

# 10<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO CITES

(The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora & Fauna)

Issued 15<sup>th</sup> April, 1997

(Extracted from *Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 2 of 1997*)<sup>2</sup>

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES) was established in July 1975 with 134 member countries currently. A conference is held every two years to monitor and implement policies dealt with by various committees. CITES works by regulating or banning trade in species that they have placed in three lists. Appendix I lists all animals and plants whose figures have dropped near or below the accepted optimum level and extinction is imminent. All commercial International Trade is prohibited. Species selected from this category are portrayed in this stamp issue. Appendices II and III permit controlled Commercial Trade.



The meeting covered many different contentious issues, including the delisting of the Zimbabwe Elephant to Appendix II. The Africa Resources Trust, Campfire Association and other interest groups in Zimbabwe in conjunction with the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Management argued to change the management policies which are a major part of tourism, commerce and the economy of Zimbabwe.

## 45c: Cycad

(*Cycadeceae Encephalartos manikensis*)

The manikensis complex of species is specific to the Zimbabwe area. This primitive plant is a relic from the dinosaur age and much prized by collectors around the world. Cycads are long-lived, perennial, unisexual plants which develop cones and produce seeds. Reproduction may occur only once every 15 years in some species, and the male and female plants must produce cones at the same time for fertilisation.



**\$1.50: Peregrine Falcon**

*(Falco peregrinus minor)*



The diminishing numbers of this bird prompted a captive breeding programme in 1978 by the Zimbabwe Falconers' Club. The habitat and hunting terrain requirements have changed by encroaching development and pollutants in agriculture. One female bird can eat as many as 3 000 quelea birds in a year. The accumulated toxins cause sterility and often death, placing the species in jeopardy.

**\$1.70: Pangolin**

*(Manis temmincki)*

A shy, nocturnal animal that has been placed on the Specially Protected Species list because of its association with traditional and cultural beliefs. It is often killed and presented to chiefs, leaders and spirit mediums. The animal has a long tail and heavy brown scales. The long claws on the front feet tear into ant colonies where it probes with a metre long tongue to lap up ants.



**\$2.20: Black Rhinoceros**

*(Diceros bicornis)*



Trade in rhino horn, specifically for use in ceremonial dagger-handles and traditional medicines, has brought the Rhino to near extinction in Africa. The Zimbabwe population declined from 1700 in 1989 to 300 in 1993, prompting the initiation of protection zones, fitting of radio collars and dehorning. Numbers have risen by 20 in the last 2/3 years. A successful but very expensive anti-poaching exercise.

**\$2.50: Elephant**

*(Loxodonta africana)*

This tusk bearing animal is the world's largest living land mammal. Over-hunting and grazing restriction has reduced the African population drastically. Zimbabwe had less than 5 000 in 1920 but with effective conservation their numbers has soared to over 30 000, more than the optimum sustainable level of about 35 000. This is now causing problems as Zimbabwe is bound by the CITES laws and may not effectively manage wildlife.

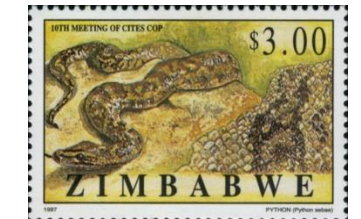
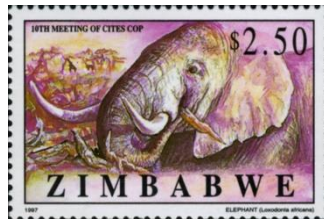
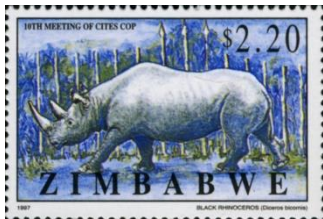
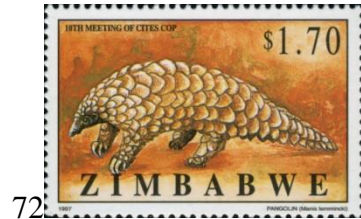
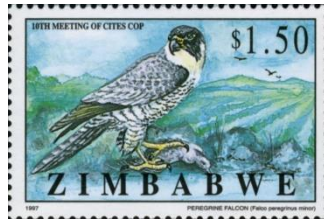




**\$3.00: Python**  
(*Python sebae*)

The skin of this reptile is highly sought after as a fine and decorative leather. An adult may reach up to 6 metres and newly hatched snakes average 60cm in length, this and fear are contributing factors to its threatened extermination. This species of snake is seldom aggressive and is an asset in controlling of noxious rodents such as the cane-rats. Captive breeding has been successful.

**The Stamps**



**Catalogue listings**

SG	ZSC <sup>1</sup>	Value	Description
942	370	45c	Cycad
943	371	\$1.50	Peregrine Falcon
944	372	\$1.70	Pangolin
945	373	\$2.20	Black Rhinoceros
946	374	\$2.50	Elephant
947	375	\$3.00	Python

**Technical details**

**Stamp size:** All values 42 x 28 mm

**Sheet Size:** 50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet

**Artist:** Paula Ware

**Paper:** ZSC paper type F - Although still officially described as HS8, the paper properties changed in 1996. This is fluorescent front but non-fluorescent back and the gum is whitish PVA.

**Print colours:** Cyan, magenta, yellow & black

**Perforations:** SG 14½, ZSC 14¼  
Top margin: Perforated through.  
Other margins: Imperforate

**Printer:** NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe

**Printer's Imprint:** Bottom Margin, below Row 10 Column 3. Imprint printed in black

**Cylinder numbers:** Top margin above R1/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black

**Colour register:** Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R1/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black

**Sheet Value:** Top margin, above R1/5, printed in black.

**Sheet Number:** Type SN 4a with 'PTC' prefix, right margin opposite R1/5, reading down

<b>Print numbers:</b>	45c	1,500,000	\$1.50	190,000
	\$1.70	190,000	\$2.20	190,000
	\$2.50	190,000	\$3.00	190,000

**Issue date:** 15<sup>th</sup> April, 1997

**Withdrawal from sale:**

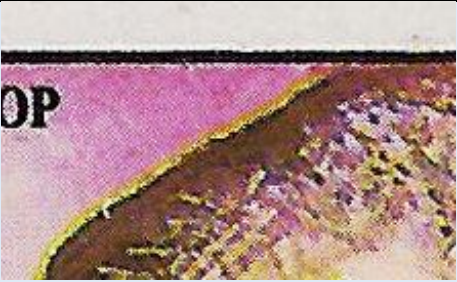
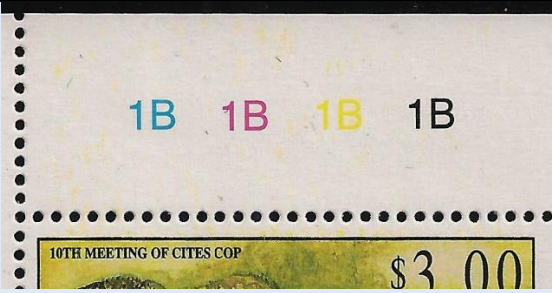
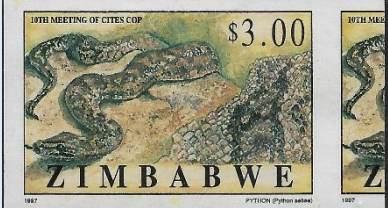
**Demonetisation:**

**Listed varieties**

No listed varieties have been noted

## Unlisted Varieties

There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds.

 <p><b>\$2.50:</b> Shift of yellow plate, giving yellow outline to top of elephant (Courtesy Narendhra Morar)</p>	 <p><b>\$3.00:</b> Yellow smudges to top and stamp and into top margin (difficult to see) (Courtesy Narendhra Morar)</p>
 <p><b>\$3.00:</b> Imperforate stamp, possible proof material (Source eBay October 2021)</p>	

## First Day Cover

The cover numbering comes from the catalogue produced by Geoff Brakspear.

A pictorial first day of issue canceller was produced for this issued and was used by the Philatelic Bureau. Other first day cover cancellers continued to be used at main post offices.



ZW071.1 (PTC)



220 x 110 mm

### Bibliography:

1. "The Zimbabwean Concise Postage Stamp Catalogue", published by Harare Stamp Company, edited by Ken Allanson, Mike Amos and Geoff Brakspear. The catalogue continues to be updated and expanded by Geoff Brakspear
2. PTC Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 2 of 1997.

<b>Additions/Changes since December 2020</b>	
12-2021	\$3 imperforate