



## **Who's in a Hurry? Sloth Conservation and Care**

**First international conference on sloth husbandry, rehabilitation  
and veterinary care**

**Medellin, Colombia  
November 27 and 28, 2010**

First Announcement

According to the International Red List of Threatened Species, sloths are not under immediate risk of extinction. Nevertheless, every year thousands of hectares of tropical forests disappear, and silently, the sloths die along with them.

Sloths are frequently extracted from their natural habitat and sold as pets to tourists who are unaware of the negative impact of their action to the wild populations. Individuals that do not die due to malnutrition or inappropriate care are often handed over to the authorities for rehabilitation. In spite of the sloth's charisma, and the increasing need for experts who can assist injured or weak individuals, few wildlife rehabilitation centers work with these cryptic animals.

There is an urgent need among sloth rehabilitators and institutions working with sloths to meet, exchange experiences, and develop joint strategies to maximize the impact of their efforts. Our goal is to help these unique South American mammals to survive in our changing world.

We are pleased to announce the first international meeting on sloth conservation and rehabilitation. We expect a varied, inclusive, and progressive international working group can be formed as a result of this meeting. This meeting is open to all interested researchers, managers, captive care specialists, and rehabilitators who are actively contributing to the conservation of these remarkable animals.



## Objectives:

Current status of sloth biology and veterinary care  
Education and awareness programs  
Sloth rehabilitation and captive husbandry  
Facilities  
Fund raising  
Conservation strategies

The meeting will be held on November 27 and 28, 2010 in Medellin, Colombia, immediately following the Third Colombian Zoology Congress, which will take place from November 22 to 26, 2010. The conference is organized by Tinka Plese, Director of Foundation Unau ([unau@une.net.co](mailto:unau@une.net.co)) and Monique S. Pool, Chairman of the Board of The Green Heritage Fund Suriname ([poolms@seasnv.biz](mailto:poolms@seasnv.biz)).

Mariella Superina, Chair of the IUCN/SSC Anteater, Sloth and Armadillo Specialist Group (ASASG) has already confirmed her participation.

To ensure the best possible organization, we would be very thankful if you could confirm us by email at [unau@une.net.co](mailto:unau@une.net.co) your sincere interest in participating in the first international sloth meeting by August 10 of 2010.

The approximate fee for the meeting is \$ US 100, but costs may vary slightly depending on the number of participants.

Your comments and suggestions are very welcome.

We are looking forward to meeting you in Medellin!  
Slothfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tinka Plese'.

**Tinka Plese**

**Director**

**Foundation Unau**

**Member IUCN/SSC Anteater, Sloth and Armadillo Specialist Group**

[www.fundacionunau.org](http://www.fundacionunau.org)