

Latin American Region

By Sandra Gómez, Santa Cruz Zoo

Regional Representative, Latin America

Here is a summary of events and conference occurring in the Latin America region.

- **8th Environmental Interpreters Conference and 5th International Workshop of Environmental Education”:**

The Education Commitment of ACOPAZOA, the Colombian Zoos and Aquariums Association, had their **8th Environmental Interpreters Conference and 5th International Workshop of Environmental Education”**, in Santa Marta, Colombia, the 31st January to 4th February 2011. Zoo educators from the Colombian zoos were learning about how to construct and apply “Games in Environmental Education” as a tool for teaching complex environmental subjects.



For years the Colombian Education Commitment has been working to provide professional training to their educators, with conferences and workshops on subjects related to education, aiming to improve the education work that our members do in zoos and aquariums around the country.

- **AZA professional development program “Conservation Education”**

Latin America had great participation at the AZA Conservation Education Course offered through AZA Professional Training, in Wheeling, West Virginia, U.S.A., 7th to 11th, February.

Representatives from Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil and Colombia shared their education experience with professional educators from different zoos and aquariums of the United States. It was an excellent course that provided knowledge about environmental education techniques, writing project proposals for financial support, evaluation techniques, understanding different types of audiences, and incorporating different learning styles. This course was a great opportunity to meet other Latin American educators and learn about their experiences. This is the initial part of building a new communication strategy through the region and it is hoped that that this network will grow and provide support for all our activities.



- **ALPZA Course of Management Techniques of Aquatic Organisms in Aquariums:**

ALPZA and **Parque Explora** are pleased to invite the Latin American zoo and aquarium community to the "ALPZA Course of Management Techniques of Aquatic Organisms in Aquariums", which will take place

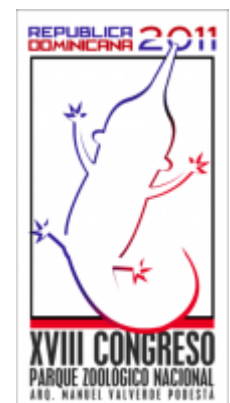
between 14th and 18th March 2011, in Medellín, Colombia.

The themes of the course include:

- Life Support Systems
- Water quality
- Biology of organisms
- Nutrition
- Medicine
- Management and Reproduction
- Sustainability
- Administration

• **The XVIII Congress of the Latin American Association of Zoos and Aquariums (ALPZA): “ First Latin American Conference on Training and Actualization on Management of Wild Animals”**

The XVIII Congress of the Latin American Association of Zoos and Aquariums (ALPZA), entitled "First Latin American Conference on Training and Actualization on Management of Wild Animals" will take place from 3rd to 7th May, 2011. The congress will be held in the city of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, organized by the Parque Zoológico Nacional ZOODOM. During the conference, emphasis will be given to training courses taught by leading international exponents of priority and current issues for the zoological and aquarium community.



More information can be found at www.ALPZA.com or by emailing: info@ALPZA.com

• **Carnaval at El Zoológico Las Delicias-Venezuela:**

El Zoológico Las Delicias-Venezuela is inviting zoos and aquariums to participate in “The Carnaval Zoológico de las Delicias”, a special event celebrating Animal Welfare. There will be cultural activities, musicals, and a children costume contest with costumes made with recycled materials.

Special information will be available on animal health, environmental education, animal welfare, and a special exhibition at the Vivarium. This Carnaval will be running the next 6th and 7th March.

