

Mailadressen onderaan de voorbeeldbrief

In rood gearceerd wat nog ingevuld moet worden

Plaats en Datum

Dear Honourable Minister Creecy,

I have been following the captive breeding and exploitation of lions in South Africa for years. And have always been saddened by it. I was therefore very glad that in 2021, your Ministry announced to put a stop to this whole industry. One of the motivations was that it gives South Africa a bad name. It was a bold step for which I applaud you.

I am therefore very surprised to read about the story of two lions which have had media attention in the past and have given an individual face to these thousands of bred lions in your country. They are called Mufasa and Soraya and they have been followed by stichting SPOTS in the Netherlands.

SPOTS recently published the story of the legal procedures which have been going on for years between Wildforlife Rehabilitation Centre, represented by Tjitske Schouwstra, and the North-West (NW) Province. With as center these two lions. Reading their story and timeline of legal procedures which started already in 2017, I can understand that stichting SPOTS has no faith in a solution from the side of the NW Department. And I can understand why they have turned to you and plea to intervene in this case.

It's not to be comprehended that these two lions are stuck whilst there is a NSPCA approved sanctuary willing to take both of them. It's not good for the lions but also not defensible to citizens of South Africa who factually pay for the legal costs of all these unnecessary legal proceedings. And certainly it's not helping to restore the good name of South Africa.

I therefore truly hope you can intervene in this matter. So that these lions can finally go to a NSPCA registered sanctuary who is waiting for them. It would at least erase any doubts whether South Africa is really willing to stop the exploitation of lions in your further so beautiful country.

Best Regards,

Naam

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