KAZA Animal Health Sub-Working Group Recap of Day 1

A Poem

by Steve Osofsky

KAZA's Animal Health Sub-Working Group,

A rather awkward name.

But we reviewed a wide range of issues, did a good job,

Just the same.

Better coordination between sectors,

Was a commonly noted need.

And better integrated disease control-

Advice we'll likely heed.

Poor livestock management-

A major issue.

One we must address.

But is that doable, if it's just Departments of Wildlife and DVS?

We dreamt of vast herds of FMD-free buffalo.

Will they ever be?

And could we really afford them-

they surely won't be free!

We spoke a lot of fences,

And of more thoughtful alignments.

Getting KAZA countries to focus on this

Should be one of our assignments.

We spoke of Tryps, and rabies,

Anthrax, and AMR.

But then we returned to FMD,

Remembering who we are.

SADC, OIE, FAO-

Clearly friends of TFCAs.

Their support and assistance

Will help us win the day.

Risk management should be a mantra,

The need for regional labs is fast approaching.

Moving samples around KAZA,

Should be easier than poaching.

We spoke a lot of CBT,

Of livelihoods, of hope.

We clearly need to work with herders,

Improve rangelands, expand our scope.

Herding for Health

Expanded trade,

Jacques- we really need ya!

Otherwise, we'll find ourselves buying more beef from Argentina.

Transboundary collaboration really matters.

Our mindset-

We must re-tune it.

Recognizing that KAZA is indeed one epidemiological unit.