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**South Africa
and
Botswana**

Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of South Africa and the Government of the Republic of Botswana on cooperation on rhinoceros conservation and management. Gaborone, 9 July 2017

Entry into force: *9 July 2017 by signature, in accordance with article 14*

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**Afrique du Sud
et
Botswana**

Mémorandum d'accord entre le Gouvernement de la République sud-africaine et le Gouvernement de la République du Botswana sur la coopération en matière de conservation et de gestion des rhinocéros. Gaborone, 9 juillet 2017

Entrée en vigueur : *9 juillet 2017 par signature, conformément à l'article 14*

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

AND

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA**

ON

**COOPERATION ON RHINOCEROS
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT**

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of South Africa (hereinafter referred to as “RSA”) and the Government of the Republic of Botswana (hereinafter referred to as “GoB”) and hereinafter jointly referred to as the “Parties” and separately as a “Party”;

RECOGNIZING that the Parties share a common goal to conserve their rhinoceros populations for posterity;

NOTING that the Parties share a special interest in ensuring the safety and security of rhinoceros;

CONSIDERING it desirous for the Parties to increase their black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis minor*) and white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum simum*) populations and contribute to the conservation of the species throughout their ranges;

HEREBY AGREE as follows:

ARTICLE 1

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) is to facilitate cooperation in rhinoceros conservation and management between the Parties.

ARTICLE 2

AREAS OF COOPERATION

The Parties shall cooperate by:

- (a) Establishing, supplementing and maintaining viable and secure

populations of black rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis minor*) and white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum simum*) in the countries of the Parties;

- (b) sourcing sustainable financial resources to secure and manage such rhinoceros populations;
- (c) building capacity and exchanging expertise in the management of rhinoceros in the field of rhinoceros security, veterinary matters, monitoring and research;
- (d) establishing bilateral custodianship arrangements for rhinoceros translocated between the Parties; and
- (e) exchanging information on illegal trade in rhinoceros specimens, rhinoceros security and management within the framework of the Southern African Development Community (“SADC”) Protocol on Wildlife Conservation and Law Enforcement as well as through relevant regional law enforcement networks.

**ARTICLE 3
COMPETENT
AUTHORITIES**

- 1. The competent authorities responsible for the implementation of this MoU shall be -
 - (a) in the case of the GoB: the Department of Wildlife and National Parks in the Ministry of Environment, Wildlife and Tourism; and
 - (b) in the case of the RSA: the Department of Environmental Affairs.
- 2. The competent authorities shall evaluate this MoU annually on the

anniversary of entry into force to decide on amendments or additions thereto.

ARTICLE 4
FORMS OF COOPERATION

1. The Parties shall for the duration of this MoU observe the principles of good faith towards one another in the performance of their undertakings in terms of this MoU.

2. The GoB shall:
 - (a) develop an action plan for the introduction of rhinoceros populations to approved destinations within Botswana and ensure that it aligns with the approved national rhinoceros management plan;

 - (b) provide the necessary CITES and veterinary permits to facilitate import of rhinoceros into Botswana;

 - (c) provide adequate and financially sustainable security, monitoring and management mechanisms for all rhinoceros translocated to Botswana from South Africa;

 - (d) facilitate the inspection of rhinoceros destinations by the RSA, prior to translocation;

 - (e) ensure the welfare of all rhinoceros translocated to Botswana from South Africa including ensuring that the rhinoceros shall not be subjected to any form of hunting;

 - (f) ensure that rhinoceros translocated to Botswana from South Africa are not translocated to a third Party without the consent of the RSA;