

Launching E 50:50 - the First International Elephant Congress and Ministerial Meet from 14 to 19 November, 2013

A pioneering conference of 50 countries that harbour wild populations of elephants will discuss conservation and welfare of elephants at New Delhi next November.

The First International Elephant Congress and Ministerial Meet, E 50:50 to be hosted by the Indian government in New Delhi will bring together scholars, conservation practitioners and policy makers to discuss issues on elephant conservation policy. The Congress will include conclaves on science, culture and management culminating in a ministerial summit to adopt a vision charter with common minimum global vision on conservation, management and welfare of elephants across all range countries.



The need

Elephants, the largest terrestrial mammals that share our planet with us are a global flagship for biodiversity conservation. Three species of elephants are found distributed across 50 countries today. Regardless of geo-political boundaries, elephants across the world face common threats of poaching, habitat loss and conflicts with people.

In 2010, the Government of India had constituted the Elephant Task Force (ETF) to formulate a strategy for the long-term conservation of elephants in India.

Recognising that the three species of elephants are interlinked by common threats, the ETF recommended, among others, that the Indian government take global lead to bring about a unified approach to elephant conservation and welfare. Thus the International Elephant Congress was envisioned.

As a prelude to the Congress, the Government of India organised the E-8 Ministerial Meet in May 2011 that brought together a ministerial delegation of eight elephant range countries, viz. Botswana, Congo Brazzaville, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Thailand at New Delhi, India. The meet deliberated on various issues affecting elephant conservation in the world that led to the “*New Delhi E-8 Recommendation on Global Elephant Conservation*” and recommended the agenda for the **International Elephant Congress and Ministerial Meet (E-50:50)**.

Themes for technical sessions:

- Elephant Science

- Elephant Management and Conservation
- Elephant: Culture and Ethics

Date & Venue: 14th -19th November, 2013 at New Delhi, India

We welcome and invite you to be a part of this global movement to save these majestic animals.

For further information, please write to:

The Chair – E-50:50 Technical Committee - Inspector General of Forests and Director – Project Elephant, Government of India. E mail: igfpe@yahoo.com

The Co-chair - E-50:50 Technical Committee – Executive Director, Wildlife Trust of India.
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