

**IUCN/SSC
ASIAN RHINO SPECIALIST GROUP
(AsRSG)
MEETING**

BRIEFING BOOK

**JALDAPARA SANCTUARY
WEST BENGAL, INDIA
6-10 DECEMBER 1993**

**SECTION 17
RHINO GCAP/GASP**



Regional Captive
Propagation Programs

RHINO GCAP/GASP 1993

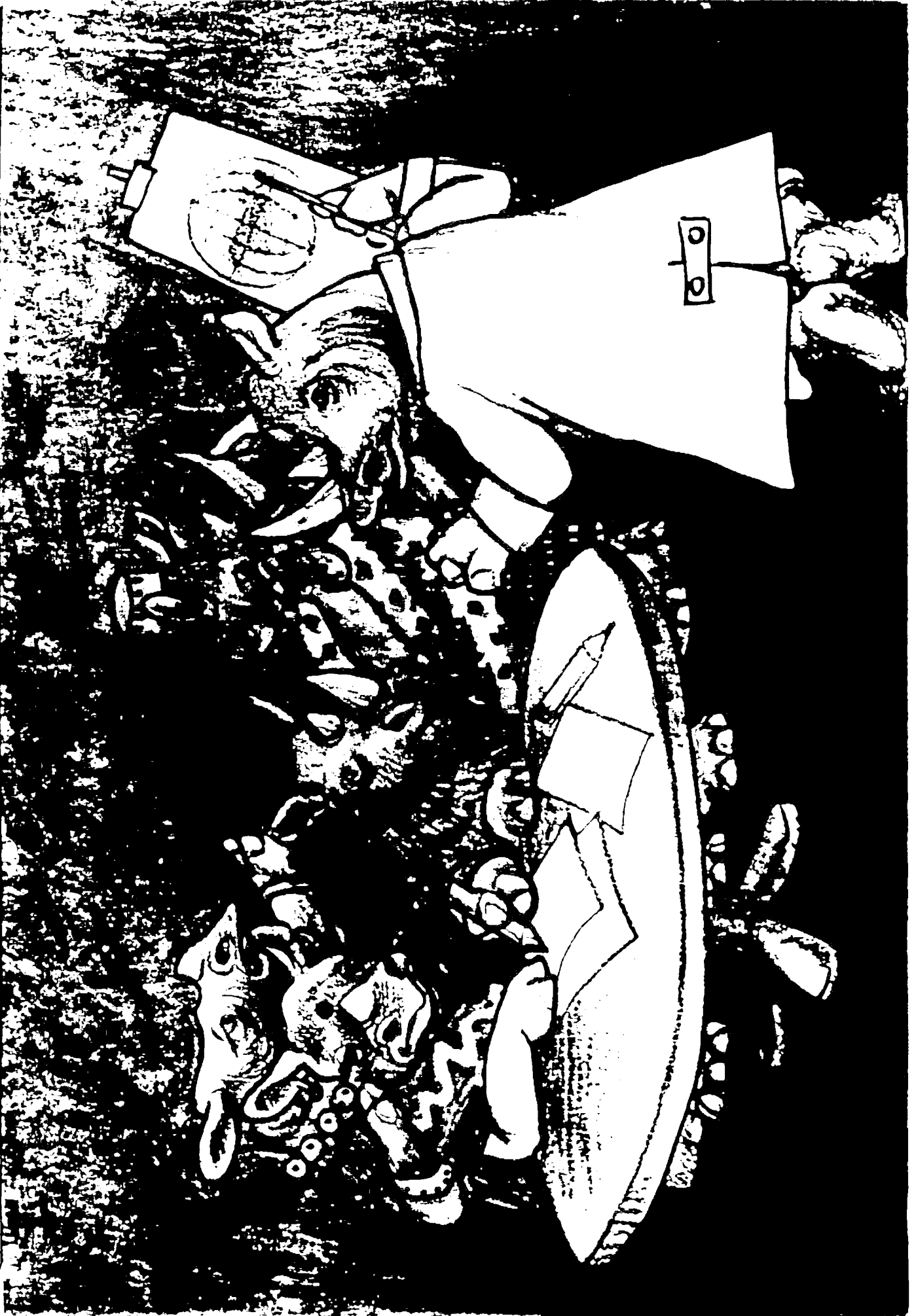


TABLE 2
RHINO GCAP/GASP COMMITTEE
1 September 1993

FACILITATOR/COORDINATOR: T.J. Foose, International Rhino Foundation

	TAG CHAIRS	REGIONAL COORDINATORS					
		African Rhino			Asian Rhino		
		Black	White		Indian/Nepalese	Sumatran	Javan
Africa (PAAZAB, ZDNPWLM, KWS)		V. Wilson M. Kock R. Brett					
Asia							
	Japan (SSCJ)	Y. Konno	H. Otsu	N. Akama	Y. Osaka		
	India (IESBP)				S.C. Dey		
	S.E. Asia (SEAZ)	Jansen Manansang (pro tem)			B. Harrison	Mohd Tajuddin P. Andau Jansen Manansang	
Australasia (ASMP)	P.Stroud	J. Kelly		P. Garland		D. Miller (All Asian)	
Europe (EEP/JMSG)	R. Frese	R. Frese	N. Lindsay (UK)	K. Tomasova	K. Tobler <i>(Has retired; replacement to be appointed.)</i>	C. Furley	
North America (AAZPA SSP)	R.Reece	E. Maruska D. Farst J. Jackson		R. Rockwell	M. Dee	J. Doherty J. Dolan	
Advisors:	M. Brooks, Chairman, African Rhino Specialist Group			G. Amato	E. Blumer	D. Conybeare	
	M. Khan, Chairman, Asian Rhino Specialist Group			N. Czekala	A. Dixon	B. Dresser	
	G. Mace	E. Miller	B. Read	O. Ryder	C. Schmidt	N. Van Strien	S. Wakefield
	P. Wells						

RHINOCEROS

GLOBAL CAPTIVE ACTION PLAN (GCAP) & GLOBAL ANIMAL SURVIVAL PLAN (GASP)

FACILITATOR/COORDINATOR

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RHINO GCAP/GASP WORKSHOP

CBSG ANNUAL CONFERENCE - SEPTEMBER 1993

Participants: T. Foose (GCAP/GASP Facilitator), Reinhard Frese (Chair, Antwerp Ex Situ Working Group), Jim Jackson (Chair, Antwerp In Situ Working Group), William Conway, Nancy Czekala, Ian Denney, John Knowles, Chris Larcombe, Nick Lindsay, Jansen Manansang, Eric Miller, Alex Rubel, Christian Schmidt, S.C. Sharma, Kristina Tomasova, P. Batels, Molteno, Vladimir Mikulica

- Over the last year, the endangerment/extinction crisis for rhinos has intensified significantly with the situation for African black rhino particularly deteriorating and prospects for all other species becoming more precarious.
- Only 11,000 rhino of all kinds survive in the wild, over half of them southern white rhino. These rhino exist in about 40 key populations and areas in just 8 countries: 4 in Africa (Kenya, Zimbabwe, Namibia, and South Africa); 4 in Asia (India, Nepal, Indonesia, Malaysia).
- Efforts by the captive conservation community for rhino are becoming more critical than ever. About 10% of all rhino surviving on the planet now exist in zoos, although again over half of them are southern white rhino. 25% or more of the world's rhino are under some kind of intensive population management.
- The global captive programs for rhinos comprises both a GCAP and GASP since the process is:
 - (1) developing general recommendations for captive conservation activities for the family and
 - (2) attempting to integrate the regional programs for each of the species.
- An initial GCAP/GASP workshop was conducted in London in May 1992 and a draft GCAP/GASP document was produced through a review process so that a 1st Edition was presented at the CBSG meeting in September 1992.
- During the last year, the Regions of the captive conservation community have further developed their programs with reference to this GCAP/GASP which is now reciprocally being adaptively adjusted to reflect these further developments at the regional level.
- The Rhino GCAP/GASP consists of both *ex situ* and *in situ* efforts.

- At this Antwerp GCAP/GASP workshop, two major working groups were in session (one for *ex situ* and one for *in situ*) and four major issues were considered:
 - (1) The existing GCAP/GASP was reviewed and refined, e.g. Regional target populations were revised.
 - (2) The *in situ* crisis for rhino was considered and options for support from the captive conservation community were further developed.
 - (3) A number of specific problems for various Regional Programs requiring assistance from other Regions were considered and recommendations for solutions proposed, e.g. the need for more black and white rhino to reinforce the foundations of the regional programs for these species in Australasia.
 - (4) Ways were explored to proceed with better development of the both the *ex situ* programs at both the regional and global level and of the *in situ* programs.

- In terms of *ex situ*, captive propagation and research programs are in progress for 4 of the 5 species: Black, White, Indian, and Sumatran.
 - (1) The program for the India/Nepalese Rhino (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) seems to be doing well. Captive husbandry for the species seems successful and the population is growing.
 - (2) (A) The program for the Southern White Rhino (*Ceratotherium simum simum*) has the potential for success in captivity with husbandry of the species apparently adequate but currently the captive population is not self-sustaining and efforts are in progress to remedy this situation.
 - (B) The situation for northern white rhino (*Ceratotherium simum cottoni*) in captivity continues to be critical but more intensive management measures are intended by the two institutions with this subspecies. Efforts by the captive conservation community to assist the single small wild population continue with a new "adopt-a-park" program underway. The possibility of creating a new sanctuary for the species in Africa outside Zaire to be populated by rhino from captivity supplemented by a few from Garamba has not proven feasible.
 - (3) The captive population for Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis*) appears to be just self-sustaining with major husbandry/health problems continuing but active research in progress. A major international workshop on diseases of black rhino has recently been conducted.
 - (4) The captive program for Sumatran Rhino (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*) is not yet succeeding with both high mortality and total lack of reproduction to date. Two high priorities for this species seem to be:
 - (A) more consolidation of the rhino that are in captivity
 - (B) greater emphasis on intensive management including captive propagation in the range states and natural habitat.

- In terms of *in situ* activities, a number of programs to provide both financial and technical support for various species are occurring, but much more is needed.

Financial: A number of options are under consideration that may enable the captive conservation community to provide substantially more funds for conservation in range states:

 - (1) These options will emphasize intensive protection and management programs and are envisioned to entail an increasing role for private efforts to supplement governmental activities, which are sorely over-extended.
 - (2) The options will also attempt to link the "adopt-a-park" approach with some mechanisms that may enable captive conservation institutions to more feasibly recruit funds to provide this support.

- (3) Priorities are:
 - (A) Black Rhino:
 - (a) IPZs and Private Conservancies in Zimbabwe
 - (b) Private conservancies and efforts in Namibia
 - (c) Programs in South Africa
 - (B) Sumatran Rhino: Intensive management programs in Indonesia and Malaysia.
 - (C) These two browser species are receiving priority in large part because they are the rhino for which successful *ex situ* programs have been the most difficult to develop.

Technical: PHVA Workshops will be conducted over the next 12 months for Sumatran rhino in Indonesia (November 1993) and for Indian rhino in India (December 1993).

- Major objectives of the Rhino GCAP\GASP for the next year will be:
 - (1) Attempts to develop a secure financial base for *in situ* activities by various fund-raising activities and partnership programs.
 - (2) Further development of masterplans within the regions, especially for species and regions where they do not yet exist:
 - (A) EEP: Black and Indian.
(The EEP has decided it is premature to develop a masterplan for white rhino in Europe until more research is completed more information is compiled, and options for additional founder stock is explored.)
 - (B) ASMP: Black
 - (C) SSCJ: Black, White, Indian/Nepalese
 - (D) SEAZA: Sumatran
 - (E) IESBP: Indian
 - (3) Activation of an executive committee for the GCAP/GASP consisting of the Regional TAG Chairs and a global coordinator for each of the 4 species who will be selected by vote of the existing regional coordinators for each species respectively. Major functions for this executive committee will be to work on global masterplans for each species and the attempts to develop funds and programs for more *in situ* support.

Report prepared by
T.J. Foose
8 September 1993

TABLE 1
RHINOCEROS POPULATIONS
IN THE WILD AND IN CAPTIVITY (CPTV)
ON BOTH GLOBAL AND REGIONAL BASIS
AT CURRENT AND TARGET LEVELS (TRGT)

RHINO TAXON	WORLD			AFRICA		ASIA		AUSTRALASIA		EUROPE		N. AMERICA		C. & S. AMERICA	
	WILD POP	CPTV POP	CPTV TRGT	CPTV POP	TRGT POP	CPTV POP	TRGT POP	CPTV POP	TRGT POP	CPTV POP	TRGT POP	CPTV POP	TRGT POP	CPTV POP	TRGT POP
Eastern Black	600	165	240	5	10 ?	35	40	2	0	55	100	67	90	6	?
Southern Black	1,200	45	210	4	50	2?	0	6	80	2	0	30	80	0	?
Southwestern Black	400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
North & West Black	< 100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern White	31	9	?	0	?	0	0	0	0	6	?	4	?	0	0
Southern White	5,600	630+	380 +20 Rsrch	24	0	150	100	14	60	210	120	132	100 +20 Rsrch	40	?
Indian/Nepalese	2,000	123	250	0	0	50	80	0	0	32	80	42	90	1	?
Javan (Java)	< 75	0	?	0	0	0	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?
Javan (Vietnam)	< 25	0	?	0	0	0	?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	?
Mainland Sumatran	110	8	100*	0	0	8	50	0	0	0	(50)*	0	0	0	?
Sumatran Sumatran	250	11	100*	0	0	4	50	0	0	2	0	5	(50)*	0	0
Borneo Sumatran	90	4	100*	0	0	4	50	0	(50)*	0	0	0	0	0	0
African Rhino	7,900	850	850	33	60	187	140	16	140	266	220	233	290	46	?
Asian Rhino	2,600	146	550	0	0	66	230	0	100	34	130	47	140	1	?
All Rhino Taxa	10,500	1,000	1,400	33	60	253	370	16	240	300	350	280	430	47	?

* A desirable target if and when husbandry of this species can be mastered and sufficient founders for *ex situ* populations can be produced by captive propagation programs within the range states.