



Honorable Lazaro S. Nyalandu, Minister
United Republic of Tanzania Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism
P. O. Box 9372
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
minister@mnrt.go.tz

March 11, 2014

Dear Minister Nyalandu:

In 1998 The Wildlife Policy of Tanzania declared, “The greatest threat to [the] protected area network is the illegal use of wildlife resources.” Thirty-seven years earlier President Nyerere appealed, “to other nations to cooperate with us in this important task. . .” of conserving Tanzania’s wildlife and wild places. It is in this spirit of cooperation and a shared objective that the Dallas Safari Club is compelled to write to you today.

The undersigned, along with several other members of the Dallas Safari Club, recently viewed a DVD entitled “Hunting Trip Tanzania Season 2012”. This video appears to have been produced by a privately owned safari company operating under the name Green Mile Safari Co. Ltd. The cover of the video states that Green Mile operates in the United Republic of Tanzania with three hunting blocks: one in Arusha and two in Selous. Without question, the video depicts some of the most abhorrent displays of unethical hunting behavior and animal abuse ever recorded. It also contains what appear to be many obvious violations of Tanzania’s wildlife conservation laws and hunting regulations, the prosecution of which is paramount if the rule of law in Tanzania is to realize its tri-fold purpose of punishment for the offender, deterrence among would be violators, and confidence among the citizenry of the world that no man, however privileged, is above the law.

The members of the Dallas Safari Club are very aware of the difficulties that the Government of Tanzania is facing in conserving its valuable wildlife resources, particularly its dwindling elephant population, as well as the problems it is having in bringing about prosecution of poachers and safari companies who flagrantly violate its laws. We applaud and support you in the courageous actions you are taking to address these very urgent issues. The Dallas Safari Club strongly believes that one of the most important tools the Ministry can use in its efforts to conserve the country's wildlife is to only award concessions to safari operators who will abide by the highest ethical standards and uphold the rule of law — and to remove those who do not.

The Dallas Safari Club congratulates you on your appointment as the new Minister of Tourism and Natural Resources and pledges to work with you towards our mutual goals of enforcing the rule of law, promoting sustainable and ethical hunting practices, and realizing President Nyerere's vision that, "our children's grand-children will be able to enjoy this rich and precious inheritance" that is Tanzania's wild creatures and the wild places they inhabit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John C. Patterson, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

John C. Patterson, Jr.
President, Dallas Safari Club

cc: The Honorable John Kerry
United States Secretary of State
United States Department of State
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