STATUTES

As revised by the
14th Session of the General Assembly
(Ashkhabad, USSR, 4 October 1978)

AND REGULATIONS

As amended by the
3rd (September 1978), 5th (June 1979) and
10th (October 1981) Meetings of the IUCN Council

IUCN, 1196 Gland, Switzerland
Telephone: (022) 64 71 81
Telegrams: IUCNATURE GLAND
Telex: 22618 iucn
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PREAMBLE

Conservation of nature and natural resources involves the preservation and management of the living world, the natural environment of humanity, and the earth's renewable natural resources on which rests the foundation of human civilization.

Natural beauty is one of the sources of inspiration of spiritual life and the necessary framework for the needs of recreation, intensified now by humanity's increasingly mechanized existence.

Civilization has achieved its present high standard by finding ever more effective means for developing and utilizing these resources. In these conditions, soils, water, forests and vegetation, wild life, wilderness areas maintained intact and characteristic landscapes are of vital importance for economic, social, educational and cultural purposes.

The increasing impoverishment of natural resources will inevitably result in a lowering of human standards of living. In the case of renewable resources, this trend need not be irreversible provided the people are alerted to the full realization of their close dependence upon these resources and to the recognition of the need to preserve and manage them in a way that is conducive to the peace, progress and prosperity of humanity.

Since protection and conservation of nature and natural resources are of vital importance to all nations, a responsible international organization primarily concerned with the furthering of these aims will be of value to various governments, the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and other interested organizations.

Therefore the governments, public services, organizations, institutions and associations concerned with these matters represented at Fontainebleau established on 5 October 1948 a Union known as the 'International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources' hereinafter referred to as "IUCN" and governed by the following Statutes:

Article I

OBJECTS

1. The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources shall have the following objects:

   i) to encourage and facilitate cooperation between governments, national and international organizations and persons concerned with the conservation of nature and natural resources;

   ii) to promote in all parts of the world national and international action in respect of the conservation of nature and natural resources;
iii) to encourage scientific research related to the conservation of nature and natural resources and to disseminate information about such research;

iv) to promote education in and disseminate widely information on the conservation of nature and natural resources and in other ways to increase public awareness of the conservation of nature and natural resources;

v) to prepare draft international agreements relating to the conservation of nature and natural resources and to encourage governments to adhere to agreements once concluded;

vi) to assist governments to improve their legislation relating to the conservation of nature and natural resources; and

vii) to take any other action which will promote the conservation of nature and natural resources.

2. In order to give effect to these objects IUCN shall undertake necessary and appropriate measures and, in particular, may:

i) give support to governmental and non-governmental activities;

ii) form commissions, committees, working groups, task forces and the like;

iii) hold conferences and other meetings and publish the proceedings thereof;

iv) cooperate with other bodies;

v) collect, analyze, interpret and disseminate information;

vi) prepare, publish and distribute documents, legislative texts, scientific studies and other information;

vii) formulate and disseminate policy statements; and

viii) make representations to governments and international agencies.
Re Article 1, para. 2 (i) of the Statutes

IUCN may provide scientific and technical advice on conservation matters, subject to payment of any charges that it is necessary to impose.

Re Article 1, para. 2 (iii)

All voting members of IUCN may send delegates to the General Assembly. Other IUCN conferences may be attended by representatives of members of IUCN, subject to restrictions imposed because of limitation in size, specialized subject coverage and the like.

Re Article 1, para. 2 (vi)

The publications of IUCN shall be made available to the members of IUCN, subject to any special charges for particular documents. No charge shall, however, be levied on members of IUCN for the Bulletin and the Annual Report of IUCN.
Article II
MEMBERSHIP

Categories

1. The members of IUCN shall be:
   i) **Category A**
      a) States; and
      b) Government agencies.
   ii) **Category B**
      c) National non-governmental organizations; and
      d) International non-governmental organizations.
   iii) **Category C**
      e) Affiliates; and
      f) Honorary members.

2. State members shall be States which are members of the United Nations or any of its Specialized Agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency or parties to the Statutes of the International Court of Justice that have notified the Director General of IUCN of their adherence to its Statutes.

3. Government agency members may include organizations, institutions and, when applicable, government departments, which form part of the machinery of government in a State (this term having the same meaning as in the preceding paragraph) whether at central level or, in the case of a federal State, at central or state level, admitted to this group.

4. National non-governmental organizational members shall be institutions and associations organized within a State (this term having the same meaning as in paragraph 2 of this Article), admitted to this group.

5. International non-governmental organizational members shall be institutions and associations organized internationally, admitted to this group.

6. Affiliate members shall be organizations, institutions and associations - whether organized within a State (this term having the same meaning as in paragraph 2 of this Article) or internationally - admitted to this group.

7. The General Assembly on the recommendation of the Council may confer honorary membership on any individual who has rendered or is rendering outstanding service in the field of conservation of nature and natural resources.
a) The institution or organization must have as members properly constituted organizations (including States and government agencies), or individuals, or a combination of organizations and individuals, with defined rules governing the admission of such members, and must include members from at least three States.

b) The organization must have a substantial record of international activities in the field of conservation of nature and natural resources, not only conducted in any one State.

c) In the case of an organization consisting of organizational members, the organization must be functioning in three or more States, and must have not less than five members. In the case of an organization consisting of individual members, the organization must have functioning branches or significant programmes in three or more States, and must have not less than 500 members.

d) The governing body of the organization must include nationals from at least three States.
Admission

8. States become members by notifying the Director General of their adherence to the Statutes.

9. Admission of government agencies, national non-governmental organizations, international non-governmental organizations and affiliates shall require a decision by a two-thirds majority of the Council. An application for admission to any such group of membership together with evidence as to the qualification of the applicant for admission to that group shall be mailed to the voting members of IUCN at least three months before it is considered by the Council and, if any objection is made by a voting member in that period, the admission shall require ratification by the General Assembly by a two-thirds majority of votes cast by each category of voting member. Objections shall be limited to the applicant's insufficient interest in conservation of nature and natural resources, or possible conflicts of interest, or its inappropriateness for the group of membership.

10. Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, a government agency of the central or federal government of a State member shall be admitted as an agency member if that State so requests.

11. Bodies may be admitted to membership only if their objects and activities have no conflict of interest with the objects of IUCN. Bodies may be admitted as national organizational members or international organizational members only if they have a substantial interest in conservation of nature and natural resources.

Transfer

12. The Council shall transfer a member to another group of membership if in the opinion of a two-thirds majority of the Council that member is incorrectly classified. The members of IUCN shall be notified of the transfer together with the reasons. If within the three months following this notification an objection is lodged by the member in question or by another voting member, the transfer shall be submitted to the General Assembly for ratification by a two-thirds majority of votes cast by each category of voting member.

Suspension and rescission

13. Only members in Category A or B may propose the suspension or rescission of the membership of a member in their respective category, should that member persistently violate the objectives set forth in these Statutes; in respect of a State member, only another State member may submit such a proposal and any decision in respect of a State may be taken only by State members.
Re Article II, para. 8

The notification of adherence to the Statutes shall be made by or on behalf of the Head of State, the Head of Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Re Article II, para. 9

The application for admission to such groups of membership shall be made to the Director General on the IUCN membership application form; the applicant shall submit such information relating to its constitution, objectives, membership and the like as may be necessary for the Council to decide on admission to the appropriate class of membership. It should be supported by a resolution of the Governing Body, if any, of the organization and/or signed by the Head of the organization and one other office bearer. A member shall inform the Director General of any important change in those particulars that may affect its eligibility for membership or the class of membership for which it is eligible.
14. a) Any proposed suspension or rescission of the membership of a member shall be presented to the Council. By a two-thirds majority of votes cast, the Council may request the member to present within three months the reasons why in its opinion such action is not justified.

b) After examining the arguments presented by the member, or in the absence of such arguments, the Council by a two-thirds majority of votes cast may decide to inform the member of the Council's intention to propose to the relevant category of members that the membership of the member be suspended or rescinded.

c) If within three months of the notification of this proposal the member does not inform the Director General of its opposition, the member is considered to have withdrawn from membership of the Union. If the member does oppose the proposal, the Director General shall submit the proposal together with the arguments of the member to the voting members of the relevant category, which shall decide on the proposal at the next session of the General Assembly, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by those members present and entitled to vote.

Payment of membership dues

15. Membership dues for any year become due and payable on the first day of January of that year. The voting rights of a member shall ipso facto be suspended when the dues of that member are one year in arrears. If the dues of a member are two years in arrears, the matter shall be referred to the General Assembly which may decide to suspend all the remaining rights of the member concerned. Such suspension shall be lifted if the member concerned pays all arrears of membership dues.

Withdrawal

16. Any member may withdraw from membership of IUCN at any time by giving notice in writing to the Director General to that effect. The member withdrawing shall not be entitled to any refund of membership dues paid. If such a member seeks readmission to membership all membership dues outstanding at the time of withdrawal shall be paid before the member is readmitted.

Voting rights

17. Only members in Categories A and B have the right to vote.

18. Whenever a formal vote, other than in a multiple-choice election, is to be taken pursuant to Article IV, paragraph 10, or by mail ballot pursuant to Article V, a simple majority (unless otherwise specified by these Statutes) of affirmative votes cast by each category of member shall be required for a motion to be carried; abstentions shall not be counted as votes cast. In a multiple-choice election the rankings obtained by a separate count of the votes of each category shall be added to produce one combined ranking, as prescribed in the Rules of Procedure.
See Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly
19. Governmental members shall have voting rights as follows:
   a) Each State member shall have three votes, one of which shall be exercised collectively by the agency members (if any) from that State provided this is consistent with the constitution of the State concerned; and
   b) Agency members from a State that is not a State member shall collectively have one vote.

20. Non-governmental members shall have voting rights as follows:
   a) National organizational members shall each have one vote: Provided that the total value of the votes of such members from one State shall not exceed ten per cent of the total voting rights of the members in the non-governmental category; and
   b) International organizational members shall each have two votes.

Article III

ORGANIZATION

IUCN shall consist of:

a) the General Assembly;
b) the Council;
c) the Bureau;
d) the Commissions; and
e) the Director General.

Article IV

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Composition

1. The General Assembly, the highest policy organ of IUCN, shall consist of the duly accredited delegates of the members of IUCN meeting in session.

2. The Council may invite to the General Assembly observers without the right to vote.
See Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly
Functions

3. The functions of the General Assembly shall be:
   i) to elect the President of IUCN;
   ii) to elect the regional Councillors;
   iii) to elect the Chairmen of Commissions;
   iv) to elect such honorary officers of IUCN as it deems appropriate;
   v) to determine the general policy of IUCN;
   vi) to consider and approve a draft triennial programme;
   vii) to make recommendations to governments and national and international organizations on any matter related to the objects of IUCN;
   viii) to determine the dues of members;
   ix) to approve the estimates of income and expenditure for the next triennium and the auditors' report on the accounts of IUCN;
   x) to appoint one or more auditors;
   xi) to perform such other functions as may be conferred on it by these Statutes.

Procedure

4. The General Assembly shall meet every third year in ordinary session.

5. An extraordinary session of the General Assembly shall be convened:
   a) if requested by at least one-fifth of the members of either Category A or Category B; or
   b) if the Council considers it necessary.

6. The Council shall, after considering suggestions of members, determine the time and location of each ordinary and extraordinary session of the General Assembly. Locations shall be rotated among the several geographical regions. The decision of the Council as to time and location shall be communicated to the members of IUCN by the Director General, with a tentative agenda, at least nine months in advance of each session.

7. The President, the regional Councillors and the Chairmen of Commissions shall be elected by the General Assembly, the method of election being as prescribed in the Regulations.
Re Article IV, paras 4 and 5

The Council shall appoint a Steering Committee for each session of the General Assembly to make the necessary preparations.
8. The President, or at the President's request the Chairman of the Bureau or one of the Vice-Presidents of IUCN, shall take the chair at sessions of the General Assembly.

9. The General Assembly shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

Voting

10. The Chairman of the General Assembly may rule that a decision has been made by an informal vote. If the Chairman thinks it necessary the Chairman may decide to proceed to a formal vote and shall if so requested by a voting member. The procedure for a formal vote shall be as provided in the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly.

Review of decisions

11. If a decision is taken under the following circumstances:

   a) when less than half of the total votes of members in either Category A or B are represented at the General Assembly; or

   b) when it involves a question not on the agenda distributed to all members before the meeting;

then the decision shall be subject to suspension. This suspension may occur if a group of members representing at least one-fifth of the total votes in either category so requests within three months of mailing the minutes reporting the decisions. The matter shall then be subject to mail ballot in accordance with Article V.

Article V

MAIL BALLOT

1. All matters within the competence of the General Assembly may be decided by mail ballot.

2. Except as otherwise provided in these Statutes, such a mail ballot will take place only upon matters of urgency on the request of the Council, or three Category A members, or twenty Category B members.

3. The ballot form shall be distributed by registered mail to all voting members. There shall be four voting options provided on this form: yes, no, abstain, or refer to the next General Assembly.

4. Except as otherwise provided in these Statutes, decisions shall be taken by simple majority of votes cast in each category of voting member. In the event that none of the options receives the required majority, the matter shall be referred to the next General Assembly.
See Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly
Article VI

THE COUNCIL

Composition

1. The members of the Council shall be:
   a) the President of IUCN;
   b) three Councillors from each region;
   c) five co-opted Councillors;
   d) the Chairmen of the Commissions.

2. Regions referred to in paragraph 1. b) of this Article shall be:
   a) Africa;
   b) Central and South America;
   c) North America and the Caribbean;
   d) East Asia;
   e) West Asia;
   f) Australia and Oceania;
   g) East Europe;
   h) West Europe.

Nominations for candidates from a region shall be made by Category A and Category B members from that region in the manner prescribed in the Regulations. States included in each region shall be prescribed in the Regulations. Not more than two regional Councillors shall be from any one State.
Re Article VI, para. 2

a) The list of States in each region is attached. Any objections to this list from a member of IUCN in Category A or B shall be referred to the Council for decision.

b) Before each ordinary session of the General Assembly the members of IUCN in Categories A and B, except international non-governmental organizations whose constituency covers more than one region, shall be invited by the Director General by registered mail to submit to an Election Officer appointed by the Council, the names of persons as candidates for election as Councillors. Such invitation shall be accompanied by a list of the Regional Councillors in office with an indication of those who are not eligible for reelection. A declaration duly signed on behalf of the member making the nomination and by the person nominated stating the nominee's willingness to serve if elected shall accompany the nomination. The deadline for nominations shall be determined on each occasion by the Council. The Election Officer may not be a candidate for election nor a member of the staff of the Secretariat (including the Director General).

c) Nominations received from members of IUCN within a region for election as Regional Councillors from that region shall be submitted by the Election Officer with appropriate background information to each ordinary session of the General Assembly. The Election Officer shall list the candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random, with an indication of the number of nominations received per candidate.

d) Candidates shall be nationals of a State in the region concerned and resident in that region. The nationality of the individual shall be the criterion for defining "from any one State",
3. The co-opted Councillors shall be appointed by the elected members of the Council as soon as practicable after the latter's election, with due regard to the need to maintain an appropriate balance of diverse qualifications, interests and skills on the Council. In making such appointments the elected Councillors shall ensure that there is at least one member of the Council from the State in which IUCN has its seat.

4. Nominations for the President of IUCN shall be made by the Council after considering suggestions made by the members in Category A and Category B. Nominations may also be made by a petition subscribed to by one-fifth of the voting rights in either category, provided such petition is received at IUCN headquarters not less than ninety days prior to the opening of the General Assembly.

5. Nominations for the Chairman of each Commission shall be made by the Council after considering suggestions made by the members in Category A and Category B and by the members of that Commission. Not more than two Chairmen of Commissions shall be from any one State.

6. The Council shall appoint a Deputy Chairman for each Commission. The Deputy Chairman of each Commission shall act in the place of the Chairman of that Commission whenever that Chairman is unable to attend a meeting of the Council. The Deputy Chairman of each Commission may also attend meetings of the Council at which the Chairman of that Commission is present and on such occasions he shall be regarded as an observer without voting rights.
Re Article VI, para. 4

a) Prior to the meeting of the Council taking place at least four months before each ordinary session of the General Assembly, the members of IUCN in Categories A and B shall be invited by the Director General by registered mail to submit to the Council suggestions for persons to be nominated as President of IUCN, at the same time indicating if the President in office is eligible for reelection.

b) Nominations made by the Council or by petition of members of IUCN in Category A or B for election to the office of President shall be submitted without supporting documentation to each ordinary session of the General Assembly in alphabetical order. A person so nominated shall have declared in writing his or her willingness to serve if elected. The Council or representatives of the petitioning members may, however, submit supporting information orally to the General Assembly.

Re Article VI, para. 5

a) Regulation a) Re Article VI, para. 4, shall apply mutatis mutandis except that members of Commissions shall be invited by circular letter.

b) Nominations made by the Council for election to the office of Chairman of each Commission shall be submitted to each ordinary session of the General Assembly in alphabetical order for each Commission without supporting documentation. A person so nominated shall have declared in writing his or her willingness to serve if elected. The Council may, however, submit supporting information orally to the General Assembly.

c) The nationality of the individual shall be the criterion for defining "from any one State".

Re Article VI, para. 6

The Appointment of a Deputy Chairman to act during the term of office of the Chairman shall be made after considering proposals by the Chairman of the concerned Commission who shall take into account any suggestions made by the members of his Commission.
7. The President of IUCN, regional Councillors and Chairmen of Commissions shall be elected for a term extending from the close of the ordinary session of the General Assembly at which they are elected until the close of the next succeeding ordinary session of the General Assembly. The co-opted Councillors shall be appointed for the remainder of the term for which the other Councillors are elected.

8. The President of IUCN and any regional Councillor shall not hold office consecutively for more than two terms. An exception may be made in the case of the President of IUCN by decision of the General Assembly on the recommendation of a two-thirds majority of the Council. An exception may also be made for a regional Councillor who may continue in office for one more term only if co-opted in accordance with paragraphs 1. c) and 3 above. Except in such a case, any co-opted Councillor may hold office consecutively for up to three terms.

9. The Council may fill any vacancies on the Council that may occur for the balance of the term concerned, paying due regard to maintaining regional representation.

10. The members of the Council shall exercise their powers on behalf of IUCN and not as representatives of their respective States or organizations.

11. Representatives of international organizations with which IUCN has formal working relations shall have the right to attend meetings of the Council, except closed sessions as determined by the Council, as observers without voting rights.
Re Article VI, para. 9

a) In case of a vacancy in the Presidency of IUCN, the Council shall fill this vacancy from amongst the Vice-Presidents of IUCN.

b) In filling any other vacancies on the Council, the Council shall endeavour to follow, whenever possible, the procedures and conditions provided for in the Statutes for the normal election or appointment to the post in question (see Article VI, paras 2, 3 and 5 of the Statutes and corresponding Regulations).

Re Article VI, para. 10

Members of the Council therefore exercise their functions in their personal capacities.

Re Article VI, para. 11

a) International organizations having formal relations with IUCN are those having defined these relations in a written agreement or other appropriate document.

b) Prior approval of the Bureau shall be required before any such organization may be represented at Council meetings by more than three observers.
12. The Council shall, in respect of each triennium, appoint from amongst the regional Councillors and co-opted Councillors, the following:

a) the Vice-Presidents of IUCN (not to exceed four in number);

b) the Treasurer of IUCN;

c) the Chairman of the Bureau;

d) up to five members of the Bureau.

13. In selecting the Vice-Presidents of IUCN from amongst its number the Council shall pay due regard to geographical representation.

14. In selecting the members of the Bureau from amongst its number the Council shall have in mind the need to include persons knowledgeable about finance, management and public awareness.

Functions

15. The functions of the Council shall be:

i) to make recommendations to the members of IUCN and the General Assembly on any matter relating to the activities of IUCN;

ii) within the general policy of IUCN laid down by the General Assembly, to give rulings on policy, to determine complementary policy guidelines, and to approve the programme of work of IUCN;

iii) to receive and approve the report of the Director General on the activities of IUCN during the previous year; together with an account of the receipts and expenditure and a balance sheet as at the end of the year;

iv) to receive and approve the draft programme and budget for the following year, the programme to be framed within the limits of the budget;

v) to report to the members of IUCN on decisions taken which materially affect the programme or the budget of IUCN;

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Re Article VI, para. 15 (ii)

The annual programme of work of IUCN, based on the triennial programme of work approved by the General Assembly, shall be submitted by the Director General to the Council at its first meeting in a calendar year.
vi) to establish such classes of supporters of IUCN for persons and organizations regularly contributing funds and other support for the work of IUCN, as may be considered desirable;

vii) to perform such other functions as may be conferred on it by the General Assembly and these Statutes.

Procedure

16. The Council shall meet at least once a year. The President may convene a meeting of the Council whenever the President deems it necessary and shall do so if requested by one-third of the members of the Council. If the President for any reason is incapable of convening a meeting of the Council, the Chairman of the Bureau may do so in the President's stead.

17. The President, or in the President's absence, one of the Vice-Presidents selected by those Councillors present, or the Chairman of the Bureau, shall take the chair at meetings of the Council.

18. The rules of procedure of the Council shall be as prescribed in the Regulations of IUCN.
Re Article VI, para. 15 (vi)

Classes of supporters include:

Subscriber
Friend
Associate
Life Friend
Benefactor
Corporate Associate

Specifications or qualifications for admission to classes, and privileges or rights, if any, shall be dealt with by Council resolution.

Re Article VI, para. 16

Notice of meetings of the Council shall be circulated to all entitled to be present at meetings of the Council at least forty-five days in advance of the meeting and shall be accompanied by a draft Agenda.

Re Article VI, para. 18

a) The chairman of each meeting of the Council shall declare the opening and closing of the meeting. He shall direct the discussions, ensure the observance of the provisions of the Statutes and the Regulations, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. He shall rule on points of order and shall control the conduct of every meeting.

b) Half of the members of the Council in office shall constitute the quorum. In the event that the quorum is not present at a duly convened meeting of the Council, draft decisions may be prepared by those present and circulated to all members of the Council for decision by mail ballot on each item.
19. A decision concerning a matter which was not on the agenda of a meeting of the Council may be taken unless five Councillors attending the meeting are opposed or unless five Councillors notify the Director General of their opposition within one month of the date of mailing of the minutes.
c) Summary minutes of each meeting of the Council shall be prepared by the Director General or his representative and submitted to the members of the Council as soon as possible after the meeting. Persons who are entitled to participate in Council meetings may give the full or abridged text of any of their statements to the Secretariat for inclusion in the summary minutes. If no objections are received within six weeks of the date of despatch the minutes shall constitute a correct record of the meeting. Any objection to the minutes shall be referred to the Council for confirmation by mail ballot. If an objection is made to the wording of a decision, this decision shall not become effective until so confirmed.

d) Either of the official languages of IUCN may be used at meetings of the Council; interpretation from one official language to another shall be made whenever a member of the Council so requests. Notification of such requests must be received by the Secretariat at least thirty days in advance of the meeting. Members of the Council may also speak in any other language but they must themselves provide for interpretation into one of the official languages.

e) The Council may appoint committees and task forces consisting of members of the Council or others as it may deem desirable.

i) A committee is a temporary or standing body with terms of reference more limited than those of a Commission. Committees may be established by the Council as advisory or action bodies. In general, the subject matter of a committee will not be within the scope of a standing Commission. The terms of reference, leadership, composition and duration of committees shall be determined by the Council. The Council may delegate authority to any such committee to act on the Council's behalf for specific purposes: provided that the majority of the members of the committee are members of the Council.

ii) A task force is a temporary body with a specified and limited mission. In general, the subject matter of a task force will not be within the scope of a standing Commission. The terms of reference, leadership, composition and duration of task forces will be determined by the Council.

f) In such cases where procedural matters of the Council are not covered by these Regulations, the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly apply mutatis mutandis.
20. In exceptional circumstances the Council may take measures that by Statute are prerogatives of the General Assembly. In such cases, the voting members of IUCN shall be notified promptly by mail of the Council's action. If in either category a majority of the voting members responding within sixty days signifies its disapproval, the Council's action shall be suspended.

Voting

21. Except where these Statutes require otherwise, decisions of the Council shall be made by a simple majority of the votes cast. Each member of the Council shall be entitled to one vote, and in the case of an equality of votes, the President of IUCN, or in his absence the Chairman of the meeting, may cast the deciding vote.

Proxy

22. If unable to attend a meeting of the Council, a Councillor may empower another Councillor by written proxy to speak and vote on his or her behalf, complying with the instructions contained in the mandate. A Councillor may accept no more than one proxy.

Article VII

THE BUREAU

Composition

1. The Bureau shall be composed of:

   a) the Chairman of the Bureau and up to five members appointed by the Council;

   b) the President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer of IUCN.

2. If a member of the Bureau is unable to perform the functions of the member's office because of ill health, or if the member dies or resigns the office, the Council shall appoint a replacement from amongst its members to serve for the balance of the term concerned.
Re Article VI, para. 20

The time for response is to be calculated from the date of mailing the document describing the Council's action.

Re Article VI, para. 21

a) Unless provided otherwise in the Statutes, a vote is cast at meetings of the Council when delivered by a Councillor "participating in the vote" and "voting". Participating shall mean present, or represented as provided for in Article VI, para. 22. Voting shall mean submitting an affirmative or negative vote; abstentions shall not count as voting.

b) Decisions of the Council may also be taken by mail ballot. In the case of a mail ballot the rules pertaining to Article V shall apply mutatis mutandis.

Re Article VI, para. 22

A Councillor holding a proxy shall deposit it with the Chairman of the meeting at which the proxy may be used.

Re Article VII, para. 2

In case of a vacancy in the Presidency, see Regulations under Article VI, para. 9.
Function

3. The function of the Bureau shall be to act on behalf of and under the authority of the Council between meetings of the Council.

Procedure

4. The Bureau shall meet at least twice each year. The rules of procedure of the Bureau shall be as prescribed in the Regulations of IUCN.
Re Article VII, para. 4

a) Notice of meetings of the Bureau shall be circulated to all entitled to be present at meetings of the Bureau at least thirty days in advance of the meeting and shall be accompanied by the Agenda.

b) The Chairman of the Bureau or in his absence one of the other members of the Bureau selected by those present shall take the chair at meetings of the Bureau.

c) The Chairman of each meeting of the Bureau shall declare the opening and closing of the meeting. He shall direct the discussions, ensure the observance of the provisions of the Statutes and the Regulations, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. He shall rule on points of order and shall control the conduct of every meeting.

d) Half of the members of the Bureau shall constitute the quorum. In the event that the quorum is not present at a duly convened meeting of the Bureau, draft decisions may be prepared by those present and circulated to all members of the Bureau for decision by mail ballot on each item.

e) Except where the Statutes or Regulations require otherwise, decisions of the Bureau shall be made by a simple majority of the votes cast. Each member of the Bureau shall be entitled to one vote and, in the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman of the Bureau or, in his absence, the Chairman of the meeting may cast the deciding vote.

f) At meetings of the Bureau, a vote is cast when delivered by a member of the Bureau present and voting, unless provided otherwise by the Statutes. Proxies are not allowed at meetings of the Bureau; voting shall mean submitting an affirmative or negative vote; abstentions shall not count as voting.

g) Decisions of the Bureau may also be taken by mail ballot. In the case of a mail ballot the rules in and pertaining to Article V of the Statutes shall apply mutatis mutandis.

h) Summary minutes of each meeting of the Bureau shall be prepared by the Director General or his representative and submitted to the members of the Bureau as soon as possible after the meeting. If no objections are received within one month of the date of despatch the minutes shall constitute a correct record of the meeting. Any disputed item shall be referred to the Bureau for confirmation by mail ballot.
5. Decisions of the Bureau shall be made by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast. All decisions shall be mailed to Council members within ten days of having been made. If five Council members who are not members of the Bureau advise the Director General of their objection to the Bureau decision within thirty days after the mailing of the decision, the decision shall be submitted to the Council at the next Council meeting. The Council shall either approve or disapprove the Bureau decision. If five Council members have not objected within the time provided, the Bureau decision becomes effective at once.

Article VIII

THE COMMISSIONS

1. The General Assembly shall establish the Commissions of IUCN and determine their objectives. The Council may propose to the General Assembly the creation, abolition, or subdivision of a Commission, or amendment of a Commission's objectives. The Council may establish a temporary Commission, pending a decision by the next ordinary or extraordinary General Assembly, provided that its objectives do not encroach on those of an existing Commission.
i) Either of the official languages of IUCN may be used at meetings of the Bureau; interpretation shall, however, not be provided. Members of the Bureau may speak in another language but they must themselves provide for interpretation into one of the official languages.

j) The Bureau may appoint temporary committees to help in carrying out its functions as it deems desirable; in general the subject matter of a temporary committee will not be within the scope of a standing Commission. Delegation of authority to any such committee to act on the Bureau's behalf shall only take place for specific purposes and provided that the majority of members of the committee are members of the Bureau.

k) In such cases, where procedural matters of the Bureau are not covered by these Regulations, the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly shall apply mutatis mutandis.

Re Article VIII, para. 1

a) The terms of reference of each Commission shall be established by the Council within the objectives determined by the General Assembly.

b) Prior to each ordinary session of the General Assembly, the Council shall review the terms of reference and the activities of each Commission. The Council shall determine whether any proposal for the creation, abolition or subdivision of a Commission or amendment of a Commission's objectives should be submitted to the General Assembly. Any such proposal shall be communicated to the members of IUCN at least 90 days prior to the ordinary session of the General Assembly concerned.

c) Should the Council establish a temporary Commission, it shall appoint its Chairman; the rules provided for Article VIII paras 2-4 of the Statutes shall apply mutatis mutandis to temporary Commissions.
2. The members of each Commission shall be appointed in the manner prescribed in the Regulations of IUCN.
A Commission shall consist of individual members chosen because of their competence to assist in a Commission's work. No member shall be appointed who has not first declared his willingness to serve and his ability to devote sufficient time to such service.

The candidates for appointment shall be selected by the Chairman of the Commission so as to provide a wide coverage of subjects as well as geographical areas. The members of IUCN may propose persons to be considered as candidates for selection.

The names of candidates selected by the Chairman of a Commission in accordance with the last preceding Regulation shall be submitted by mail to the members of the Council by the Director General after each ordinary session of the General Assembly, within one month of the notification of the names of the selected candidates by the Chairman of the Commission to the Director General. If no objection is raised within one month of the date of despatch the candidates shall be appointed. If an objection is raised to any candidate the appointment shall be held over for consideration by the Council at its next meeting. In the case of candidates who have actively served as members of that Commission in the previous term, appointment may be effected immediately by the Council at its first meeting following an ordinary session of the General Assembly.

Selection of candidates for new members shall follow regulation (b) above and shall be made in consultation with the members of the Commission and, especially, with the Deputy Chairman, and other officers, if any. The names of the selected candidates shall be submitted by mail to the members of the Council by the Director General within one month of the notification of the names by the Chairman of the Commission to the Director General. The appointment by Council shall be subject to the rules set forth in para. (c) above.

The normal term of appointment of Commission members shall be the period between the constitution of the Commission after one ordinary session of the General Assembly and the constitution of the Commission after the next ordinary session of the General Assembly. Members appointed after the constitution of the Commission shall serve for a period between their appointment and the constitution of the Commissions after the next ordinary session of the General Assembly. Members may be reappointed on the expiration of their terms.

The Chairman of a Commission may appoint correspondents and consultants to assist in the work of the Commission. A correspondent is one who does not participate regularly in the work of the Commission but whose special knowledge or skill can be called upon from time to time. Each correspondent shall be appointed for a term of three years and shall be eligible for reappointment. Consultants are individuals named to Commission or Commission sub-groups, whose special knowledge or skill is available to the Commission in furtherance of its programmes. Each consultant shall be appointed for a term not exceeding the normal term of appointment of a Commission member as defined in Regulation (e) re Article VIII, para. 2.
3. Commissions may designate their own officers (other than Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen) as provided in the Regulations of IUCN.

4. The organization and functions of the Commissions shall be as prescribed in the Regulations of IUCN.
g) Once each year, each Commission Chairman shall review with his Commission the names of members, correspondents and consultants who have been inactive or unresponsive. Each Commission is empowered to recommend to the Council in the case of members and to the Chairman of the Commission in the case of correspondents and consultants the termination of appointments of these individuals.

h) Up to six Members of Honour may be associated with each Commission on a permanent basis. They will be nominated by the Chairman of a Commission upon recommendation of the Commission and appointed by the Council, with the provisions of Article VIII, para. 2 (c) applying mutatis mutandis to this appointment.

Re Article VIII, para. 3

a) A Commission may, if its activities so require, elect additional officers from amongst its members. Proposals to that effect, and nominations of candidates, shall be made by the members of the Commissions to the Chairman of the Commission. The Chairman of the Commission shall submit the matter to the next meeting of the Commission for decision or consult the Commission membership by mail within a reasonable time limit.

b) In case where a Commission decides to elect several officers, appropriate representation of geographic regions shall be taken into account. The regions need not be those named in Article VI, para. 2 of the Statutes, but shall reflect the Commission's responsibilities and programmes.

c) The Chairman of a Commission may appoint a Commission Secretary, at his discretion, who need not be a member of the Commission. The function of the Secretary shall be to assist the Commission Chairman in his duties. The Secretary shall maintain close liaison with IUCN's Secretariat, and especially with the member of the Secretariat designated by the Director General to liaise with the Commission; the Secretary may not be a member of the Secretariat. If the Secretary is to be compensated for services, the Commission Chairman will be responsible for fixing the rate of compensation and obtaining funds.

Re Article VIII, para. 4

a) The functions of the Commissions shall be:

i) to bring to the attention of the General Assembly and the Council any matter within their specialized fields of competence they deem advisable relating to the policy and the programme of work of IUCN.

ii) to provide advice within their specialized fields of competence on any matter referred to them by the General Assembly, the Council, the Bureau or the Director General;
iii) to undertake tasks within the approved programme of work of IUCN assigned to them by the Council, the Bureau or the Director General, respecting always the agreed policy of IUCN, any guidelines laid down by the Council or the Bureau, and the accountability of the Director General.

b) The Commission Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and, at the Chairman's discretion, additional Members, shall constitute an Executive Committee or Alert Group of each Commission.

c) Each Chairman assisted by the Deputy Chairman shall conduct the activities of his Commission. He alone is entitled to act in the name of the Commission. The Chairman may delegate in writing specified portions of his responsibilities to the Deputy Chairman or individual members of the Executive Committee or Alert Group.

d) If he considers it necessary, the Chairman of a Commission may establish standing or temporary committees or groups under the control of his Commission.

i) Except if regulated otherwise in the following Regulations, the regulations for Commissions shall apply mutatis mutandis to such groups.

ii) The members of such committees and groups and their Chairman shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Commission; the Chairman of such a group must be a member of the Commission. Such membership shall ipso facto cease when the term of office of the Commission members expires or when the committee or group has completed its task, whichever is the sooner.

iii) All such committees or groups shall be provided with written terms of reference by the Chairman of the Commission and shall carry out their work under the direction of the Commission and in accordance with the policy of IUCN, and any guidelines or directives laid down by the General Assembly or the Council. The terms of reference shall provide for periodic reports to the Commission.

e) Each Commission shall transact its business by correspondence, or by meetings as required.

f) Commission meetings shall be convened by the Chairman of the Commission or at the request of one third of the Commission members.

i) A Commission shall, as far as possible, ordinarily meet twice in each calendar year. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman of the Commission.

ii) Special meetings, such as regional meetings or joint meetings with other groups, may be convened at the discretion of the Chairman of the Commission. A regional meeting is defined as one whose agenda is limited primarily to the conservation problems and needs of a region.
5. The Chairman of each Commission shall present a report at each ordinary session of the General Assembly.

Article IX

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL AND THE SECRETARIAT

1. a) The Director General shall be the chief executive of IUCN.

b) The Director General shall be responsible to the Council and to the Bureau acting on their behalf for the effective implementation of the policy of IUCN.

c) The Director General shall be responsible for the finances and accounting of IUCN.

2. The Director General shall be appointed by the Council for a period of not more than three years (which appointment may be renewed) on such terms and conditions as may be determined by the Council and set forth in a contract.

3. The Director General or his representative may be present without power to vote at the meetings of the General Assembly, the Council, the Bureau, the Commissions, and any Committees or groups of any of these organs and shall be entitled to speak.

4. The Director General shall appoint the staff of the Secretariat in accordance with staff rules formulated by the Director General and approved by the Council. The staff shall be selected on as wide a geographical basis as possible, and there shall be no discrimination because of race, sex or creed.
iii) The Chairman of the Commission or, in his absence, the Deputy Chairman shall take the chair at meetings of the Commission.

g) The provisions of Article VI, paras 16, 18 (a)-(d) and (f), and 21 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* for Commissions.

Re Article VIII, para. 5

The members of each Commission shall receive the report of the Commission Chairman prior to its submission to the General Assembly.

The Chairman of each Commission shall present a report each year to the Council. This report shall be submitted to the first meeting of the Council in each calendar year.

Re Article IX, para. 1

The Director General shall regularly consult and inform the Council and the Bureau with regard to the Secretariat's activities and the financial situation of IUCN. This especially applies to action which might have to be taken by the Director General between meetings of the Bureau in the absence of guidelines from the Council or the Bureau.

Re Article IX, para. 2

The Council shall designate within its members the person or persons entitled to sign this contract on its behalf.

Re Article IX, para. 4

The staff rules shall be regularly reviewed by the Director General; at a minimum following each ordinary session of the General Assembly.
5. In the performance of their duties, the Director General and the staff shall not seek or receive instructions from any authority external to IUCN. They shall refrain from any action incompatible with their position as staff members of an international organization. Each member of IUCN shall respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Director General and the staff, and not seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.

6. The Director General shall each year submit to the Council a report on the activities of IUCN during the previous year, together with an account of the receipts and expenditure and a balance sheet as at the end of the year. When approved by the Council this report shall be sent to the members.

7. The Director General shall prepare for presentation to each ordinary session of the General Assembly a report on the work of IUCN since the last General Assembly. The report shall be submitted by the Director General to the Council and presented to the General Assembly with such comments as the Council may decide to make.

Article X

FINANCE

1. The income of IUCN may be derived from:

a) membership dues of State members, graded according to the size of the population of the State concerned and its national income;

b) membership dues of other members;

c) grants, donations and payments in support of IUCN;

d) returns from investments and services.

2. The Director General shall submit to each ordinary session of the General Assembly for approval a draft triennial programme and the estimates of income and expenditure for the next triennium, the programme and the estimates to be related, together with the comments of the Treasurer and the Council. During the course of the discussion on the estimates, the Treasurer may object on financial grounds to any proposed alteration.

3. The Director General shall submit each year to the Council for approval an annual budget based on estimates of income and expenditure with due regard to the outline approved by the General Assembly; he shall keep the Treasurer informed of unforeseen expenses and of significant variations from predicted income. He will, if necessary, submit, in agreement with the Treasurer, amended budgets to the Council.
4. The Director General shall cause true and accurate accounts to be kept of all monies received and expended by IUCN and shall be responsible for the control of all such income and expenditure in accordance with the budget.

5. The accounts of IUCN shall be examined each year by the auditors appointed by the General Assembly who will submit a written report to the Council. The Council shall examine the auditors' report and make recommendations thereon to the members. The auditors shall submit to each ordinary session of the General Assembly a consolidated report on the accounts of IUCN for the triennium.

6. The Director General shall have the power to accept grants, donations and other payments on behalf of IUCN, subject to any instruction by the Council.

Article XI

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

The Director General, with the agreement of the Council, may establish in the name of IUCN, appropriate working relations with governments and organizations, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental and shall report such actions to the members and to the following General Assembly.

Article XII

BULLETIN

An information bulletin shall be published periodically in the official languages of IUCN and circulated to all members. It shall serve as a means of providing the members with information on the activities of IUCN and on other aspects of the conservation of nature and natural resources. It shall be used as a means of promoting the objects of IUCN.

Article XIII

SEAT

Switzerland is the seat of the Union.
Re Article XI

Appropriate working relations with governments and organizations maintained by IUCN shall be defined in written agreements.
Article XIV

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

The official languages of IUCN are English and French.

Article XV

LEGAL STATUS

1. IUCN is an association established pursuant to Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code, and therefore the legally binding provisions of this Code governing associations apply to IUCN and in particular Articles 65 (3), 68, 75 and 77.

2. The Director General with the consent of the Council has the authority to take the appropriate steps to obtain, in accordance with the laws of the country in which IUCN is to undertake activities, such legal status as may be necessary to carry out those activities.

Article XVI

REGULATIONS

1. The Council shall adopt and may amend the Regulations. The Regulations shall conform to these Statutes, and neither limit nor expand the powers of the members to exercise control on any matter required by these Statutes or the authority conferred by these Statutes upon the Council or Director General.

2. Any regulation or amendment to a regulation shall be communicated to the members as soon as possible after it is made.

3. A member may ask the Council to review a regulation. A regulation shall be considered by the General Assembly at the request of a voting member.
Re Article XVI, para. 3

When such a request is addressed to the Council or to the General Assembly, it shall be considered at the next meeting of these bodies.
Article XVII

AMENDMENTS

1. The Council shall consider any amendment to these Statutes proposed by a member of IUCN, provided that it is received by the Secretariat not less than thirty days prior to the regular meeting of the Council in the year preceding an ordinary or extraordinary session of the General Assembly. The member proposing such amendment shall be notified of the Council's decision. In the case of a favourable decision by the Council, the procedure prescribed in paragraph 2 below shall apply.

2. The Council may propose amendments to these Statutes. Such proposals shall be communicated to the members of IUCN by the Director General not less than four months prior to an ordinary or extraordinary session of the General Assembly.

3. The Director General shall communicate to the members any amendments to these Statutes proposed in a request subscribed to by three members in Category A or twenty members in Category B, provided that such a proposal is received not less than six months prior to an ordinary or extraordinary session of the General Assembly. Such communication shall include the explanations of the authors of the proposal and any comments of the Council.

4. Amendments proposed in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 above shall be considered by the General Assembly and shall become effective immediately upon receiving a two-thirds majority vote in each category at a General Assembly.

5. Whenever the Statutes of IUCN are amended, and the functions of various existing organs of IUCN are affected, the existing organs shall carry out the new duties under the amended Statutes during any transition period occasioned by the amendments.

Article XVIII

DISSOLUTION

1. The General Assembly may only resolve on the dissolution of IUCN on the basis of a written motion to be sent to all the members at least three months before the submission of the resolution to the General Assembly. Adoption of this resolution requires a majority of three-quarters of all the members in Categories A and B.

2. Upon dissolution the assets of IUCN shall be given to World Wildlife Fund.
Re Article XVII, para. 3

Such a proposal, together with the explanations of the authors and any comments of the Council, shall be communicated to the members of IUCN by the Director General not less than four months prior to the ordinary or extraordinary session of the General Assembly concerned.

Re Article XVII, para. 5

The existing organs shall take all measures within their power to speed up the process of transition and shall ensure that the transition period is kept to a minimum.

Re Article XVIII, para. 1

The written motion may be submitted by any organ of IUCN as listed in Article III of the Statutes or by a voting member.
Article XIX

INTERPRETATION

The English and French versions of these Statutes shall be equally authentic.
List of States by region, as defined in Article VI, para. 2 of the Statutes

AFRICA

Algeria
Angola
Benin
Botswana
Burundi
Cape Verde
Central African Republique
Chad
Comoros
Congo
Djibouti
Egypt
Equatorial Guinea
Ethiopia
Gabon
Gambia
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Ivory Coast
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritania
Mauritius
Morocco
Mozambique
Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
Sudan
Swaziland
Togo
Tunisia
Uganda
United Republic of Cameroon
United Republic of Tanzania
Upper Volta
Zaire
Zambia
Zimbabwe

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Ecuador
El Salvador
Guatemala
Guyana
Honduras
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Surinam
Uruguay
Venezuela

NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Bahamas
Barbados
Canada
Cuba
Dominican Republic
Grenada
Haiti
Jamaica
Trinidad and Tobago
United States of America

Annex to Regulations
EAST ASIA

Bangladesh
Bhutan
Burma
China
Democratic Kampuchea
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
India
Indonesia
Japan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Malaysia
Maldives
Mongolia
Nepal
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Viet Nam

WEST ASIA

Afghanistan
Bahrain
Democratic Yemen
Iran
Iraq
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Oman
Pakistan
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Syrian Arab Republic
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

AUSTRALIA AND OCEANIA

Australia
Fiji
Nauru
New Zealand
Papua New Guinea
Samoa
Tonga

EAST EUROPE

Albania
Bulgaria
Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic
Czechoslovakia
German Democratic Republic
Hungary
Poland
Romania
Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Yugoslavia

WEST EUROPE

Austria
Belgium
Cyprus
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany, Federal Republic of
Greece
Holy See
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Liechtenstein
Luxembourg
Malta
Monaco
Netherlands
Norway
Portugal
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