



# The Advocates4Earth Monthly!

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## WE'RE REBRANDING:

### People and Earth Solidarity Law Network (PESLawyers) is now Advocates4Earth!

The Board of Trustees of the PEOPLE AND EARTH SOLIDARITY LAW NETWORK (PESLAWYERS) wishes to inform all our valued stakeholders, affiliates, networks, volunteers and associates that we have resolved to change the name of our organisation to ADVOCATES4EARTH TRUST. This change will better reflect our role as environmental, climate and wildlife legal advocates representing hundreds of Zimbabwean, Sub-Saharan Africa and Global South communities, species, environmental activists, researchers, lawyers, volunteers and affiliates. We are evolving to be a powerful, grassroots powered movement from the Global South.

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## Reflections from our participation at CITES Cop18 in Geneva, Switzerland

The 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) CoP18 was held from 16-28 August in Geneva, Switzerland. Advocates4Earth (then known as PESLawyers) was represented by Animal Lawyer Linda Masudze and Director Lenin Chisaira

The CITES Cop18 came up with a number of critical decisions, especially the listing of a number of species such as the giraffe and the sharks. a major decision which we supported, was on preventing the export of live wild animals from their traditional range states. We also supported the call for an end to trade in ivory and ivory stockpiles, Trading in such facilitates poaching of elephants.

## Global elephants' experts meet in Hermanus, South Africa to discuss Elephants in Captivity | Our Director Lenin Chisaira was one of the presenters.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2019, global wildlife experts, lawyers and activists met in the Town of Hermanus, Western Cape, South Africa to discuss ways of ending the capture and trade of wildlife. Advocates4Earth Director, Lenin Chisaira participated in the conference and made a presentation on the laws and policies around the capture of wild animals in Zimbabwe.

The Indaba, the first of its kind, was convened by the EMS Foundation. A range of organisations were in attendance, including Human Society International, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and Wildlife Direct.

[Click to watch the Indaba on EMS Foundation YouTube](#)

## It's Climate Strike Season | Our Deputy Chair joins the action in Berlin, Germany

Hundreds of thousands of youth climate activists around the world embarked on the Climate Strike on 20 September 2019. The key inspiration behind the climate change protests is Swedish teenage activist, Greta Thunberg.

In Africa, the main protests took place in South Africa and Kenya.

Our Deputy Chairperson, Christine Juta joined climate strikers in Berlin, Germany.

Advocates4Earth is also organising a climate centered conference, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Youth Symposium on Human Rights and Socio-Ecological Transformation, under the theme 'Sustainability'. The symposium will be held in Zimbabwe around the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019. The Symposium is an annual collaboration between Advocates4Earth and ZYLTP.

For more updates on the Symposium, please follow the Symposium Twitter handle [@AnnualYouthSymp](#) and the hashtag [#AnnualYouthSymp2019](#)

“Like the sea level,  
we rise” — One of the  
Slogans from the  
#ClimateStrike Movement



Figure 1: Advocates4Earth Deputy Chair Christine Juta (Right) with fellow Climate Strikers in Berlin, Germany

# IN PICTURES: BULAWAYO EVENTS

## Matabeleland Human-Wildlife Conflict Meeting , Montgomery Gardens, Bulawayo



## Environmental Justice Volunteers Capacity Building Workshop, Forestry Commission Building, Bulawayo



**CALL TO ACTION: Volunteer or Donate for Environmental, Climate and Wildlife Justice.**

**WE HAVE ONLY ONE EARTH!!**

*Advocates4Earth (formerly, People and Earth Solidarity Law Network -PESLawyers) is a non-profit environmental law organisation based in Harare, Zimbabwe. Our work requires the support of donated labour and contributions. To volunteer or to contribute , please contact us on [advocates4earth.trust@gmail.com](mailto:advocates4earth.trust@gmail.com); [campaigns@advocates4earth.org](mailto:campaigns@advocates4earth.org); | WhatsApp: +263775678928 | Twitter: @Advocates4Earth|*

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Figure 2: Elephants drinking from the Zambezi river (Pic: LT Chisaira)

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## “ QUOTES ”



“We are **striking** because we want a future and we are going to carry on” - Greta Thunberg, Climate Strike Activist



“Our wild animals are being discussed in Geneva, an irrelevant place to the animals” - ED Mnangagwa, President of Zimbabwe

## The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Citizens' Convention meets in Harare

The 2<sup>nd</sup> National Citizens Convention was held on 24 and 25 September at the Golden Conifer Conference Centre in Harare. Advocates4Earth participated and drafted a Position Paper on Environmental Justice and Governance in Zimbabwe.

The Convention was held under the theme #ItsUsAndItsNow and sought to encourage citizens participation in identifying and solving the national question in Zimbabwe. The main convener of the convention is the Citizens Manifesto collective to which Advocates4Earth (formerly, people and Earth Solidarity Law Network) is a co-convening member.

[Click to read our Position paper for the Citizens Convention](#)

## LAST WORD: We respond to an attack by a Climate Denialist

Following the publication of our position paper by the Citizens Convention organisers, **one climate denialist by the name Tookie Andraliukos said**, ‘Climate change, global warming, global cooling and all the rest of the names, that had to change because the actual climate would not agree with the narrative, is a farce... I am always ready to debate, but when I see Africans, black, white and in-between, embrace the climate hoax, especially when they are lawyers, then I have to make a noise.’

**Our response was** ‘Firstly, your issue of a 'climate hoax ' really deserves no platform in the 21st Century. However, we will give a brief answer out of human decency. The way we as humanity are squandering our environment is primitive (regardless of race, profession or place of origin). If we keep on turning a blind eye to the environmental degradation, mining and impacts of climate change, we will very soon (and in reality) experience the real Armageddon (if that's the word). We can't apologize for wanting to build a cleaner, greener world for the benefits of ourselves and future generations.’