

# WILD CHIMPANZEE FOUNDATION



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Leipzig, 3 May 2024

Press release / Communication : New persons in charge for the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation WCF

**Following the tragic death of the founder, President and CEO of the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation (WCF), Christophe Boesch, the Foundation has reorganised its staff and is continuing its projects without interruption.**

At its spring meeting in 2024, the WCF Board elected Peter Lehmann as President of the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation. Peter Lehmann has been a member of the Foundation's Board and Secretary since 2009. A biologist by training, he has many years' experience as a consultant in the strategic and organizational development of organizations in civil society, the private sector and the state. The Foundation Board is also complemented by expertise in primatology, botany, ecology and tropical forest conservation.

The Foundation Board has also appointed Emma Normand as Director of External Relations and Strategic Planning, delegated by the Foundation Board. In addition to her duties as Director of Operations for the WCF Côte d'Ivoire, the Liberia-Côte d'Ivoire cross-border projects and bio-monitoring for West Africa, she will be responsible for representing the foundation, in consultation with the country directors, in its interactions with external parties, including financial partners, government partners, international organizations and potential donors. Emma Normand, a biologist and primatologist, has lived and worked for many years in West Africa for the WCF and has an excellent knowledge of local political and cultural conditions.

The Board of Trustees has finally appointed Mr Lukas Boesch to the position of Scientific Director of the WCF. The sociologist, with research experience at the WCF in Guinea, and relevant experience in effective methods of data evaluation in the private sector, will ensure the scientific quality of WCF activities and reports in general and, in particular, of data collection and analysis using appropriate models. In this role, he chairs the WCF Scientific Council.

As Director of WCF-Europe, Mrs. Hedwige Boesch manages the headquarters in Leipzig and thus the WCF representations in West Africa in administrative, financial and personnel terms. The three directors form the new operational management of the WCF.

The WCF is thus well-equipped to successfully implement current and future projects in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Guinea and potentially Sierra Leone and thus make an effective contribution to the protection of the remaining chimpanzee populations in West Africa.

The WCF President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Lehmann', written over a horizontal line.

Peter Lehmann

If you have any questions, please contact  
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