people counted signatures and photocopied the sheets. Each zoo sent its contribution to the petition to the IFAW office in Brussels, some independently but most in several zoo vans, which converged on Brussels from the UK, France, Belgium, Denmark, Netherlands and Germany. Boxes arrived covered with pictures, and zoo logos. Some neatly packed, others less so. A crew of folk at the IFAW office went through the process of checking again the numbers of signatures, ensuring that boxes and zoo totals were not counted twice, and repacking

them. We knew that we had in excess of 1.5 million signatures. By the end of day one in Brussels, this had been confirmed.

The morning of the second day saw frantic activity getting more petitions checked and repacked for the presentation of the petition that afternoon. By lunchtime the petition was up to 1.7 million signatures.

### Exhibition

We'd also had our first taste of bureaucracy Brussels style. In spite of IFAW having written assurance that we could set up a series of Bushmeat displays in various languages, and even having written assurance that the written assurance really meant what it said, on the day they told that after all we couldn't put the displays up. Why? It appeared that we did not have permission from a man in Luxembourg to set up the displays. Since it was clear they would not budge, frantic telephoning and faxing ensued and permission from the man in Luxembourg was obtained.

The displays went up under the gaze of those who are responsible for displays in the European Parliament. They did not like what they saw. Many of the photographs were felt to be too vivid and unpleasant and they would have to be covered up. Again it was clear they would not budge so various photos were covered up with large pieces of red card, on which we wrote CENSORED,



in large letters. We were also not allowed to show our video in the open display area because of the shocking images, so we saved that for the Roundtable.

## Hearing

About a hundred people came to the Roundtable Hearing. These included several MEPs (Member of European Parliament) who have been involved in this issue in the past, among them John Corrie MEP and Joint President of the EU-ACP Joint Assembly, a body that meets twice yearly to discuss common interest issues between the EU and the Afro-Caribbean-Pacific nations. Robert Evans MEP and Anders Wijkman MEP who sponsored the event chaired the proceedings. I introduced the issues broadly, but even here the proceedings did not stick to the master plan. We planned to start with the video, the hard-hitting series of images shown at our Prague meeting. The video projection failed to work. Attempts to try to get it working slowed things down, and we had to rearrange the order of the speakers. In the end, however, we had presentations from Hemmo Muntingh, political advisor to IFAW and an ex MEP who laid down a series of demands for action by the EU, including control of the logging companies and help for African nations for law enforcement. Karl Ammann and Evan Bowen-Jones of FFI gave news from the field on the causes of the crisis and the effects on biodiversity. Glyn Davies, incoming Director of Conservation at the Zoological Society of London then spoke on the issue from the perspective of impact on human development, and particularly the effect on forest people for whom over-hunting will remove a vital food resource. Lastly, and sadly curtailed due to lack of time, Simon Wain-Hobson of the Pasteur Institute in Paris, gave a talk on the health consequences of eating wild meat, particularly in relation to primate meat and the spread of viruses. Mid way through the proceedings the petition was presented by Koen Brouwer, director of EAZA, to Dave Martin, the Vice President of the Parliament.

## Lobbying

On the following day Richard Leakey, famous Kenyan conservationist joined us, for our series of face to face meetings. Over the next two days we met with representatives from the Development Commission, the Environment Commission, (including Christoph Bail, its Director) and with MEPs associated with those Commissions or with the EU-ACP Joint Assembly. The same message was recurrent throughout the meetings, that resources were scarce (although the EU is the biggest giver of aid in the African region), but that if the African countries themselves asked for funding to help tackle the issue, the money could be found. This seems small but is a major step forward,

and is potentially helpful to everyone working with this issue. On the last day, we made a symbolic presentation of the petition to the Council of Development Ministers at the Press Conference following their biannual meeting. I handed over the symbolic petition to Eddy Boutmans, the Belgian Minister of Development. By this time, with more and more signatures coming in to the IFAW office, the petition was now up to 1.9 million. Even now we are still counting signatures and we may even get over 2 million by the end.

*Bryan Carroll hands over the EAZA Bushmeat petition to Eddy Boutmans, Belgian Minister of Development*



Looking back it is clear that we have prompted some real interest and action within the EU on bushmeat. John Corrie in particular has begun to raise the issue again with African leaders. He has already arranged for our video and information pack to be sent to Laurent Kabila, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Secondly we have made contact with a UK MP who wants to raise the issue in the UK parliament. Small successes in a continuing battle.

By a quirk of EU bureaucracy (sometimes it works in your favour!) we will actually get another chance to present the petition, this time to the EU Petitions Commission which meets in January. This is another important opportunity to raise the issue in the Parliament and Commission and to follow up on our meetings in November. And of course we also plan to present the petition in Africa to African leaders in 2002.

Finally, I would say how good it is to have worked with IFAW, a welfare organisation who in the past has run an anti-zoo campaign. This is a sign that the zoo world has turned a real corner in terms of being accepted as a conservation body that works for the good of animals and the good of the planet. I have found myself sitting with welfare organisations, mainstream conservation organisations, with politicians and civil servants. I believe that they are all beginning to see the zoo community in a new light, and that we are finally being recognised for the conservation work that we have been doing over many years.



# From the EAZA Office

## EAZA Bushmeat Campaign – Total number of collected signatures by EAZA members: 1.854.166

Rank	Country	City	Signatures
1	Netherlands	Arnhem	76.800
2	Germany	Leipzig	63.025
3	Netherlands	Apeldoorn	61.075
4	Germany	Stuttgart	56.294
5	Denmark	Copenhagen	55.625
6	Germany	Karlsruhe	54.719
7	Portugal	Lisbon	51.296
8	Hungary	Budapest	45.334
9	Denmark	Givé	44.775
10	United Kingdom	Paignton	43.120
11	Czech Republic	Dvur Kralové	42.488
12	Netherlands	Hilvarenbeek	41.400
13	United Kingdom	Bristol	39.754
14	Netherlands	Amsterdam	38.655
15	Netherlands	Amersfoort	36.475
16	Netherlands	Rotterdam	33.512
17	Germany	Köln	33.500
18	Hungary	Sosto	32.000
19	Switzerland	Zurich	31.592
20	Sweden	Stockholm	30.750
21	Ireland	Fota	26.725
22	Netherlands	Emmen	26.308
23	Czech Republic	Prague	25.275
24	United Kingdom	Marwell	24.753
25	France	St. Aignan	24.499
26	Denmark	Aalborg	23.054
27	Norway	Kardemomme By	22.500
28	United Kingdom	Twycross	22.448
29	Belgium	Antwerp+Planckendael	22.285
30	Germany	Heidelberg	20.557
31	United Kingdom	Broxbourne	20.125
32	Poland	Poznan	20.000
33	Czech Republic	Zlin Lesna	18.675
34	Sweden	Kolmarden	17.964
35	Germany	Duisburg	17.700
36	Czech Republic	Ostrava	17.622
37	Sweden	Furuvik	17.576
38	United Kingdom	Jersey	17.181
39	France	Romagne	17.050
40	United Kingdom	Banham + Kessingland	16.300
41	Denmark	Odense	15.325
42	Switzerland	Basel	15.056
43	Czech Republic	Ohrada	15.000
44	France	Plaisance-du-Touch	14.224
45	France	Mulhouse	14.202
46	United Kingdom	Colwyn Bay	13.750
47	Hungary	Szeged	13.000
48	Spain	Jerez	12.150
49	Austria	Vienna	12.146
50	United Kingdom	Colchester	12.125
51	Sweden	Boras	11.979
52	Czech Republic	Usti nad Labem	10.644
53	Latvia	Riga	10.549
54	Czech Republic	Brno	10.445
55	United Kingdom	London + Whipsnade	10.400
56	Sweden	Stockholm (Akvariet)	10.300
57	France	Dompièrre sur Besbre	10.241
58	Czech Republic	Liberec	10.153
59	Netherlands	Rhenen	9.934
60	Poland	Gdansk	9.022
61	France	Rocamadour	8.928
62	Netherlands	Harderwijk	8.179
63	Czech Republic	Jihlava	7.636
64	France	Amnéville	7.421
65	Poland	Opole	7.133
66	Denmark	Randers	7.075
67	Hungary	Veszrém	6.907
68	Poland	Lodz	6.874
69	France	Lille	6.755
70	United Kingdom	Belfast	6.750
71	Germany	Hamburg	6.375
72	Germany	Münster	6.158
73	Czech Republic	Olomouc	5.950
74	Ireland	Dublin	5.700
75	Germany	Krefeld/BDZ	5.646
76	Germany	Wuppertal	5.518
77	Spain	Barcelona	5.474
78	Austria	Herberstein	5.450
79	Sweden	Eskilstuna	5.225
80	Czech Republic	Plzen	5.159
81	Hungary	Debrecen	5.000
82	Italy	Rome	4.994
83	United Kingdom	Dudley	4.935
84	Poland	Plock	4.934
85	Italy	Bussolengo	4.593
86	Germany	Rheine	4.500
87	United Kingdom	Edinburgh	4.360
88	United Kingdom	Woburn	4.055
89	France	Jurques	3.989
90	Italy	Lignano Sabbiadoro	3.975
91	Netherlands	Overloon	3.878
92	Austria	Salzburg	3.875
93	Ukraine	Kyiv	3.600
94	France	Champrépus	3.461
95	Netherlands	Alphen	3.255
96	Germany	Hannover	3.250
97	Belgium	Deigné-Aywaille	3.165
98	France	Les Mathes	3.034
99	Czech Republic	Chomutov	3.026
100	Israel	Jerusalem	3.000
101	Germany	Magdeburg	2.930
102	Germany	Nürnberg	2.885
103	France	La Fleche	2.806
104	Netherlands	Epe	2.672
105	Czech Republic	Decin	2.615
106	France	Doué la Fontaine	2.536
107	Belgium	Tournai	2.450
108	Slovakia	Bojnice	2.350
109	Germany	Kronberg	2.300
110	United Kingdom	Newquay	2.200
111	Poland	Warsaw	2.158
112	Germany	Düsseldorf	2.089
113	Russia	Moscow	2.055
114	Italy	UIZA	2.039
115	Israel	Ramat-Gan	2.000
116	Slovakia	Bratislava	2.000
117	France	Peaugres	1.965
118	Germany	Osnabrück	1.800
119	United Kingdom	Blackpool	1.794
120	Germany	Halle	1.650
121	Israel	Kfar-Daniel	1.612
122	Germany	Ueckermünde	1.575
123	Germany	Gelsenkirchen	1.450
124	Germany	Aachen	1.175
125	Poland	Krakaw	1.142
126	Germany	Nordhorn	1.100
127	Russia	Novosibirsk	1.000
128	Germany	Dortmund	850
129	Germany	Bremerhaven	841
130	France	Thoiry	837
131	Sweden	Hunnebostrand	770
132	Ukraine	Kharkiv	663
133	United Arab Emirates	Sharjah	585
134	France	Paris	568
135	Netherlands	NVD	430
136	Germany	Eberswalde	354
137	United Kingdom	Dalton-in-Furness	351
138	United Kingdom	Ballaugh	316
139	France	Pleugueneuc	277
140	Germany	Hoyerswerda	275
141	Germany	Neunkirchen	255
142	Germany	Bochum	250
143	Germany	Rostock	240
144	France	Pelissane	225
145	Spain	Puerto de la Cruz	221
146	Germany	Landau	185
147	United Kingdom	Linton	158
148	United Kingdom	Chester	125
149	Russia	Kaliningrad	75

