

## **IZE African Delegates meeting**

Disney Animal Kingdom, 2 October 2011

After many informal discussions through the week at the IZE conference in Orlando, the African delegation met over supper on the last evening of the conference.

### **Included were**

Aidan, Asekenye, Jane Goodall Institute, Entebbe, Uganda  
Ali Lawal Yola, Kano Zoological Garden, Nigeria  
Andrew Seguya, Uganda Wildlife Education Centre, Entebbe, Uganda  
Jone Porter, uShaka Sea World, Durban, South Africa  
Joseph Karama, Karisoke Research Centre, Rwanda  
Louise Gordon, Johannesburg Zoo, South Africa  
Pierrot Kakule Mbonzo, D.R. of the Congo  
Russell Stevens, Two Oceans Aquarium, Cape Town, South Africa  
Ulrich Oberprieler, National Zoological Gardens, Pretoria, South Africa

The purpose of this discussion was to

- Discuss our way forward in retaining the collective energy generated at this IZE conference.
- Set in place regional meetings leading up to the PAZAAB conference
- Utilise collective energy to elevate the perspective and practice of education within our institutions.
- Utilise the IZE forum including the journal to publicise the excellent work being done in Africa.

Andrew gave a brief background to PAZAAB and emphasised the value of interacting with PAZAAB to use African resources for African solutions. Louise gave a brief background to Africa's Zoo and Aquarium Education over the past 10 years from AZOREN to the more recently held Ed4PAZAAB Symposium (Feb 2010). Jone showed how IZE fitted into the arrangements. Ulrich explained the view of Dr Clifford Nxomani (President of PAZAAB & Managing Director of NZG) was to elevate Education as a major component of the PAZAAB 2011 conference.

Russell explained how the agreed way forward for Ed4PAZAAB was to strengthen the regions. He appealed to each region; Central Africa, West Africa, Gauteng, Kwa-Zulu Natal and Western Cape to plan a mini conference. The plans for these meetings need to be submitted by the end of October and take place by early 2011. As has been previously agreed, the best presentations offered at these meetings will be used as guidelines to offer for sponsorship to participate in the PAZAAB 2011 conference to be held in April. Russell stressed that if the group did not use this season to elevate education, we would only have ourselves to blame!