

Minutes of the Meeting held with Ambassador of Republic of Ecuador on
24.7.2024 at IBCA, 118 Jorbagh, New Delhi

The Interim Director General, International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) welcomed His Excellency Ambassador of Republic of Ecuador in India in the meeting. The Ambassador appreciated the leading role played by Republic of India for establishment of International Big Cat Alliance for conservation of seven big cats in the world viz, Lion, tiger, Leopard, Snow-leopard, Puma, Jaguar and Cheetah.

2. The Ambassador 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 intercontinental wild to wild Cheetah translocation from African countries and its reintroduction 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 Ambassador elaborated about the rich bio-diversity in Ecuador, which has contributed conservation of two big cats, namely Jaguar and Puma. He assured to actively participate in the collective efforts to take forward the objectives of IBCA.

5. It was informed that the IBCA is mandated to:

- To create synergy through a collaborative platform for increased dissemination of benchmarking big cat conservation best practices.
- To Provide access to central common repository of technical know-how and corpus of funds to enhance the status of habitats, prey and big cats in order to secure our ecological future and mitigate adverse effects of climate change.
- The IBCA's multi-pronged approach will enhance linkages, promote knowledge sharing, capacity building, networking, advocacy, finance, research, technical support, insurance against failures, education, awareness, employment, and sustainable local livelihoods.

8. The Interim DG, IBCA also thanked His Excellency Ambassador, Republic of Ecuador and his team for their support and guidance for taking forward IBCA.

List of participants-Embassy of Republic of Ecuador

- (i) H.E. Mr. Fernando Bucheli, Ambassador of Republic of Ecuador in India.

List of participants- IBCA

- (i) Dr S.P. Yadav, Interim DG, IBCA
(ii) Dr Soumitra Dasgupta, Director (Programme)