

23 February 2015

Excellency,

The General Assembly in resolution 68/205 of 20 December 2013 declared the 3rd of March as World Wildlife Day and invited Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other global, regional and sub-regional organizations, as well as other relevant stakeholders to observe and raise awareness on the Day.

The resolution reaffirms the intrinsic value of wildlife and its various ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic contributions to sustainable development and human well-being. It also recognizes the important role of the International Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in ensuring that international trade does not threaten the species' survival.

In this regard, I will convene an informal plenary meeting of the General Assembly on 4 March 2015 in the morning to commemorate World Wildlife Day. A programme will be circulated in due course.

I have the honour to invite Member States and Observers to participate in this informal meeting, which will provide an opportunity to reflect on the multidimensional relevance of wildlife.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sam K. Kutesa

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All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York