



World Rangers Day 2021

Nairobi, 31st July 2021:

Today we celebrate the marvellous work and efforts that wildlife rangers globally are doing in protecting nature and serving their communities in diverse ways. On this day, we also remember and honour our colleagues who have lost their lives in the line of duty; we continue to condole with their families and friends.

World Rangers Day is about celebrating the efforts of wildlife rangers who continue to demonstrate their passion and commitment for wildlife and community conservation. As nature caregivers, wildlife rangers continue to demonstrate courage and enthusiasm for their job through their role as peace makers, promoting coexistence between communities and wildlife. The harsh economic times brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic has showcased the resilience of conservancy rangers as nature care givers choosing to remain steadfast in the midst of salary cuts and no pay. We commend and honour you for your generosity in protecting our nature. We encourage you not become weary and to keep up the excellent work.

As the chairperson of the newly formed Association of Wildlife Conservancy Rangers in Kenya (AWCR-K), it's my pleasure to celebrate this important day with all conservancy rangers in Kenya under the theme **Rangers Safety and Wellbeing**. The association was established in 2018 to provide a platform where conservancy rangers can connect, share information, experiences and best practices, promote the welfare of rangers in the country and harmonize the standards of conservancy rangers in the country. The theme for this year is integrated with the association's objective and we are working to advance rangers safety and welfare as we implement our mission and vision.

We thank our main partners Kenya Wildlife Conservancies Association (KWCA) through WWF Kenya for supporting us in establishing the Association and their commitment toward supporting the welfare of rangers in the country. We are indebted to KWCA's for their successful advocacy efforts that saw for the very first-time government allocating \$10 million towards supporting conservancy rangers' salaries under the COVID 19 economic stimulus package. This has cushioned conservancies against COVID-19 impacts and enabled conservancy rangers to continue with their jobs.

As members of International Rangers Federation (IRF) through the Greenline Foundation and the Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA), we are proud to be celebrating this glorious day with you. We acknowledge your support and are proud to be part of the global rangers' associations fraternity.



Lastly, as we commemorate, World Rangers Day, I encourage everyone to do something today to emulate the work of wildlife rangers around the world, to observe a one-minute moment of silence to the rangers who've lost their lives in the line of duty, and to empathize with their loved ones.

Happy #WorldRangersDay!

Daniel Ole Sampu

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel Ole Sampu", written over a horizontal line.

Chairman
Association of Wildlife Conservancy Rangers in Kenya