CONSERVATION in AFRICA
SECURITY, DEMOCRACY, DEVELOPMENT

September 18, 2013
Africa has been growing rapidly for more than a decade, driven by greater political stability and economic reforms that have unleashed the power of the free market.

For future generations to solidify the region’s hard-earned progress, its wealth of natural resources must be reliably available, affordable, and sustainably developed.

The United States has the opportunity, the obligation, and the interests to continue to lead a robust international effort, from both its public and private sectors, to build institutions that can secure the natural resource supplies Africa needs to sustain itself, and which through sound development will strengthen Africa’s position as an important economic and security partner.
Dear Friends,

Welcome to ICCF’s annual U.S. Congressional International Conservation Gala. We are honored to host such an impressive group of leaders from the public and private sectors who are dedicated to international conservation and good natural resource management.

This year, we focus on the indispensable role conservation plays in promoting security, democracy, and development throughout Africa. African leaders recognize that to cement their hard-earned growth from the past decade, the natural resources at the foundation of their economy must be soundly developed. For the United States, supporting conservation in Africa is part of a larger imperative to promote widespread economic opportunity that can secure our climb out of the global recession and strengthen new strategic allies for American security and democracy promotion initiatives.

ICCF’s unparalleled network of conservation leaders in government, business, and the NGO community has made tremendous advances in protecting the value of Africa’s vast natural wealth for the sustainable development of today and for the benefit of future generations. Our partners, including many present tonight, have played a key role in enhancing the connection between those natural resources and Africa’s diverse mosaic of countries and communities to create jobs and ensure continued prosperity and stability for its citizens.

Tonight, as we highlight the economic, political, and social opportunities offered by a rising Africa, we also honor outstanding leaders whose achievements inspire us and continue to blaze a trail for tomorrow’s conservation institutions and programs. Thank you for joining us this evening.

Sincerely,

John B. Gantt, Jr.
President
VIP and General Receptions

Welcome
John B. Gantt, Jr.
President, ICCF

The Honorable Mark Green
The Honorable Allen Boyd
Masters of Ceremonies

Presentation of Colors
United States Marine Corps Color Guard

Invocation
The Reverend Patrick J. Conroy
Chaplain, U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Hillary Clinton Film

Remarks on U.S. Foreign Aid Policy
Senator Lindsey Graham

Dr. Naoko Ishii
CEO & Chairperson of the GEF
Introduced by
Congressman Jim Moran

Yao Ming Film Introduced by
Congresswoman Betty McCollum

Dinner

Traditional West African Dance
by Coyaba Dance Theater

The Honorable Connie Mack
Chairman, ICCF Colombia

Presentation by Senator Saxby Chambliss
ICCF Conservation Leadership in Business Award to:
The Coca-Cola Company
Accepted by Bea Perez
Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer,
The Coca-Cola Company

Presentation by Senator Rob Portman
ICCF Good Steward Award to:
Dr. Laurie Marker
Co-Founder and Executive Director,
Cheetah Conservation Fund

Presentation by H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma
ICCF Teddy Roosevelt® International Conservation Award to:
Congressman Ed Royce
Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs

Presentation by Dr. Cristián Samper
The ICCF Mhenga Award to:
H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete
President of the United Republic of Tanzania
As law enforcement and counter-terrorism operations crack down on African-based terrorists’ traditional sources of income, ivory and rhino horn have become too convenient and lucrative to ignore. Illegal wildlife products are a substantial lifeline to Africa’s most notorious armed groups, including Somalia’s al-Shabab, the Lord’s Resistance Army (L.R.A.), and Darfur’s Janjaweed. These groups, which are systematically exploiting porous borders and weak governance and hindering economic activities, have the potential to set back African development by decades and create large swaths of ungovernable land, and new hotbeds for terrorist cells. Without assertive action to combat rampant poaching, terrorist groups will solidify their foothold in Africa from which they may launch attacks against the U.S. and our international interests.

**Africa's Future: A Global Economic Power**

Underpinning Africa’s economic potential is its abundant natural wealth, including remarkably productive fisheries, forests, and over 60% of the world’s uncultivated arable land. As leading African economies have made strides to build their economies sustainably, they have grasped that secure supplies of natural wealth, stability, and prosperity are closely linked and taken steps to secure their natural resource bases for long-term growth.

African communities realize that harnessing the market potential of their natural wealth has played an outsized role in the expansion of their private sector, and that conservation is critical to sustaining the growth of their middle class. U.S. Government conservation agencies, businesses, and NGO leaders are in a unique position to help developing countries build capacity to secure the vital natural resource bases upon which prosperity and stability depend. By transferring and adapting the best practices developed in the U.S. over the past 100 years they can accelerate sustainable economic development, which would demonstrate that the U.S. is seeking long-term partnerships while enabling Africa to become a major player in the world economy.

**The African Poaching Crisis**

The escalation of Africa’s poaching crisis is jeopardizing the wildlife and the productive ecological systems which make up the foundation of its economic potential. Asian demand for wildlife products has inflated the black market price of ivory, rhino horn, and other products to historic highs, leading to the increased involvement of more organized, better funded, and better armed criminal and terrorist networks, and even militias, compounding the challenges faced by those charged with protecting the wildlife. This is a threat to not only the natural heritage of African countries, but also their economic development, as several countries’ tourism industries are significant growth drivers.
ICCF acts as an informal secretariat to conservation caucuses in the U.S. Congress and international parliaments, directly supporting members with non-partisan, well-researched, and timely educational resources from an unmatched network of corporate and non-profit leaders.

ICCF established the caucus/foundation model in 2004, and has since helped the U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus grow to include 1/3 of the U.S. Congress. The caucus’s inclusive nature attracts membership from across the political spectrum, and the foundation’s pragmatic approach has made it a strong ally to its policymaker counterparts.

The U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus

The U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus, the oldest and most developed conservation caucus in the world, benefits from the wealth of knowledge gained by U.S. conservation agencies such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. National Park Service over the past 100 years, as well as ICCF’s corporate and NGO partners. The American caucus continues to be inspired by the belief that the U.S. has the opportunity, the obligation, and the interests to advance the conservation of natural resources for this and future generations.

United States Congressional International Conservation Caucus

We are greatly saddened to learn of the death of Caucus co-founder E. Clay Shaw, Jr. Clay will be missed by his many friends, including those in the conservation community whom he inspired and supported.
ICCF Kenya

ICCF Kenya is collaborating with the leadership of the multiparty Parliamentary Conservation Caucus - Kenya Chapter to implement innovative solutions for the natural resource challenges facing East Africa, and Kenya specifically, including the global poaching crisis, which is threatening the foundation of the region’s economic progress and undermining governance.

After years of facilitating dialogue between American and African leaders to develop coordinated approaches to conservation challenges, ICCF is now actively cultivating and mobilizing core groups of Africa’s conservation-minded parliamentarians who can spur legislative change. Ultimately, ICCF’s headquarters in Kenya will create new channels for dialogue and resources that include caucus members in Namibia, Tanzania, and Zambia, so their coordinated efforts ensure that East Africa’s future generations inherit the usefulness of its unique natural capital.

ICCF Colombia

Capitalizing on widespread public interest to develop world-class forestry and land management institutions, ICCF enlisted several senior parliamentary leaders of Colombia’s Senate and House of Representatives, including the Speaker of the House Augusto Posada, the Senate Majority Leader Roy Leonardo Berreras Montalegre, the chairman of the environmental committees in both chambers, and the chairmen of several major political factions to establish the Colombian Conservation Caucus (CCC).

In addition to its duties as the secretariat of the CCC, ICCF Colombia convenes regional forums under the Pacific Alliance, and works with its sister headquarters in Washington, DC and Nairobi and ICCF’s global network of parliamentarians to share best practices and coordinate efforts to effectively address the world’s largest natural resource challenges.
**Gala Co-Chairmen**

**Dr. Cristián Samper**

Dr. Cristián Samper is President and CEO of the Wildlife Conservation Society. He served for a decade as Director of the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History, worked as deputy director and staff scientist at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama, and served as chairman of the Subsidiary of Scientific, Technical, and Technological Advice of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity. He was also founding director of the Alexander von Humboldt Institute, the national biodiversity research institute of Colombia, where he was responsible for developing the National Biodiversity Policy for Colombia and served as chief science advisor for biodiversity for the Colombian government. He was a moving force behind the establishment of a network of private nature reserves and major environmental education programs throughout Colombia and was awarded the National Medal of the Environment by the President of Colombia.

**Mark Tercek**

Mark Tercek is President and CEO of The Nature Conservancy. A former managing director and partner for Goldman Sachs, where he worked for 24 years, Mark is a champion of the idea of natural capital—valuing nature for its own sake as well as for the services it provides for people. He is the author of the bestselling book *Nature’s Fortune: How Business and Society Thrive by Investing in Nature*. Mark developed the Goldman Sachs environmental strategy and led its Environmental Markets Group. In 2012, Mark was appointed to serve on the New York State 2100 Commission, which was created in the wake of Superstorm Sandy to advise the governor and the state on how to make the state’s infrastructure more resilient to future storms.

**Speaker Biographies**

**H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma**

H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma is the Chairperson of the African Union Commission. A woman of great strength and vision, Dr. Dlamini Zuma has held various high-level positions in the South African Government, including service as the Minister of Health, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Minister of Home Affairs.

**Dr. Naoko Ishii**

Dr. Naoko Ishii is the CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility. She previously served as Japan’s Deputy Vice Minister of Finance and led the Japanese delegation at the Transition Committee for designing the Green Climate Fund. She has held numerous international posts at the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.

**The Honorable Connie Mack**

Connie Mack was a four-term Congressman and Chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee in the U.S. House of Representatives. Now serving as Chairman of ICCF Colombia, Mack is forging an expanded ICCF network in Latin America to cultivate the natural assets that underpin governance, support human health and livelihoods, and promote stability and prosperity.
ICCF Conservation Leadership in Business Award
The Coca-Cola Company

The Coca-Cola Company, the world's largest beverage company, has embarked on one of the world's greatest examples of sustainable business leadership with their Replenish initiative to safely return to nature and communities the amount of water equal to what they use in their products and production by 2020. Beyond simply demonstrating the potential of free market conservation to the international business community, Coca-Cola's water partnerships have made significant impact in enhancing water security, improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation, and expanding sustainable water management for improved food security. The Coca-Cola Company's Replenish Africa Initiative (RAIN), supporting 40 projects in 25 countries, aims to provide water access to more than two million people in Africa by 2015. Coca-Cola is working with WWF to conserve 11 of the world's most critical freshwater river basins, including the Amazon and Zambezi, and with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to invest in women for sustainable development.

ICCF Teddy Roosevelt® International Conservation Award
The Honorable Ed Royce
Chairman, U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs

Representative Ed Royce has been one of the nation's strongest champions of U.S.-Africa partnerships in trade, democracy promotion, and security initiatives throughout his career. While leading the International Conservation Caucus (ICC), as one of the original co-founders and current Co-Chairman, Royce has actively promoted prosperity and self-reliance through sustainable resource management in aid-recipient countries. He led efforts in Congress to authorize the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)—a partnership including 11 African countries to ensure sustainable resource management in an area unsurpassed in its ecological value and natural beauty, and on which over 75 million people directly depend for their food, medicine, water, and shelter. Congressman Royce was the driving force behind the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) and its extensions, landmark legislation to increase access for African exports to the U.S. for countries that respect the rule of law and democratic principles and help those countries capture their economic potential. Most recently, Congressman Royce has worked with colleagues in the Caucus to guide the U.S. response to the poaching crisis which threatens the survival of the continent’s elephant and rhino populations while financing African-based terror organizations.

ICCF’s Good Steward Award
Dr. Laurie Marker
Co-Founder and Executive Director, Cheetah Conservation Fund

Since 1990, as Founder and Executive Director of the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF), Dr. Laurie Marker has pioneered innovative ideas in conservation to help the cheetah win its race against extinction. She is recognized around the world as one of the leading experts on cheetahs, both in the wild and in captivity, and under her leadership, CCF has become an internationally recognized center of excellence in conservation research and programming. In 1990, she founded CCF as an international not-for-profit organization dedicated to saving the cheetah in the wild, an institution which is now recognized worldwide as an unparalleled model for predator conservation. Dr. Marker's research throughout her career has contributed vital information on cheetah health, reproduction, mortality, evolution, and genetics. Dr. Marker’s collaborative approach, which attempts to create ways for humans and wildlife to thrive together, has built a network of supporters throughout the nation of Namibia, the continent of Africa, and the world.
ICCF THANKS

The Reverend Patrick J. Conroy
Chaplain of the U.S. House of Representatives

Ambassador Mark Green
Congressman Allen Boyd
for serving as Masters of Ceremonies

The U.S. Marine Corps Color Guard
for presenting the flag of the United States and that of the U.S. Marine Corps

Mark Tercek and Dr. Cristián Samper
Gala Co-Chairmen

U.S. Senate International Conservation Caucus Co-Chairmen
Richard Burr, Rob Portman, Tom Udall, Sheldon Whitehouse

U.S. House International Conservation Caucus Co-Chairmen
Ander Crenshaw, Betty McCollum, Jim Moran, Ed Royce

Rare Species Fund, Doc Antle, and their Animal Ambassadors

National Geographic Society and African Wildlife Foundation for the use of their artwork

Our good friend, Mark Christmas, for his loyal help and sound advice

Wildlife Conservation Society
for their generous donation of stuffed animals and for the use of photos

Robert J. Ross for the use of his photos

The Coca-Cola Company
The Coca-Cola Company
for their contribution of beverages for the Gala

Nestlé
for their contribution of beverages for the Gala

George O’Neill, Jr.
for his generous support of our Washington, DC programs

The ICCF Group family, Dr. David Black, The Slovin Foundation, and Ol Jogi and Alec Wildenstein, for their invaluable support of our international programs

Thank you for all of your efforts to care for the world we all share.

SeaWorldCares.com
Sustainable Seafood for a Fish-Full Future

Bumble Bee Foods proudly introduces Wild Selections®, a premium line of sustainable canned seafood products that invites consumers to join the collaboration between science, conservation and business with every purchase.

Wild Selections® is the first ever Marine Stewardship Council certified sustainable seafood line to directly fund fisheries management and marine conservation efforts managed by World Wildlife Fund. Each can purchased generates a $0.13 donation to WWF, with a minimum commitment of $1 million by 12/31/18.

This brand is just part of our continuing commitment to create a better tomorrow through conservation.

Volkswagen Group of America supports and applauds ICCF’s conservation mission in Africa. We are doing our part to protect and preserve the planet where ever we nest, including in Africa and right here in the U.S.

VOLKSWAGEN GROUP OF AMERICA

volkswagengroupamerica.com
Congratulations to Cape Verde, the 48th member of the CCN network.

The CCN is a global network of policymakers with the intention of fostering and sharing best practices and solutions for international conservation policies. CCN members understand and prioritize that responsible natural resources management is essential for economic development and regional stability. This global network will build capacity and facilitate better legislation, programs, policies, and practices for international conservation and natural resource management.
ICCF thanks ExxonMobil for its generous support, and commends ExxonMobil’s investment in Africa’s sustainable energy future.
SPECIAL THANKS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT

AngloGold Ashanti

Bumble Bee Foods, LLC

ExxonMobil

Volkswagen Group of America

International Paper

Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

GEF (Global Environment Facility)

SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment

The paper for this program has been donated by International Paper

Illustrations: Elephant by Frits Ahlefeldt; Rhino by Markus Erdt, merdt@gmx.net