

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL RANGER FEDERATION AND THE THIN GREEN LINE FOUNDATION

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into by the International Ranger Federation (**IRF**), an independent, non-profit, non-government organisation, acting through its International Executive Committee (**IEC**), and the Thin Green Line Foundation (**TGLF**), a non-profit, nongovernment Australian company headquartered in Melbourne, Australia.

1.0 Background to IRF and TGLF

1.1 The IRF and the TGLF share a common mission — the conservation of the world's natural and cultural treasures for current and future generations through the training, protection and support of the rangers who work to achieve this.

1.2 The IRF is a membership-based federation of national, state, and territorial ranger associations representing rangers worldwide through a growing network of over 60 ranger associations. The IRF is governed by statutes and a member-elected IEC representing seven defined world regions.

The objectives of the IRF are to:

- a) further the professional standards of rangers throughout the world;
- b) advance the aims of IUCN's World Conservation Strategy in all our common efforts;
- c) share knowledge and resources;
- d) establish global communications among ranger organisations;
- e) foster professional exchanges among rangers and twinning agreements between member associations;
- f) arrange and conduct regular international meetings; and
- g) undertake joint activities to directly support each other's [member's] operations where necessary and feasible.

1.3 The TGLF is a non-profit, non-government Australian company established in July 2007 with the support of the IRF IEC. The TGLF was incorporated as a membership-based charity with Deductible Gift Recipient status under the laws of Australia in 2011. The TGLF's Deductible Gift Recipient status means that donors are eligible to receive an Australian tax deduction for donations to the TGLF. TGLF also has tax charity concession status. The TGLF is in the process of establishing charitable taxation status in the United Kingdom, and considering the same in the United States of America, to facilitate collection and dissemination of charitable donations globally in accordance with applicable laws in those jurisdictions.

The TGLF is governed by a constitution and directed by a board of directors. The principal objective of the TGLF is to protect and conserve the natural environment by encouraging and assisting individuals to work as rangers.

The secondary objectives, that support the principal objective, are:

- a) to provide incentives for and reduce disincentives faced by individuals who are currently working as rangers or who are considering taking up work as a ranger, by:

- i. providing assistance to rangers who are unable to financially or materially support themselves or their families because they have been injured in the course of their work as rangers;
 - ii. providing assistance to the families of rangers who are unable to financially or materially support themselves due to the death of the ranger in the course of their work as a ranger;
 - iii. supporting conservation programs that prevent or minimise the risk of rangers being injured or killed in the course of their work as rangers; and
 - iv. establishing or supporting other projects, social or environmental, that achieve this objective;
- b) to establish and maintain a public fund, for the specific purpose of supporting TGLF's principal objective as set out in its constitution; and
 - c) to engage in any other activities that the TGLF deems necessary to further its principal objective.

2.0 Objectives of this Memorandum

2.1 This MOU confirms the IRF and the TGLF's shared commitment to protecting rangers worldwide. In particular, it acknowledges the IRF as the peak representative and advocacy body for rangers and the TGLF as its official partner organisation which collects and distributes donations to support rangers on the ground, including to improve ranger working conditions, provide training, prevent ranger deaths and injuries and to support rangers, their families and communities where rangers are killed and seriously injured in the line of duty.

The objective of this MOU is for the IRF and the TGLF to enable their respective complementary roles and achieve their shared objectives by:

- a) establishing a framework for the management of donations to the IRF and clarifying how these donations will be managed and distributed;
- b) establishing a framework for communication, cooperation and partnership that will assist in areas of mutual interest and concern;
- c) facilitating consultation in areas of mutual concern; and
- d) providing opportunities for cooperative projects.

3.0 Working Arrangements

The parties shall use their best endeavours to give effect to the objectives of this MOU, and hereby agree:

- 3.1 that the IRF may direct donations that it receives for: widow support; ranger training and equipment support; and projects to TGLF and to be undertaken by TGLF; and
- 3.2 the TGLF has full responsibility for the donations directed to it from the IRF and will manage these donations in accordance with the TGLF constitution and the laws applying to Australian not-for-profit entities. TGLF will provide IRF with a report on its audited financials and the distribution of funds directed to TGLF by IRF on an annual basis.

3.3 TGLF will fund projects in collaboration with IRF members. In the event that there is no member of the IRF, then approval is required from the IRF IEC.

3.3 ***Marketing and Fundraising***

The IRF and TGLF will work co-operatively to:

- a) secure donations for widow support; ranger training and equipment support; and projects to be undertaken by TGLF;
- b) be identified as co-sponsors of ranger support programs;
- c) promote and market the TGLF as the charity arm of the IRF and as the preferred recipient for donations for widow support; ranger training and equipment support; and projects to be undertaken by TGLF;
- d) include the names of both parties on relevant written material and publicity related to marketing and fundraising.
- e) verbally recognize each other, as appropriate, at public events, during media appearances and at conferences;
- f) promote the cooperation covered by this MoU on their respective websites, including a link to the other party's website.

3.4 ***Information on Rangers Killed and Injured***

To the extent permitted by applicable law, the IRF and TGLF will both, co-operatively:

- a) actively solicit information on rangers who have been seriously injured or died in the line of duty and will share that information with each other on a regular basis;
- b) establish a shared database on rangers who have been seriously injured or died in the line of duty and develop a protocol for managing and any further sharing of this database; and
- c) maintain confidentiality around any of the above information shared between each organisation.

3.5 ***Communication***

IRF and the TGLF agree that:

- a) the IRF President, or nominated representative, and the TGLF Managing Director, or nominated delegate, will meet at least annually (in person or by electronic means) to review the progress of the implementation of this MOU and report back to their respective boards within one month;
- b) they will communicate with each other on a regular basis on issues of relevance;
- c) they will explore and participate in joint communication activities of mutual benefit; and

3.6 ***IRF Responsibilities***

The IRF will:

- a) acknowledge the TGLF, and its role, in condolence letters and include in these letters information on how to obtain support from the TGLF;
- b) authorise the use of its logo, in accordance with this MOU and any protocols agreed to by both parties;

- c) encourage and assist IRF member associations to direct donations for widow support; ranger training and equipment support; and projects to be undertaken by TGLF; to the TGLF
- d) assist the TGLF to distribute donations through IRF members and contacts;
- e) acknowledge the TGLF as its official partner organisation to distribute support to rangers and their dependants and will make this known at all major events and on all fundraising and educational material;
- f) not enter into agreements with third parties that diminish or nullify the TGLF's status as the official partner organisation with the IRF;
- g) maintain a list of member associations that have tax exempt status and share this information with the TGLF;
- h) provide access to IRF member and contact databases in accordance with any protocols agreed to by both parties

3.7 TGLF Responsibilities

The TGLF will:

- a) Distribute donations from the IRF in accordance with this MOU.
- b) Support the promotion of World Rangers Day on 31 July annually;
- c) Depending on available donations, support:
 - I. the functioning of the IRF
 - II. position of an IRF Executive Officers to execute their duties and extend services to the membership;
 - III. attendance of rangers, primarily from developing nations, to important international events such as the IRF World Ranger Congress and the IUCN World Parks Congress;
 - IV. the establishment of new IRF associations with start-up grants.
- d) Seek compatible and ethical partners (both not for profit and commercial) to improve both delivery of assistance in the field and funding of such activities for both parties;
- e) Authorise the use of its logo on IRF materials in accordance with any protocols agreed to by both parties;
- f) Provide access to TGLF databases and networks in accordance with any protocols agreed to by both parties.
- g) Provide one board position on the TGLF Board to the President of IRF and/or nominated representative

4.0 General

- 4.1 The basis of cooperation between the two parties will be the joint use of their complementary networks, knowledge, approaches and skills to support rangers around the world, while respecting each other's separate identity, distinctive character and individual programs.

- 4.2 The parties to this MOU acknowledge that it does not and is not intended to create any legally binding obligations on the parties. The purpose of this MOU is to assist the parties to work together.
- 4.3 Each party to this MOU is free to maintain and develop its own program and to enter into partnerships or other agreements with third parties as long as they do not nullify or diminish the objectives of this MOU. Where other agreements have the potential to adversely impact the objectives of this MOU, the parties will jointly seek to resolve such impacts prior to entering into such agreements.
- 4.4 Neither of the parties to this MOU shall incur any obligations or make any commitments, of a financial nature or otherwise, or take any positions for or on behalf of the other without the other's express, advance written authorisation to that effect.
- 4.5 Each party shall preserve the right to express its opinion individually and independently from the other. On topics related to this MOU, each organisation will strive to notify the other before taking any public position in relation to any issue on which there is current collaboration.

5.0 Term of Memorandum

- 5.1 This MOU will be effective from the date of signature, until six months after each IEC election whereupon it may be renewed, unless terminated earlier by one or both of the parties pursuant to Section 6.2.
- 5.2 This MOU will be reviewed annually.

6.0 Modification and Termination

- 6.1 This MOU may be modified by written agreement of both parties.
- 6.2 This MOU may be modified or terminated only by:
- a) One party providing the other party with thirty (30) days advance written notice. In the event that one party provides the other party with notice of its intention to terminate, the parties will meet or otherwise communicate promptly to discuss the reasons for the notice and try to resolve their differences, if any

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7.0 Signatures

Signed on behalf of the **International Ranger Federation**



Florin Halastauan , Vice-president – IRF

Date : 10.12.2016

the authorized representative of the International Ranger Federation

Signed on behalf of the **Thin Green Line Foundation**



Date 15th December 2016

By Dr. William Jackson, the authorized representative of the Thin Green Line Foundation