CONSERVATION STATUS AND RELATED IMPACTS OF ELEPHANTS AND LION TROPHY BAN TO TANZANIA

BY

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PRESENTED DURING INTERNATIONAL WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COUNCIL MEETING –WASHINGTON DC (USA)

SEPTEMBER, 2018
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1. HISTORY OF TROPHY HUNTING IN TANZANIA

- The history of Tourist Hunting is dating back to 1891 when German enacted the Wildlife Ordinance.

- In 1956, Tanganyika enacted the Wildlife Conservation Law (Fauna Conservation Ordinance Cap 203 of 1956) under British Rule.

- In 1964, Tanganyika Wildlife Development was established to oversee all Tourist Hunting activities.

1. HISTORY OF TROPHY HUNTING IN TANZANIA...

- In 1978 TAWICO was established to supervise trophy hunting in Tanzania.
- In 1988, management of hunting industry returned to Wildlife Division and Administrative Allocation of Hunting Block started.
- In 2009 enactment of Wildlife Conservation Act No 5 and allows more Tanzania own hunting companies in the hunting industry.
- In 2005 established first hunting regulations with its subsequences review in 2010 and 2015.
- In 2015, Establishment of Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) to manage GRs, GCRs OAs and trophy hunting become main wildlife utilization form.
1.0. HISTORY OF TROPHY HUNTING IN TANZANIA...

1.2. HUNTING BLOCK DISTRIBUTION ACROSS THE COUNTRY
The total number of Hunting Concession in Tanzania estimated to cover over 304,400 Sq. Km
The Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) is a newly established Body Corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal.

It was established pursuant to section 8 of the Wildlife Conservation Act 2009 (Cap 283) and published in the Government Gazette vide GN No. 135 of 9th May 2014 and its amendment vide GN. No. 20 of 23rd January 2015.

TAWA was established in response to a consistent trend in deterioration of the wildlife conservation in the areas previously managed by the then Wildlife Division (WD) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT).

TAWA is responsible for sustainable management of wildlife resources and biodiversity conservation outside National Parks and Ngorongoro Conservation Area. This entails managing a total area of km 304,400 km² comprising of 114,782 Km² of Game Reserves, 56,765 Km² of Game Controlled Areas and Open areas.

In addition, TAWA oversees the management of wildlife in captivity (21 Farms, 19 Zoos, 5 Ranches and 2 Sanctuaries), three (3) Ramsar Sites covering 42,700, Km² and 38 Wildlife Management Areas covering 35,616 Km².
2.0. CONSERVATION STATUS ..

2.1. INSTITUTION TRANSFORMATION..

- **TAWA RETAINS ALL REVENUE** generated from tourist hunting, photographic safaris and other sources.

- Revenue generated benefit conservation of wildlife resources through support on anti-poaching programs, procurement of equipment, payment of rangers, dealing with human wildlife conflicts, awareness programmes, capacity building to conservation staff under TAWA etc. TAWA's revenues sources is led by trophy hunting.
2.0. CONSERVATION STATUS ..

2.1. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AS RESULT OF INSTITUTIONAL TRANSFORMATION

◆ TAWA and MNRT established Wildlife and Forest Crimes Taskforce (WFCTF) in collaboration with National and Transnational Serious Crimes Investigation Unit (NTSCIU) to coordinate intelligence-led joint anti poaching operations.

◆ Establishment of Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) that operates beyond the boundaries of all game reserves.

◆ Operationalization of the Tanzania Wildlife Crime Rapid Reference Guide (RRG) for prosecutors and investigators.

◆ The guide provides a toolbox with a prosecution plan, elements and evidence work sheets, annotated witness and exhibit list, and a proofing chart. Consequently ivory kingpin have been arrested and prosecuted eg the queen of ivory
2.0. CONSERVATION STATUS ..

2.1. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AS RESULT OF INSTITUTIONAL TRANSFORMATION..

◆ There is significant reduced poaching that is reflected by a decline in proven mortality incidences of poached elephants which is a keystone species.

◆ The trend in elephant poaching in Selous Game Reserve (SGR), which is a traditional elephant strong hold in Tanzania, indicates declining in poaching-related carcasses encountered within SGR for the years 2012-2018
3.0. STATUS OF ELEPHANTS AND LION CONSERVATION

3.1. STATUS OF ELEPHANTS

◆ Tanzania is among strong holds for elephant population in Africa. It has the population of 50,894 elephants (approximately 73%) of Eastern Africa’s elephant population.

◆ The species also ranks very highly amongst preferred animals for tourists. At the same time elephants are also important trophy animals in areas where tourist hunting safari operations are conducted.

◆ The 2014 re-survey was conducted in the Selous Game Reserve shows a marginal increase to 15,200.

◆ The Serengeti National Park, indicated 98% increase of elephant population from 3,068 in 2009 to 6,087 in 2014.

◆ Tarangire-Manyara ecosystem has seen an increase of 64%, from 2,561 elephants in 2009 to 4,202 in 2014 survey.
3.0. STATUS OF ELEPHANTS AND LION CONSERVATION

3.2. STATUS OF LIONS

◆ Tanzania holds the most important lion population in Africa. The latest comprehensive global assessment of the lion range in Tanzania covered an area of 816,790 km², i.e. 92.4% of the terrestrial land in Tanzania.

◆ Study by Ikanda and Packer (2006) proposed an estimate of lion abundance of 17,564 [12,208 - 19,320]. Furthermore Mésochina et al. 2010, estimate of 16,800 and showed a permanent presence range for lion of 516,900 km², i.e. 69% of the documented lion range, and a temporary presence range of 232,800 km², i.e. 31% of the documented lion range.

◆ Due to financial constraints, the government uses ecosystem approach to conduct lion surveys. In 2014 and 2015, two major lion populations were surveyed, in Maasai Steppe Ecosystem (the Simanjiro Plains) and in the Selous Game Reserve.

➢ Results show a density between 2.5-5.1 lions per 100 Km² in the Selous Game Reserve and 1.3 lions/100km² in Maasai steppe, WHICH INDICATE A STABLE POPULATION
4.0. THE ROLE OF TROPHY HUNTING
4.1. CONSERVATION AND HABITAT MANAGEMENT

◆ Tanzania budget allocation criteria gives more priority to SOCIAL SERVICES SECTORS such as Education, health, infrastructure etc.

◆ Wildlife Conservation like other ECONOMIC SECTORS NEEDS TO PAY FOR ITSELF AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL ECONOMY.

◆ Therefore, TOURIST HUNTING provides financial incentives for conservation of wildlife in an area of 304,399.95 km² in Tanzania where sustainable hunting is the primary land use (94% hunting areas vs 6% Photographic safari areas)

◆ Tourist hunting is considered as a viable form of tourism in thick vegetation type, difficult terrains, remote areas lack of infrastructure with attractive scenery, which are NOT SUITABLE photographic safari.

◆ Tourist hunting generates considerably more income per client than photographic tourism. In Tanzania, for example, just a year before elephant trophy import ban to US, only 700 hunters generated total revenue of 15.9 million USD in the fiscal year 2012/2013, of which, elephant hunting generated 2.5 millions USD.
4.0. THE ROLE OF TROPHY HUNTING

4.2. COMMUNITY BENEFIT


- Currently, there are 38 WMA of which 22 have attained user right while 16 are at different stages of establishment across the country.

- In FY 2017/18, a total of 4 million USD from TAWAs budget has been shared to communities which is 17% of total revenue. The benefit sharing is guided as follows:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Type of fee</th>
<th>TAWA</th>
<th>WMA</th>
<th>DC</th>
<th>TR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Block fee</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Game fee</td>
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<td>65%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Conservation fee</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Observers fee</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Permit fee</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WMA-Wildlife Management Area, DC- District council, TR- Treasury
According to WCA (Tourist Hunting Regulations 4 (c-e) gives obligation for Hunting operators to support anti-poaching operations, infrastructure development and community development projects in hunting blocks allocated to them.

The analysis conducted in 2013 – 2016 showed that hunting operators in the country contribute about 19.5 million dollars in conservation of wildlife. Some of the major contributions from hunting operators worth noting include:-

- Freidkin Conservation Fund (FCF)
- Wildlife Conservation Foundation of Tanzania
- Otterlo Safari Corporation
- Robin Hurt safari Ltd ...etc.

Contributions from hunting operators vary among them depending on the scale of operation, number of hunters received per year and revenue generated.

Therefore, for occupied hunting blocks. Hunting Operators provides significant contributions to conservation and community support of that particular concession.
Tanzania is a member to CITES and has been responsible for the implementation of the CITES resolutions issued at time to time.


US fish and Wildlife Services further, instituted restriction on lion import to the US that the lion population in Eastern Africa has significantly decline and any additive mortality could be significant to the survival of this species.

Due to above reasons, importation of elephant and lion trophies taken from the United Republic of Tanzania in 2014 were suspended.
The US is the major market for tourist hunting industry in Tanzania and the majority of hunters from the US prefer to hunt the members of big five (elephant, lion, leopard and Buffalo).

The major markets for tourist hunting in Tanzania is United States of America (USA), 58% all hunters who book for 21 and 28 days safari packages that allows for hunting of elephant and lion hunting in Tanzania. These safari packages attracts about 70% of all hunters to Tanzania and generates substantial amount of revenue for TAWA.

Therefore, taking into account the large share that USA constitutes in the tourist hunting in Tanzania, it is obvious that any changes in American policy on hunting would have detrimental impact to Tanzania especially in financing conservation of its wildlife and habitats.
5.0 BAN AND RESTRICTION OF ELEPHANT AND LION TO USA

5.2 Impacts to Conservation and Community in Tanzania

◆ The following are observed negative impacts:-

➢ Decrease in number of trophy hunters, from 739 in 2013 to 473 in 2017/18 (39% decline). Decline in number of hunters has caused also a decline in game killed, hunting permits and number of observes per year.
The consequently...
- Hunting Operators returned (81) hunting block hence (51%) of all blocks are vacant.
The consequently…

Revenue from tourist hunting has declined by 23% from 16.27 million dollars in FY 2014/15 to 13.5 million dollars in FY 2015/16 hunting season.
6.0. CONCLUSION

The first President of Tanzania, Mwalimu Julius K. Nyerere, recognized the integral part that wildlife plays in the country. In September 1961, at a symposium on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, he said and I quote:

“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 our future livelihood and wellbeing. 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 cooperate 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.”

My submission to you is that “sustainable wildlife utilization is only way for African country to finance management of its wildlife and their habitat”

I therefore calls for international cooperation in various ways including opening up of USA market to Tanzania elephant and lions trophy, this will strengthern our ability to best conserve our world heritage.
ASANTE SANA!

THANK YOU!