



THE 10TH AFRICA ANIMAL WELFARE CONFERENCE-2026

**THEME: Dialogue to Action-Collaborative Implementation for Animal Welfare, Climate
Adaptation and Sustainable Development in Africa**

DATE: 5-7 October 2026

VENUE: Golden Peacock Hotel, Lusaka, Zambia

PROGRAMME

Day 1: Monday 5 October 2026	
Conference Moderators: Wachira Kariuki, Dr Dennis Bahati, Dr Eugene Bwalya	
OPENING SESSION: 9.00-11.00 A.M. Moderated by Tennyson Williams , Conference Committee Chair	
8.30-09.00 a.m.	Arrival and registration of delegates (Conference Secretariat)
09.00-09.05 a.m.	Preliminaries-Moderator.
09.05-09.10 a.m.	Welcoming of Delegates. Dr Charles Maseka , Director of Veterinary Services, Zambia
09.10-09.40 a.m.	Goodwill Messages- ● Dr Calvin Solomon Onyango, Country Director, Donkey Sanctuary ● Dr Patrick Muinde, Research and Planning Manager, World Animal Protection ● Sandra Koch, United Nation Volunteers ● James Yeates, CEO, World Federation for Animals ● Karin Siegmund, Director, Welttierschutzstiftung (WTS) ● Susan Millward, CEO, Animal Welfare Institute
9.40-09.50 a.m.	Theme Exposition, Dr Elynn Njeri African Union Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources, Wachira Kariuki , Africa Network for Animal Welfare.



09.50 -10:00 am	Special remarks by Conference Organizing Committee chair, Tennyson Williams
10.00-10.15 a.m.	Keynote Address: Compassion Within Planetary Boundaries: Building Regenerative Food Systems for Africa's Future, Prof. Philip Lymbery , Compassion in World Farming
10.15-11.00 am	Official Opening: ● Josiah Ojwang, Chief Executive Officer, Africa Network for Animal Welfare ● James Harcourt, Chief Executive Officer, Working Animals International ● Dr. Huyam Salih, Director, African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) ● Dr Charles Maseka, Director of Veterinary Services, Zambia ● Guest of Honour, Dr Max. M. Choombe, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL), Zambia
11.00 -11.30 am	Tea/Coffee Break (Group photo)
SESSION 1: Climate Resilience, Conservation, and Sustainable Food Systems 11.30-1.00 PM Session Moderator: Dr Fusya Goma, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Zambia	
11.30-11.45 am	Presentation 1: Status of Animal Welfare in Zambia, Dr. Gregory M. Mululuma , Department of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Animal Welfare Focal Point, Zambia.
11.45-12.00 pm	Presentation 2: Animal Welfare, One Health and the Future of Food Systems Debbie Tripley , Compassion in World Farming
12.00-12.15 pm	Presentation 3: Advancing a Just Transition towards Equitable, Humane and Sustainable Food Systems in Africa, Dr Patrick Muinde , World Animal Protection
12.15pm-12.30pm	Presentation 4: The Implications of Factory farming in Africa, Aurelia Adhiambo , The Human League
12.30 pm-12.45 pm	Presentation 5: African Animals: Reclaiming African Ethics of Care, Candice Blom , Humane World for Animals
12.45-01.00 pm	Q and A
1.00-2.00 pm	Lunch
SESSION 2: Biodiversity Conservation and Wildlife Protection 2.00-3.30 p.m. Session Moderator: Annastacia Kuria, Africa Network for Animal Welfare	
2.00-2.15 pm	Presentation 1: Safeguarding Wildlife in Africa from Impacts of Linear Transport Infrastructure: Highlights of a Zambian Case Study and Increasing Collaboration Across the Continent, Luckson Banda , Zambian Carnivore Programme



2.15-2.30 pm	Presentation 2: From Sanctuary to Landscape: Implementing an Integrated One Health Approach for Animal Welfare, Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Development in Zambia, Peggy Motsch , Executive Director of the Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage Trust (Zambia).
2.30 -2.45 pm	Presentation 3: Antimicrobial Resistance in the light of Animal Welfare, Dr Ntombi B. Mudenda , University of Zambia.
2.45 - 3.00 pm	Presentation 4: From Dialogue to Resilient Coexistence: Collaborative action for human-animal-environmental resilience in a rapidly changing Africa, Dr Mwenda Mbaka , Alliance for Human-Animal Coexistence
3.00 - 3.30 pm	Q and A
3.30-4.00 pm	Tea/Coffee Break
SESSION 3: Strengthening Legal and Institutional Frameworks 4.00-5.30 pm Session Moderator: Dr Maryanne Mwimali, Directorate of Veterinary Services, Kenya	
4.00-4.15 pm	Presentation 1: Strengthening South Africa's Animal Welfare Legislative Framework: Advancing Animal Welfare through Legislative Reform, Dr Anndrea Yelliah BSc, BVSc , Veterinary Public Health National Department of Agriculture, South Africa.
4.15-4.30 pm	Presentation 2: From Voluntary Standards to Global Policy: How Corporate Partnerships and Civil Society Collaboration Are Driving the Elimination of Animal Experimentation, Grace Robinson , Cruelty Free International
4.30 -4.45 pm	Presentation 3: Integrating Animal Welfare into Governance and Market Access Systems in Africa – Lessons from Kenya and Nigeria, Dr Kiki Oluwarore , One Health and Development Initiative
4.45 – 5.00pm	Presentation 4: Who writes the rules? Building aquatic animal welfare into Africa's institutions, Jacqui Greeff , Ethical Seafood Research
5.00 – 5.15pm	Presentation 5: Ethiopia's Experience in Developing and Endorsing the Animal Health and Welfare Proclamation, Dr Bojia E Duguma , President of the Ethiopian Veterinary Association
5.15 – 5.30pm	Q and A
- *****END OF DAY ONE*****	
Day 2: Tuesday 6 October 2026	
SESSION 4: Working Animals International 09.00 am-10.00 a.m. Session Moderator: Naomi Higham, Working Animals International Panel Discussion: Impossible to overlook? Counting working animals for climate resilience and sustainable development	



9.00 – 10.00am	➤ Impossible to Overlook? Counting Working Animals for Climate Resilience and Sustainable Development, Dr Erick Mutizhe, AWARE Trust Zimbabwe and Working Animals International ➤ Drought Response Interventions with Working Animals and Communities in Kenya, Josphat Ekuam, Program Manager, Utunzi Africa ➤ From Marginalization to Mainstreaming: Ethiopia's Progress in Incorporating Working Animals into Policymaking, Evidence-Based Data Systems, and Socioeconomic Development Agendas, Hika Waktole, Executive Dean - College of Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture, Addis Ababa University ➤ Impossible to overlook? Counting working animals for climate resilience and sustainable development, Sam Whyte, Head of Advocacy, Working Animals International
10.00-10.30	Q and A
10.30-11.00 am	Tea/Coffee Break
SESSION 5: Integrating Animal Welfare into Policy, Finance, and One Health Systems 11.00 am-1.00 p.m. Session Moderator: Dr Ntombi B. Mudenda, University of Zambia.	
11.00 – 11.15am	Animal welfare in development cooperation – Achievements and lessons from the joint programme of AWeCCA and WTS, Dr Paul Ssuna , AWeCCA
11.15 – 11.30am	When The Story Becomes Law: The Power of Media Advocacy to Drive Animal Welfare Policy Change in Africa, Sebastian Mwanza , Africa Network for Animal Welfare
11.30 – 12.45 p.m	Panel Discussion: Implications of Ventilation Shutdown as an approach to Depopulation: Panel Moderator: Zack Strong, Animal Welfare Institute ➤ Gwendolen Reyes-Illg, DVM, Veterinarian, Animal Welfare Institute, Co-Executive Director for the Veterinary Association for Farm Animal Welfare. ➤ Jeffrey Hill, MSc - Livestock Welfare Strategies LLC (LWS) ➤ Sara Shields, PhD - Managing Director of Farm Animal Welfare Science, Humane World for Animals ➤ Dr Kenneth Chawinga, Senior Inspectorate & Regulation Officer, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Animal Welfare Focal Point, Zambia.
12.45-1.00 pm	Q and A
1.00-2.00 pm	Lunch
Session 6: Working Animals in Africa: Navigating Challenges, Unlocking Opportunities, and Shaping the Future of Sustainable Livelihoods	



2.00-3.30 p.m. Session Moderator: Sam Whyte, Working Animals International	
2.00-2.30 pm	Presentation 1: Contribution of Donkeys to Human Wellbeing in Africa, Solomon Onyango and Dr Obadiah Kipchichir Singoei , The Donkey Sanctuary
2.30-3.15pm	Panel Discussion 2: Protecting Donkeys, Safeguarding Livelihoods: Law, Research and Multi-Agency Action Panelists: ➤ Dr Raphael Kinoti, Regional Director, The Brooke - East Africa ➤ Dr Dickson Gitonga, Principal Research Analyst, National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) ➤ Dr Stephen Mbaya Kimwele, The County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Agriculture and Livestock in Kitui County ➤ Dr Maryanne Mwimali, Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS) ➤ Moderator: Samuel Theuri, Policy and External Affairs Advisor, The Brooke - East Africa
3.15-3.30 pm	Q and A
3.30-4.00 pm	Tea/Coffee Break
SESSION 7: Research, Innovation and Community Stewardship 4.00-5.30 pm Session Moderator: Dr Patrick Muinde, World Animal Protection	
4.00-4.15 pm	Presentation 1: From Rescue to Prevention: Building Sustainable Animal Welfare Through Education, Sterilization, Vaccination, and Collaboration, Harriet Lukiya , Lusaka Animal Welfare Society
4.15-4.30 pm	Presentation 2: Opportunities for Major Groups to Engage at UNEP and UNEA, Isaiah Otieno , Major Groups and Stakeholders - UNEP
4.30-4.45 pm	Presentation 3: Advancing Animal Welfare and Public Health through Veterinary Leadership in Zambia Dr Eugene Chisela Bwalya (PhD, MSc, BVM) , President , Veterinary Association of Zambia
4.45-5.00 pm	Presentation 4: Bridging Gaps in Applied Ethology in Africa: Translating Animal Behavior and Welfare Science for Diverse Stakeholders - Dr Iyasere Oluwaseun , Meat Industry Training Institute of Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources.
5.00-5.15 pm	Presentation 5: A Community and Agricultural Practice Perspective, Tozie Zokufa , Coalition of African Animal Welfare Organizations.
5.15-5.30 pm	Q and A
6.30-8.30 pm	<i>Documentary Screening- Link between industrial animal agriculture and the failures of our food system, Humane World for Animals</i>
***** END OF DAY TWO *****	

Day 3: Wednesday 7 October 2026

SESSION 8: African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)

09.00-10.30 a.m.

Session Moderator: Samuel Theuri, Brooke East Africa

09.00-10.30 am.	Presentation 1- Accelerating Donkey Conservation and Welfare in Africa: Implementing the Pan-African Strategy for Donkey Conservation, Welfare and the AU Continental Moratorium in Africa (2026–2035) - Dr Elynn Njeri, Animal Welfare Expert, AU-IBAR and Dr Solomon Onyango, The Donkey Sanctuary Presentation 2: - Regional Affirmative actions and perspectives: ECOWAS strategy for donkey protection and conservation of Donkeys by 2030 – ECOWAS RAHC representative.
10.30-11.00 a.m.	Tea/Coffee Break
11.00-11.30 a.m.	Presentation 3- Status on the Operationalization of the APAW governance Platform and Future actions- Dr Elynn Njeri, Animal Welfare Expert, AU-IBAR

11.30-12.30 p.m.

Panel Discussion: From Recognition to Implementation: Advancing Animal Sentience through the Animal Welfare Strategy for Africa (AWSA) Towards an African Common Position

Panel Moderator: Tennyson Williams, Director for Africa, World Animal Protection

Panelists:

- Carolyn Guy, World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH)
- Dr Elynn Njeri, Animal Welfare Expert, AU-IBAR
- Rt. Hon. Lord Zac Goldsmith: - Advisory Council Member - United Kingdom
- Susan Millward, Chief Executive Officer, Animal Welfare Institute
- Dr. Hadgu Mendefero Berehu, DVM, MSc, PhD, Director of the Ethiopian Livestock Identification and Traceability System (ET-LITS) and Animal Welfare at the Ministry of Agriculture
- Dr. Hiver Boussini, Senior Expert in Animal Health, One Health and Animal Welfare
- Jim Karani Riungu, Environmental lawyer, criminologist, and carbon markets expert



12.30-1.00 p.m. Q and A	
1.00-2.00 p.m.	Lunch
SESSION 11: Conclusion and Way Forward	
2.00-3.00 pm	
2.00-2.10 pm	Conference Resolutions: Wachira Kariuki , Africa Network for Animal Welfare
2.10-2.20 pm	11 th AAWC Focus: Government of South Africa
2.20-2.30 pm	Vote of Thanks – Prof James Nkansah-Obrempong, Board Chair , Africa Network for Animal Welfare
2.30-3.00 pm	Official Closing Ceremony: Dr Charles Maseka , Director of Veterinary Services, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock, Zambia
3.00	Tea/Coffee
***** END OF CONFERENCE *****	