

Minutes of the Meeting held with Acting High Commissioner of Federal Republic of Nigeria on 3.12.2024 at High Commission of Nigeria, Ep4 Chandragupta Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

After exchanging the pleasantries, the Interim Director General, International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) briefed His Excellency Acting High Commissioner of Federal Republic of Nigeria in India about establishment of International Big Cat Alliance, with headquarters in India.

2. It was informed that IBCA is established with a Mission and Vision to provide platform for partnership and cooperation among big cat range countries so as to ensure a viable population of big cats. It was also informed that India has five (5) out of seven (7) big cats and is global leader in Tiger, Lion, Leopard and Snow Leopard conservation. India has also demonstrated successful inter-continental wild to wild Cheetah translocation from African countries and its re-introduction in India. In view of this, India has a lot to offer (best practices and expertise) to other range countries for conservation of big cats. IBCA would be a platform through which the expertise and best practices could be shared with all the range countries.

3. India has gained extensive experience in habitat restoration, increase in forest cover and wildlife conservation. The intensive management of wildlife areas, mitigation of human wildlife conflict, eco-tourism biodiversity conservation, community involvement are considered key to the improved state of affairs. With a strong legal and Government support with practical policies to dovetail conservation in the course of development are also considered important in the present status of forest and wildlife.

4. The Acting High Commissioner was informed that the Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India through Indian High Commission in Abuja, Nigeria have approached Government of Federal Republic of Nigeria, who is a founding member of IBCA, for signing the Framework Agreement to formally become member of the Alliance. Interim DG also sought cooperation and support of Federal Republic of Nigeria to take forward the initiative for conservation of the seven big cat species.

5. The Acting High Commissioner assured to take up with his Government for signing of Framework Agreement to become member of IBCA. He also assured their support and cooperation in taking forward the objectives of IBCA.

**List of participants-High Commission of Federal Republic of Nigeria**

- (i) H.E. Mr. Ubong Akpan Johnny, Acting High Commissioner of Federal Republic of Nigeria in India.

**List of participants- IBCA**

- (i) Dr S.P. Yadav, Interim DG, IBCA
- (ii) Mr. Soumetra Dasgupta, Director (Programme)
- (ii) Mr. Juglal Singh, Admn and Communication Analyst