



## DECLARATION OF INTENT

### *A Call to Action....*

We, the Rangers of Africa hereby declare that, as nature's protectors and custodians we remain fully committed to efficiently and effectively carry out our duties, to the very best of our ability and with absolute integrity, to safeguard natural resources and wild spaces for the benefit of present and future generations.

While recognising the importance of wildlife and the critical role it plays in contributing towards livelihoods and the socio-economic development of Africa, we as Rangers stand united to overcome the significant threats that compromise life itself.

However, to achieve this honourable mission, Rangers are faced with a variety of challenges and limiting factors on a day to day basis, which impede our success.

Therefore, it was resolved at the inaugural African Ranger Congress that to overcome these serious challenges and limitations we urgently need to address the following: -

- Strengthening effective and efficient leadership at all levels.
- The development of a comprehensive set of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) appropriate to the role of a Ranger in all aspects of his/her work.
- Provision of adequate support to Ranger well-being and welfare.
- The provision of adequate and on-going capacity building at all levels.
- The provision of adequate operational support.
- Improved local, national and global exposure to our cause.
- The promotion of good collaboration and co-operation between African nations to enable conservation efforts at a pan-African level.

To achieve this, we must identify high level champions for conservation who can generate the political will and engagement, which is required to support these endeavours.

Furthermore, we need to have a reinforced judicial process to support the Rangers themselves and their cause.

Finally, all African Rangers wish to recognise and appreciate the importance and significance of all co-operating partners.

*This declaration of intent was drafted with inputs from over 105 rangers from 14 different African countries at the inaugural African Ranger Congress that took place at the Southern African Wildlife College in South Africa in August 2018. The event was organised and facilitated by the Game Rangers Association of Africa with endorsement from the International Ranger Federation and support from the Thin Green Line Foundation.*

