

Dear President Zuma

I dreamed of Africa....

I just love the title of this book by Kuki Gallmann, an Italian girl who moved to Kenya and became involved wildlife conservation in that country for it epitomises the way we, as Africans, feel about this amazing continent we call "home".

One day, our generation of South Africans, will be asked what legacy we have left behind for South Africa's children.

- Our sportsmen and women excel internationally
- Our music is enjoyed by nations far beyond our borders
- Through our diversity we united to bring the 2010 World Cup to our land and produce a spectacular event
- We are blessed with natural resources very few other nations enjoy
- The night sky is nowhere as spectacular as from Africa

Let us not allow the current situation regarding the slaughter of our wildlife happen under our watch!

Dance to be Wild is an initiative started by South African dancers to mobilise the International dance community behind our efforts to stop rhino poaching and, very importantly, to bring the beauty of dance to South African children. That, through dance, we empower future generations to take ownership of their own wildlife heritage!

If we continue to allow the illegal trade in rhino horn, we will jeopardise the very heart of South Africa's conservation efforts therefore removing our greatest asset as far as tourism is concerned. We fear that once our rhino are extinct, there will be no limit to the dark and shady underworld of trade in our wildlife resources moving onto other species. The end result being a collapse in our tourism industry! Not to mention the major impact that would have, not only on the revenue to South Africa, but also the thousands of South Africans reliant on wildlife conservation for employment.

Mr President, please hear our voices and taken decisive action now!

Yours truly
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