



Society for the Welfare of Animals Protection

# SWAP Update



Redefining the Emerging Society by Permanently Eradicating Cruelty and Torture

© 2009 - 2010, Society for the Welfare of Animals Protection  
<http://www.swap-nigeria.org>, <http://www.respect.tk>

## HANGING HOPE



Animals in captivity of most Nigerian Zoos have continued to look out for a rescue, as they fear their hope of survival. The untold hardships they face have prompted most of the zoo managers to call on SWAP for help. In the course of our recent visit to Rivers State Zoo situated in South-Eastern Nigeria, Mr. Francis the manager of the zoo, call on SWAP to draw the attention of all the stake holders and the government to come to their aid as there is little or no resources in place to improve the condition of the animals in the zoo.

SWAP however call on all stake holders to act fast to ease the sufferings of the animals in the zoo, and make the zoos meet with the international standard of zoos by putting in place institutional support for attaining those standard, if the zoo must exist, as SWAP is **NOT** in support of the keeping of animals in zoo/captivity.



The Society for the Welfare of Animals Protection (SWAP), from on the 7<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2009, organised an education program tagged **R.E.S.P.E.C.T** (Redefining the **E**merging **S**ociety by **P**ermanently **E**radicating **C**ruelty and **T**orture), an initiative of SWAP sponsored by the World Society for the Protection of Animals WSPA. The Programme featured Seminar presentations in eleven (11) secondary schools, which includes; Great Oxford International Group of Schools, Ighile Group of Schools, Asoro Grammar School, Imaguero College, Oredo College, Simbridge Comprehensive College, Gharrick Memorial Secondary School, Emotan College, Idia College, Favour Group of Schools etc. These schools were visited between 7th - 11th December 2009. Most of the schools had their students addressed at the assembly ground and as such, over 12,000 students got the message of Human Education from SWAP.

The main event of project **R.E.S.P.E.C.T** took place on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2009, where Schools representative, Pet owners and the general public

# FORUM CORNER



**R.E.S.P.E.C.T** which gave me the opportunity to witness seminars in schools and understanding the relationship between man and animal, in the course

of the Animal Visitation Scheme A.V.S.

I feel excited seeing more schools indicate interest to have SWAP Compassion Forum set up in their school. Schools like Idia College, Emotan College, Favour Group of Schools etc. The concept is certainly to have the next generation for SWAP and good animal welfare continuity, just like I am here today.

Happy New Year

Sunday Omorogieva  
Forum Officer

**DID  
YOU  
KNOW**



- Did you know that butterflies taste with their feet!
- Did you know that a blue whale's tongue is 15 feet long and weighs about four tones! That's the same weight as an elephant!
- Did you know that all polar bears are left handed!
- Did you know that the longest ever recorded chicken flight lasted only 13 seconds, whereas a bird can fly for several minutes!
- Did you know that a snail can sleep for three years!

## HOW DO MOSQUITOES FIND YOU IN THE DARK?

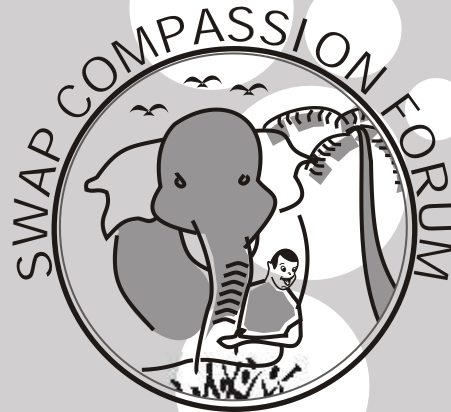
We all know that mosquitoes are very good at finding their prey, which are just about any animal they can get blood out of. One of the ways in which mosquitoes finds us is by following the carbon dioxide we produce when we breathe. Because our ears are close to our mouths, it's perhaps a little more likely that they will fly near our ears especially when its just your head sticking out of

your blanket! Moreover, human sweat consists of a mixture of fatty acids, ammonia and lactic acid. Mosquitoes pick up our scent with two antennae that are located on their head. With these antennae, they can also detect heat and moisture. Although a mosquito does not use its perception of heat until it is about ten centimeters away from a human being, it can smell humans from a distance of as far as a hundred metres! So, that's another good reason to have a wash.

Extract from WSPA Africa KCs News Letters



**REVEALING  
THE SWAP  
COMPASSION  
FORUM LOGO**



After careful examination of the entries submitted by the SWAP compassion forum members in the 'Are you Creative?' Competition, the winning logo was drawn by **Omijie Theophilus** from the SWAP Compassion Forum at Asoro Grammar School in Benin City. Other winners are; Ediale Joshua, Olufemi Seyi and Usiobafo A. Godfrey. Congratulations and thank you all for your wonderful drawings.

# SWAP Calls for an end to cruel Pigeon Sacrifice

The Society for the Welfare of Animals Protection SWAP, has called for an end of the cruel sacrifice of pigeon, mainly practiced in Edo State. The President made the call when he paid a courtesy visit to one of the chiefs in our locality. The traditional right called 'Osagbaye' requires the sacrifice of a white pigeon in which they are tied to a tree alive and left to struggle till death. According to them, the sacrifice brings happiness to them but we believe that the act is cruel, as they are not humanely put to death. SWAP however call on the chiefs to have their people practice culture without cruelty as that can even bring better happiness to them.

## SWAP EXPANDS RABIES AWARENESS TO RURAL AREAS

The theme "Kill Rabies or Rabies Kills You" captured the minds of the general public and pet owners in the course of the Rabies Awareness Campaign embarked upon by the Society for the Welfare of Animals Protection, to rural areas.

SWAP made more copies of Rabies Preventive measure materials given to us by WSPA and distributed them free of charge to Pet owners in the Rural Areas, being a quest by the SWAP to intensify the campaign to the remote areas and reduce the incessant outbreak of the disease. SWAP promised to keep the Rabies Jingle on air which was done in *pigin* (local language), so as to easily pass the message across to every one. We however appeal for more support to be able to keep the jingle on air for a long time.



attended a workshop at the Conference Hall of Sizzlers, Benin City. The workshop saw lectures on; 'The Need for Animal Vaccination' delivered by The Director of public health and veterinary services, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (MANR), Dr. Collins O. U. Aibaogun; 'The environment, your responsibility' delivered by Mr. Steve Ayobahan, the 2008 First Class Graduate of the department of Environmental Sciences, University of Benin; 'Humane Education a tool for Social Change' presented by Mr. Goodluck Akenuwa, President of SWAP; and a brief talk from Mr. Andy Ehanire, the Director of Ogba Garden/Nature Park. The occasion was used to enhance the Handle With Care Campaign HWCC and collection of more hundreds of signatures for the Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare UDAW.

14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2009 saw the visitation of Pet owners/animal keepers and their pets to provide advice on pet/animal handling. Here, animal owners visited were given basic care guides for their animal.



Project **R.E.S.P.E.C.T** eventually made 'head news' on the Nigerian Television Authority NTA, one of Africa's largest network. The President, Goodluck Akenuwa noted that SWAP will not relent in its effort until a formidable animal welfare foundation is set in Nigeria.

Project **R.E.S.P.E.C.T** is hoped to be a continuous exercise.

## WHAT'S NEXT ON SWINE FLU

The Federal Ministry of Health have disclosed to the general public that cases of swine-flu in the country had increased from one to 11. The Minister of Health Prof. Babatunde Osotimehin, who disclosed this information in a statement by its Special Adviser on Communications Mr. Niyi Ojuolape, also said that as at January 18<sup>th</sup> 2010, Nigeria has recorded 11 laboratory confirmed cases of influenza A/H1N1 and two deaths from the pandemic.

SWAP is delighted at the step being taken by the government on the issue as any one with associated symptoms have been advised to go for medical check-up without delay and report cases of its outbreak to the appropriate quarters, a measure which is hoped to annul any possible case of having to curb pigs to death.

SWAP will be working with the Nigerian Government to combat further spread of the disease through educational campaign. You can get more informations of how to prevent the spread of this disease from us.

# FROM THE PRESIDENT



Happy New Year to all animal lovers.

I am delighted to see the New Year with you and all animals, which is a sign of the existence of the ecosystem.

WSPA yet again demonstrated its commitment towards raising the standard of animal welfare across the globe especially in Africa, as they sponsored project **R.E.S.P.E.C.T** for SWAP here in Nigeria. The exercise formed a coalition with one of the African largest network, the Nigerian

Television Authority which projected and expanded the message of good animal welfare into a larger society. We will not relent in our efforts until a structural and formidable animal welfare foundation is set in Nigeria.

Whilst project **R.E.S.P.E.C.T** is a continuous exercise, SWAP also looks forward to have a Free Animal Clinic Exercise for the many animals whose owners cannot afford to have them vaccinated, and it is hoped to forestall the incessant outbreak of Rabies here in Nigeria.

I wholeheartedly thank the World Society for the Protection of Animals WSPA, our volunteers and supporters. I look forward to more of your support, advice and encouragement to uplift animal welfare in this region.

Thank you all.

**Goodluck Akenywa,**

than ever before. More students of secondary schools now had sound knowledge of animal welfare. This also increased the membership of the SWAP in that category. It was these achievements since 2007 that prompted the SWAP to plan to cascade the effort to other more teachers and students in Edo State and other states of the country in the coming years.

In this light, the SWAP is resuming discussion on implementing an animal welfare certificate course for member schools of her compassion forums and others. The motion was raised at the concluding meeting for last year, 2009 by the SWAP's Head of Operations, Mr. Kingsley Odiboh, who had previously acted in the capacity of the Head of Humane Education for the organization.

The objective of the proposed five (5) day dissemination programme for teachers and students' leaders in SWAP compassion forum schools will be to promote awareness of the humane education principles, SWAP and animal care all aimed towards creating a society that is just and less cruel giving priority to youth in schools.

It is the intent of SWAP that this programme will provide the needed results. Preparations continues within the SWAP towards having a successful training programme.

SWAP will not fail at this point to express our thanks to Mrs. Janice Mininberg, the Director of Education and Legislative Action, Women's Humane Society who recently provided SWAP a Humane Education guidebook which we believe an invaluable resource towards achieving this project. And again our appreciation goes to WSPA, a body that has remained determined to improving the status of animals globally for the animal welfare course resource that had been sent on a previous occasion to the SWAP.

## Animal Welfare Certificate Course

The SWAP Board has continually sought for better means to effectively expand the knowledge of good animal welfare through the efforts of her numerous supporters and sponsors. To promote respect for animals and humans alike, the World Society for the Protection of Animals provided technical and financial support to the SWAP to engage in educational and sensitization activities through ensuring that students at formative stage and colleges have a sound knowledge of the basic humane attitudes and understand its

practical application.

In 2007, there was an effort to enhance the teaching of humane education and dissemination of the message of good animal welfare when the SWAP inaugurated her first compassion forum at Great Oxford Secondary School. The idea was to imbibe the practical principles of humane education to the students and teachers in a like manner. This idea has been very positive in Benin City as humane education had gained more ground in secondary schools