



World Association of
Zoos and Aquariums
WAZA | *United for
Conservation*[®]

Dra. Yara de Melo Barros, PhD
Diretora Técnica - Parque das Aves
Diretora de Comunicação –
Sociedade de Zoológicos e Aquários do Brasil - SZB
Rodovia das Cataratas, Nº12450
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Dear Dra. Barros,

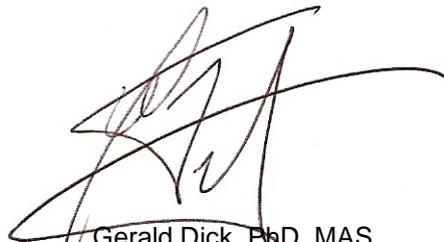
Re: Circus Animals in Brazilian Zoos

It was brought to our attention that the animals confiscated from a circus back in 2008 shall be brought back from zoos to the circus. It is our understanding that the bad welfare situation of the animals was the reason for their confiscation, finally leading to the death of giraffes and zebras. The remaining 3 elephants (2 in São Paulo Zoo and 1 in Brasília Zoo), a white rhino and a hippo (Brasília Zoo) are currently doing well in the care of the mentioned zoos. Such valuable animals should be kept in professional care and should serve educational and conservation purposes.

It is also our understanding that the zoos mentioned, one also a member of WAZA, helped to rescue those animals from very bad conditions and therefore bringing those animals back to where they were before or to what is often called a sanctuary, but of unknown quality control cannot be in the interest of the animals.

For the sake of good animal welfare, WAZA supports the “Sociedade de Zoológicos e Aquários do Brasil – SZB” in order to find the best solution for the animals and that is the care in your affiliated and professional zoos.

Sincerely yours,



Gerald Dick, PhD, MAS
Executive Director

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