



**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING VULTURE
CONSERVATION IN AFRICA**

Many vulture populations worldwide are in decline and face a range of threats from a variety of human-related factors. Eleven species of vulture occur on the African continent and the range and populations of these species have declined considerably. The range and extent of threats facing these species is varied, but include poisoning, habitat loss, energy infrastructure and unsustainable harvesting.

The Vulture Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission aims to ensure the continued survival of vultures across the African continent. The Group will assess the population status of all African vulture species, identify the threats and implement appropriate conservation actions that effectively address the key threats to these birds.

To achieve this, a Pan-African Vulture Summit was convened in the Masai Mara, Kenya from April 16-20, 2012. Input was received from a wide range of vulture specialists, researchers, conservationists and government representatives from across the continent to develop a Pan-African Vulture Conservation Strategy. One outcome of the summit was the drafting of this resolution as a means to urge African governments to conserve and reduce threats to vultures across the continent.

RECOGNISING that vultures provide vital ecosystem services

RECOGNISING that seven of the eleven species of vulture that occur in Africa are listed in the IUCN Red Data Book

WHEREAS the participants of the 1st Pan-African Vulture Summit support the conservation and management of vultures in Africa

WHEREAS populations of vultures in East Africa have declined by > 65% over the last two decades

WHEREAS populations of vultures in West Africa have declined by > 90% over the last three decades

WHEREAS populations of vultures in southern Africa have significantly declined over the last three decades

WHEREAS populations of vultures in North Africa have disappeared from most of their former range

WHEREAS poisoning and the trade in vultures and their body parts cause large-scale mortalities leading to population declines

WHEREAS the proliferation of power lines and development of wind energy facilities are significant threats to the survival of vultures

THEREFORE the participants of the 1st Pan-African Vulture Summit resolve to respectfully urge the governments of countries in Africa, and particularly the national custodians of wildlife in these countries to:

- recognise that vultures provide vital ecosystem services and are a critical component of ecosystems
- effectively regulate the import, manufacture, sale and use of poisons, including agricultural chemicals and pharmaceutical products known to be lethal to vultures
- legislate and enforce stringent measures to prosecute and impose harsh penalties on perpetrators of poisoning and those illegally trading in vultures and/or their body parts
- ensure appropriate levels of protection and management for vultures and their breeding sites
- ensure that all new energy infrastructure is vulture-friendly and that existing unsafe infrastructure is modified accordingly
- support research, capacity building and outreach programmes for the conservation and survival of healthy vulture populations.

Unanimously adopted on the 20th of April 2012 at Ilkeliani Camp, Masai Mara, Kenya by the delegates

Name	Organisation
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Ara Monadjem	University of Swaziland
Andre Botha	Co-chair: SSC VSG, Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa
Campbell Murn	Hawk Conservancy Trust, UK
Corinne Kendall	Princeton University/ National Museums of Kenya
Darcy Ogada	The Peregrine Fund/Raptor Working Group, Kenya
Derek Pomeroy	Makerere University, Uganda
David Allan	Durban Natural Science Museum, South Africa
Erustus Kanga	Kenya Wildlife Service
Fred Barasa Munyekenye	Nature Kenya
Hannelline Smit	Birdlife South Africa
Holger Kolberg	Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Namibia
Ian Rushworth	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, South Africa
Ivaylo Angelov	Independent Expert formerly BSPB/Birdlife Bulgaria
Kariuki Nding'ang'a	Birdlife International Africa Secretariat
Keith Bildstein	Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, USA
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Maria Diekmann	Rare & Endangered Species Trust, Namibia
Masumi Gudka	Independent, Kenya
Megan Diamond	Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa
Munir Virani	The Peregrine Fund, Kenya
Neil & Liz Baker	Tanzanian Bird Atlas, Tanzania
Nick P Williams	CMS Raptors MOU
Ohad Hatzofe	Nature and Parks Authority
Peter Mundy	NUST National University of Science and Technology,

	Zimbabwe
Rick Watson	The Peregrine Fund, US
Simon Thomsett	National Museums of Kenya
Stoycho Stoychev	Bulgarian Society for the Protection of Birds
Sonja Kruger	Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, South Africa
Wendy Borello	Botswana
Warren Goodwin	SELF (Raptor repairs), Zimbabwe
Walter Naser	VulPro, South Africa
Yilma Adebe	Natural History Society & Ethiopian Wildlife



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