



M O T I O N S

The World Conservation Congress
Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004



IUCN

The World Conservation Union
People and Nature - only one world
World Conservation Congress
Bangkok 17-25 November 2004

IUCN – The World Conservation Union

**World
Conservation
Congress**

Motions

17-25 November 2004
Bangkok, Thailand

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IUCN – THE WORLD CONSERVATION UNION
THE WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS
17-25 November 2004, Bangkok, Thailand

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FOREWORD

The Resolutions Working Group wishes to express its gratitude to the vast majority of sponsors that have sent their motions by the recommended deadline of 20th July. This has largely facilitated the technical review.

Motions received later, until the present statutory deadline of 20th August, have also been accepted and processed.

The Resolutions Working Group also wishes to thank the Secretariat for the very high quality of the technical review of motions, accomplished in a very limited time period.

Interactions on motions up to Congress

The Resolutions Working Group strongly suggests that members take advantage of the period up to Congress to study the motions in depth and start to exchange their views.

When possible and opportune, reactions should also be sent to the RWG (address below). This would help the Group to identify the motions which meet wide acceptance as well as the controversial issues and contribute to a better organization of the debates in the contact groups and in the plenary sessions.

Principles applied for the review of motions

When reviewing the motions received, the Resolutions Working Group applied a number of technical and editorial principles to the text, amending the text where appropriate:

1. Resolutions and Recommendations

Motions have been considered as Resolutions and Recommendations as follows:

- (a) If the motion requests action (i.e. promote, support, etc.) from the Director General or Commissions it has been treated as a resolution;
- (b) If the requested action is to call for or convey a recommended action to institutions outside of the IUCN components, the Resolutions Working Group has deemed that it should be treated as a recommendation;
- (c) Motions calling for the two types of actions have been treated in general as resolutions.

2. Preambular and operative paragraphs

Paragraphs which focus on congratulating or otherwise recognising existing actions have been moved into the preambular section of the motion. **Paragraphs providing background to the policy statements proposed in the operant part were also moved to the preamble.**

3. Endorsement or adoption of other documents

Motions should not seek to endorse or adopt documents that have not been debated by the Congress. Therefore, calls for “endorsement” of a document or declaration which is not existing IUCN policy have been rephrased as “noting” this external policy; if the intent of the sponsors is for such external policy to be adopted by the Congress, then the full document would have to be debated by the members first, which is not feasible in most cases.

4. Programmatic actions

All requests for programmatic action should be directed to the Director General and/or one or more Commissions rather than to specific component programmes or the “Secretariat”.

5. IUCN as a whole

Where the final text of a motion addresses “IUCN” without further specification, this should be understood to address all components of IUCN, i.e. Secretariat, Commissions and members.

6. Support for implementation

The Director General should not be specifically called upon to support implementation and fundraise for the actions included in the motion as this is a programme matter; such motions will be referred to the Congress Programme Committee to review in conjunction with the Resolutions Committee.

7. Reporting

Motions should not request the Director General or the Commissions to report to the World Conservation Congress on the implementation of proposed actions as this is a standard operational practice for all resolutions and recommendations approved by the Congress. Where such specific reporting was requested, this request has been deleted. Where motions asked members to report, these requests have been removed, as there is no proper process within IUCN for members to report to Congress

8. Reference to the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress

Motions referring to the outputs of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (WPC) should specify that the Durban Action Plan and Recommendations were “*noted*” by the WPC (and not adopted) and that the Durban Accord and the WPC Message to the Convention on Biological Diversity were “*adopted*” by the WPC.

The breakdown of the total number of draft motions received and how they were treated is summarised in the table below. As a result of the RWG review, 114 motions are forwarded to members for consideration by the 3rd World Conservation Congress. To facilitate consideration of the different motions, they have been clustered, first in relation to the broad categories (resolutions on governance, on policy, on programme; and recommendations on policy, on sites, and on species) and within each category according to topic. Each motion is presented in a standard format, followed by the list of sponsors and then by the RWG comments in italics. Where members have provided Explanatory Memoranda, they are inserted after the RWG comments.

Total number of motions received by the statutory deadline	127
Number of motions not accepted for lack of sufficient sponsorship	4
Number of motions not accepted because of redundancy	2
Number of motions not accepted for other statutory reasons	2
Number of motions consolidated with other motions	5
Total number of motions forwarded to the Congress	114

Standing of sponsors and co-sponsors

The RWG has applied with flexibility Article 49 of the Statutes. A small number of motions from members with dues in arrears have been accepted, on the understanding that their status would be regularised by the time of Congress. However, if this is not the case, and if members are not recognised by the Credentials Committee, there will be little other option than to consider the motions which no longer have the three sponsors in good standing required by the Statutes, as invalid.

Amendments to motions

Once motions have been approved by the RWG for submission to members, revised texts were no longer accepted. Members are invited to submit corrections or amendments according to the detailed rules below. Please note that the Explanatory Memoranda provided by sponsors of motions do not form part of the motion and are not translated as provided in the IUCN Statutes. They are reproduced in the language in which they were submitted.

Correction of factual errors, spelling mistakes or translation problems should be sent in writing to the RGW at the following address:

resolutions@iucn.org

Or via post or fax to:

Resolutions Management Team
IUCN–The World Conservation Union
28, Rue Mauverney
1196 Gland
Switzerland
Fax: +41 22 999 0010

Amendments of substance can be proposed by delegates at the Congress

- by submitting proposed amendments to the Resolutions Committee, which shall be considered by the Resolutions Committee and/or in scheduled *ad hoc* contact group sessions prior to finalizing revised text;
- through ad hoc contact groups, scheduled by the Resolutions Committee directly or on behalf of the Programme Committee or Governance Committee on a series of motions which would benefit from discussions before being addressed in plenary sessions; and
- by moving brief amendments to text when a motion is being considered for adoption in scheduled plenary sessions.

The RWG and the Secretariat stand ready to answer queries and requests for factual information on the motions.

Enquiries and general communications

If you have questions on the motions or suggestions for amendments (which will still have to be formally submitted at Congress), please contact resolutions@iucn.org

Processing of motions at Congress

A detailed description on how motions will be processed at Congress will be posted on the website in September, as part II of the Motions Manual.

The Resolutions Working Group

Pierre Hunkeler (Chair)
Aroha Mead (Vice-Chair)

Purificació Canals
George Greene
Isaac Malasha
Christine Milne
Gabriel Robles

CGR3.RES001
**Precedence clause - Establishing
precedence in regard to IUCN general
policy**

NOTING that IUCN was established in 1948 and subsequently its members have convened 19 sessions of the General Assembly and three sessions of the World Conservation Congress;

NOTING ALSO that in total 788 Resolutions and Recommendations have been adopted by the members at these sessions of the General Assembly and the World Conservation Congress;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the World Conservation Congress, and by implication the predecessor General Assemblies, represent the highest organ of IUCN as set forth in Article 18 of the Statutes, and as such have the responsibility "...to define the general policy of IUCN...", as set forth in Article 20(a) of the Statutes;

THEREFORE NOTING that the World Conservation Congress is the general policy-setting body within the Union;

NOTING FURTHER that the role of IUCN's Council as provided for by Article 46(a) of the Statutes is to give rulings on policy and to determine complementary policy guidelines within the general policy of IUCN as adopted by the World Conservation Congresses;

NOTING ALSO that the Director General is responsible for implementation of policy and the programme of IUCN as established by the World Congress and the Council according to Article 79(b) of the Statutes and that he/she is authorized to issue statements in the name of IUCN according to Article 79(e) of the Statutes;

RECOGNISING that through the succession of General Assemblies and World Conservation Congresses, there are several instances in which Resolutions or Recommendations are inconsistent, and even contradictory on particular issues;

RECOGNISING FURTHER that there has been no mechanism to rescind previously adopted Resolutions or Recommendations that were inconsistent with positions subsequently adopted at a General Assembly or World Conservation Congress; and

ACKNOWLEDGING THEREFORE the need to provide clarity to Council and the Director General in their roles, as well as the members, in interpreting IUCN policy in those instances where

the body of adopted Resolutions or Recommendation are contradictory on an issue;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. AGREES that in those cases where Resolutions or Recommendations are clearly inconsistent on an issue, the most recent Resolution or Recommendation be accepted as providing the basis for interpretation of IUCN policy on the matter;
2. CALLS on the IUCN Council and the Director General, and the components of the Union, to adopt this approach in interpreting IUCN's policy position on matters; and
3. ENCOURAGES, to the extent practicable, sponsors of all motions submitted for consideration at the World Conservation Congress to expressly provide for the rescission of previously adopted Resolutions or Recommendations that are inconsistent with the motion forwarded for consideration.

Sponsor:

IUCN Council

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is forwarded by Council to clarify the policy implications of previously adopted Resolutions and Recommendations. It is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES002
**Improving the transparency of the
IUCN Council**

RECOGNISING that the IUCN Council is elected by the members at each World Conservation Congress and that the Council is subject to the authority of the World Congress [Statutes, Paragraph 37];

FURTHER RECOGNISING that Paragraph 37 of the IUCN Statutes also states "Subject to the authority of the World Congress, the Council shall have responsibility for the oversight and general control of all the affairs of IUCN";

NOTING that Paragraph 58 of the IUCN Statutes states, "The work of the Council shall be conducted with transparency. The minutes shall be available to the members of IUCN and a report on decisions shall be communicated to them";

ALSO NOTING that Paragraph 50 of the Regulations states only that, "Notice of ordinary meetings of the Council, with draft agenda, shall be circulated to those entitled to be present at least forty-five days in advance of the meeting";

CONCERNED that the work of the Council, including draft agendas, materials and recommendations prepared by the Secretariat, reports of decisions, and minutes are not routinely available and are not posted on the IUCN website after each meeting;

ALSO CONCERNED that the provisions of Paragraph 52 of the regulations that allow the Secretariat unspecified time to distribute the initial draft minutes of a meeting and then allow another 40 days for comment from members of the Council creates inordinate delays in any availability of the minutes to members, Working Groups, etc. and are inconsistent with current electronic communication capabilities;

DISTRESSED that examples exist of legitimate formal requests from concerned members for information about Secretariat recommendations or Council decisions being denied; and

CONCLUDING that in its oversight and general control of the affairs of IUCN, the work of the IUCN Council is not, in actual practice, transparent to the members of IUCN, to which it is responsible, in conflict with Paragraph 58 of the Statutes;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REGOGNISES the importance of fostering greater transparency of Council deliberations and decisions; and
2. CALLS UPON Council to amend the Regulations of IUCN's Statutes to accommodate greater transparency, including, but not limited to – through the action items listed below:

Pursuant to Paragraph 58 of the Statutes, in order to assure transparency in the work of the Council,

- (a) A specific section of the IUCN website shall be devoted to reporting the work of the Council including the following:
 - (i) The announcement and draft agenda of Council meetings, posted at the same time they are circulated pursuant to Paragraph 50 of IUCN's Regulations;

- (ii) The texts of the decisions made at each Council meeting, posted in all the official languages of IUCN no later than 15 working days following the conclusion of the meeting, provided, however, if the exact wording of a decision is under review, pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 50 of IUCN's Regulations, only the subject of the decision may be posted until the wording is resolved;

- (iii) The minutes of each Council meeting, posted in all the official languages of IUCN within 15 working days of the date they become final as specified in Paragraph 50 of IUCN's Regulations;

- (iv) The texts of decisions of the Bureau, posted in all the official languages of IUCN within 15 working days of the date they become effective as specified in Paragraph 58 of IUCN's Regulations.

- (b) Upon posting to the IUCN website of any of the items described in paragraph (a), subparagraphs (1)-(4), the Secretariat shall within 24 hours inform by e-mail all members who have provided contact e-mail addresses of such posting.

- (c) Upon request from a member organization of IUCN to the Director General, the items described in paragraph (a), subparagraphs (1)-(4), shall be sent on a regular basis by mail or in electronic form to a designated representative of the organization.

- (d) Upon request in writing or by electronic transmission to the Director General from a representative of a member organization, Commission or Working Group with a legitimate interest in the subject of a specific Council decision, the text of the decision shall be provided as soon as there is reasonable assurance the text will be confirmed by the procedures described in Paragraph 52 of IUCN's Regulations.

- (e) Upon request in writing or by electronic transmission to the Director General from a representative of a member organization, Commission or Working Group, background materials prepared for the Council by the Secretariat shall be provided either in advance of or following the Council meeting.

- (f) Except for the text of the final decision, the above provisions do not apply to specifically designated confidential materials or discussions in closed meetings.

Paragraph 49 of the Regulations is amended to read as follows (added words are underlined):

49. International organizations with which IUCN has formal working relations, may send up to two representatives to meetings of the Council. Any Nongovernmental, State, or Agency Member of IUCN may designate one representative to attend, at its own expense, any meeting of the Council; provided such designation is received by the President, through the office of the Director General, at least 10 working days in advance of the meeting. Such observers shall have the right to speak. The Council may establish procedures, including provision for closed circuit conferencing, for equitable access across the IUCN regions and classes of membership in case there are more requests to attend than meeting space permits.

Paragraph 52 of the Regulations is amended to read as follows (deleted words are in ~~[brackets and lined through]~~ and added words are underlined):

52. Summary minutes of each meeting of the Council, including written questions, shall be prepared by the Director General and submitted to the members of the Council ~~[as soon as possible after]~~ within 15 working days of adjournment of the meeting. Participants in the 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 ~~[forty]~~ fifteen working days 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 decision by mail ballot or, at the discretion of the President, brought forward for consideration at the next meeting of the Council. If an objection is made to the wording of a decision, this shall not become effective until so confirmed. Such objection and delay in confirmation shall apply only to the specific decision and section of the minutes dealing with that issue and shall not delay publication of the decisions and minutes unrelated to this issue as provided in Paragraph {new} of these regulations.

Sponsors:

Sierra Club, USA
California Institute of Public Affairs, USA
Ecological Society of the Philippines, Philippines
Cenesta, Iran

Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association),
Lebanon

RWG COMMENT:

In its original form this motion amended IUCN's Regulations. Pursuant to Article 101 of the IUCN Statutes, only Council has the authority to amend IUCN's Regulations. Therefore RWG has amended this motion to meet that requirement.

RWG notes that regional representation and voice at Council is a key governance issue which the Governance Committee at Congress and future governance work of Council should address. Transparency and rapidity of Council reporting is also a key issue which has arisen during the past intersessional period in particular in relation to relations with extractive industries and in the work of the Governance Taskforce.

This motion is referred to the Governance Committee.

CGR3.RES003

Broadening the criteria for membership admission in the NGO category

WHEREAS the articulation of IUCN's Goal and Mission clearly place conservation in the wider context of development, equity and justice;

WHEREAS fifty years of experience have conclusively demonstrated that conservation challenges cannot successfully be addressed with conservation tools alone;

RECALLING that success in conservation requires synergy between conservation actors and key actors in other fields;

CONSCIOUS of the risk in any overly homogenous community of tending to look inward and becoming trapped in mutually-reinforcing arguments;

RECOGNISING therefore the need to bring other key players into the Union from the fields of economic policy, development and social justice, to influence them with IUCN's vision and thinking and in turn to be influenced by them; and

NOTING with concern that the current Statutes discriminate in favour of States and against other categories of members by requiring non-State members to prove their conservation credentials;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

AGREES that, in applying Article 7 (c) of the Statutes¹, IUCN shall deem the term “conservation of nature and natural resources” to include the principal causes of biodiversity loss, and action to address these causes.

Sponsors:

International Institute for Sustainable Development, Canada
Shirkat Gah, Pakistan
Cenesta, Iran

RWG COMMENT:

This motion confirms existing practice as reflected in IUCN’s Membership Policy Guidelines which provide broad standards for assessing new membership applications in the context of Article 7 (c) of the Statutes, which state (pages 4-5):

“‘Activity’ can take many forms, including field action, community involvement, research in the natural and social sciences, policy development and advocacy, legal activities, education and public awareness, and fundraising where these are for purposes in line with the mission of IUCN. While determining the relative importance of an activity is necessarily to some extent subjective, it is here considered that ‘substantial’ can be assessed in terms of the applicant’s programme and projects, resource allocations, organizational structures and outputs.”

This motion is referred to the Governance Committee.

CGR3.RES004

The involvement of local and regional government authorities within IUCN

CONSIDERING that, in many countries, the transfer of competences in the field of the environment and nature conservation has been, or shall be, made in part to the benefit of local and regional government authorities;

CONSIDERING FURTHER that local and regional government authorities conduct or support

¹ Article 7 (c) reads: “The applicant has as one of its central purposes the achievement of IUCN’s mission and a substantial record of activity in the conservation of nature and natural resources”.

many nature conservation activities and that they must be encouraged to pursue this course of action;

NOTING that many authorities have committed themselves more widely to sustainable development (e.g., local Agenda 21, participation in the World Summit on Sustainable Development, decentralized cooperation activities);

CONSIDERING that, in their capacity as the administrative level closest to citizens, local and regional government authorities play an important role in encouraging society as a whole to protect the environment;

NOTING that IUCN brings together States, governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations on the issue of nature conservation, but does not include local and regional government authorities as members;

HIGHLIGHTING the conclusions of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, requesting improved administration and greater involvement of local communities for protected areas;

CONSIDERING that IUCN must bring together all potential parties in conservation and encourage all nature conservation policies, particularly those implemented at the local level;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

CALLS UPON the Council to examine methods of involving and promoting representation of local and regional government authorities within IUCN, by considering the possibility of creating a new category of members within the Union.

Sponsors :

Conservatoire de l’espace littoral et des rivages lacustres, France
Association des Amis de la Forêt de Fontainebleau, France

Association des Naturalistes de la Vallée du Loing (ANVL), France

Association Française des Ingénieurs Ecologues, France

Association pour la Sauvegarde de la Nature Néo-Calédonienne (ASNNC), France

Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), France

Club Alpin Français, France

Eurosite, France

Fédération des Parcs Naturels Régionaux de France, France
Fédération Française des Sociétés de Sciences Naturelles (FFSN), France
Fondation Internationale pour la Sauvegarde de la Faune, France
Fondation Nicolas Hulot pour la Nature et l'Homme, France
Fondation Sansouire, France
France Nature Environnement (FNE), France
Ligue pour la préservation de la faune sauvage et la défense des non chasseurs, France
Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, France
Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, France
Office National des Forêts (ONF), France
Oiseaux Migrateurs du Paléarctique Occidental (OMPO), France
Réserves Naturelles de France, France
Société Européenne des Réalisateur de l'Environnement (SERE), France
WWF France - Fonds Mondial pour la Nature, France

RWG COMMENT:

This is a recurring issue, still under consideration by the Governance Task Force of Council, which has decided not to recommend a change in Statutes at this stage to accommodate this category of members. Motions to amend the Statutes to include a membership category for local administrations have been rejected at two General Assemblies. It should be noted that environment agencies of local government bodies are eligible for membership under the government agency category.

This motion is referred to the Governance Committee.

CGR3.RES005

Including local IUCN members in the Union delegation at multilateral agreement meetings

CONSIDERING that the World Conservation Union actively participates in the meetings of the Contracting Parties of various international agreements, treaties and conventions (Antarctic Treaty; Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage; Convention on Wetlands; UN Convention to Combat Desertification; Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer; International Whaling Commission; Convention for the Conservation and Management of the Vicuna; Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora; Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species;

Convention on Biological Diversity; Convention on Climate Change, among others);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the meetings of the Parties are held in different countries and continents in turn;

OBSERVING WITH APPROVAL that there are Union members in practically all countries in the world, playing an active role in the areas relating to multilateral agreements;

REMEMBERING the problems arising on several occasions when meetings of Contracting Parties have been held in the home countries of certain IUCN members, where the Union has been in official attendance at these meetings, but where the members from those countries have not been able to attend (due to high registration fees for non-governmental organizations or to highly restrictive pre-registration procedures) and this is also the case for IUCN National Committees, some of which, furthermore, are without legal status;

REMEMBERING LIKEWISE that on other occasions the official IUCN delegation has participated but has not made contact or cooperated with the Union members who were also in attendance at the same event, sometimes taking opposed stances on subjects of local relevance;

ESTABLISHING IRREFUTABLY that IUCN is, and is made up of, its members, and that the Director General and the Secretariat, the Commissions, the Council and the Regional Committees are subsidiary organs created by said members for better governance of IUCN; and

REITERATING that only those who are up to date with payment of their membership fees are active members;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. RECOMMENDS the Director General as of this Congress, for all meetings of the Contracted Parties officially attended by IUCN, to invite the active non-governmental members from the country hosting the meeting, at least 60 (sixty) days prior to the beginning of the event, to form part of the official delegation;
2. REQUESTS every active IUCN member organization to nominate one (1) single representative to form part of the official IUCN delegation, and that this nominee be

obliged to remain in attendance for the whole duration of the meeting, and cooperate with the rest of the delegation, and that the nominee must be highly familiar with the main subjects dealt with in the relevant multilateral agreement. For those countries with National Committees, the invitation will also be extended to those of authority in the committee, complying as well with the abovementioned requirements;

3. REQUESTS the Director General, as an obligation, to communicate the IUCN stance, with appropriate notice, to the local non-governmental organizations who are active IUCN members, so that they may in turn state their views in the event of any disagreement; and
4. RECOMMENDS that the Director General on the occasion of the Tenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to be held in Buenos Aires, 6-17 December 2004, to invite the active IUCN members from Argentina and the National Committee to form part of the official delegation in accordance with the abovementioned conditions.

Sponsors:

Fundación RIE - Red Informática Ecologista,
Argentina
Fundación para la Conservación de las Especies y
el Medio Ambiente, Argentina
Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales,
Argentina

RWG COMMENT:

This motion calls for actions that cannot be accommodated in view of the constraints of IUCN's representations at formal meetings. The motion is referred to the Governance Committee to revise, taking into account the following guidelines:

1. *The Secretariat can only work through national committees.*
2. *There would be a limit of one delegate from the country in which the meeting is being held.*
3. *The process would be restricted to main meetings.*
4. *There can be no prescribed deadline for issuing the invitation.*
5. *All delegation members are required to conform to rules of the meeting convening authority.*

6. *The invited person would have observer status on the delegation and be subject to rules of IUCN delegations.*

Memorando explicativo:

Idea de la moción: el objetivo prioritario de esta moción es la participación activa de los miembros (con voz y voto, o sea con las cuotas al día) en las reuniones de las Partes Contratantes en los acuerdos multilaterales (por ejemplo, en la próxima COP de CITES a realizarse en Bangkok durante el mes de octubre).

Consideramos que los miembros de UICN de Tailandia deberían participar de dicho evento trabajando CONJUNTAMENTE con la UICN (su representación) que allí estará con seguridad. Otro tanto acontecerá en la reunión de Cambio Climático que se llevará cabo en Buenos Aires en diciembre del 2004 o en Uganda el próximo año para la COP de Ramsar.

En todos los casos como miembros ACTIVOS de la UICN consideramos que las entidades tailandesas que así lo soliciten deben ser parte integrante de la delegación de la UICN frente a CITES, los miembros argentinos en las reunión de la COP 10 de Cambio Climático y las organizaciones ugandeses en la de Ramsar.

Para que la participación e intervención ESTÉ COORDINADA son necesarios dos trabajos, que involucran responsabilidades, una por parte de los miembros de la UICN de cada país y otro de la representación de la UICN ante estas reuniones, para evitar esos roces (contradicciones) tan contraproducentes que personalmente hemos comprobado que existen.

Hay que presentar frentes comunes como una política de integración dentro de la UICN: UNA UNIDAD para ser más operativos, para ello, la UICN (su Secretariado o la oficina Regional) debe informar a los miembros del país donde concurrirá, que efectivamente allí estará la UICN como entidad presente, y a su vez, los miembros UICN de ese país, informar de que van a participar como observadores, o que tienen interés en participar, pero que problemas presupuestarios y en muchos casos políticos (porque el país no les da el aval de observador), tienen problemas para actuar, y es allí donde se pretende que la Secretaría de la UICN actúe, apoyando y dando cobijo dentro de su representación a los miembros locales.

Por experiencia como representante de una entidad no gubernamental que estuvo como observador tanto en CITES como en Ramsar y que es miembro de varios grupos de trabajo de otras

Convenciones, es que presentamos esta moción: no queremos seguir discutiendo discrepancias DURANTE las reuniones con MIS REPRESENTANTES DE LA UICN, cuando las mismas pueden salvarse previamente y/o dentro de la oficina que tiene la UICN en cada COP. Unidos seremos más fuertes. Y la UICN, su secretariado, debe reconocer que en muchos casos las entidades LOCALES SABEMOS MUCHO MÁS Y MEJOR que las comisiones que asesoran a la Unión de lo que está pasando con especies, sitios u otros lugares de nuestros propios países y regiones. Allí reside nuestro potencial y nuestra idoneidad de ONG local: conocer de primera mano los problemas locales y las políticas de los gobiernos de la región.

PD: esta es una idea que surgió en Harare, CITES 1997, cuando la UICN como organización fue desacreditada por las Partes Contratantes durante la COP. Allí varias ONG que estábamos en calidad de observador y además éramos miembro de la UICN, nos dimos cuenta del desfase que existía entre las opiniones y posiciones de nuestras organizaciones locales y la entidad que supuestamente nos debería representar (LA UICN) en esta temática.

CGR3.RES006

Fulfilling the right to optional use of the official languages in the internal and external communication documents of IUCN and its members

REMEMBERING that Section XVI – Official Languages of the IUCN Statutes, Article 100, states: “*The official languages of IUCN shall be English, French and Spanish*”;

CONSIDERING that the achievement of IUCN objectives, as established in Section II – Objectives of its Statutes, requires a constant stream of dialogue and exchange of knowledge between members of the organization and between these members and their different social frameworks for action;

WARNING that levels of effectiveness of this vital intercommunication are currently reduced due to the existence of language barriers within IUCN, a problem which could be easily overcome and which slows down the organic functioning process of the organization; and

RECOGNISING that the current consideration of English as the *lingua franca* of international relations must not lead to the unintentional

alienation of the French and Spanish speaking communities;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. RECOMMENDS members of IUCN to ensure the fulfilment of the right to optional use of any of the official languages at international meetings of IUCN, and also to promote the translation of internal and external documentation of a general nature into these languages; and
2. URGES members of the organization to issue their documentation, in so far as is possible, in the three official languages of IUCN – French, English and Spanish – when it is directed to areas in which a different language from their own is spoken.

Sponsors:

Asociación Española de Entomología, Spain
Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestre, Costa Rica
Jardín Botánico de Córdoba, Spain
MEDITERRANIA - Centre d'Iniciatives Ecològiques, Spain
Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre, Spain

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES007

Implementation of an IUCN programme for the Insular Caribbean

CONSIDERING that the Insular Caribbean is an ecologically coherent unit, clearly identified and differentiated from the surrounding regions;

CONSIDERING also that the insular Caribbean has been identified as one of the four hot spots of global biodiversity, containing 11% of the coral reefs and marked terrestrial endemism;

CONCERNED about threats existing throughout the region, such as the destruction of habitat, sedimentation, overfishing, invasive species, among others, which are causing an alarming loss of biodiversity;

RECALLING the role played by Caribbean members in the history of the Union, as well as the region's permanent interest in IUCN;

AWARE that at its 19th Session, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, the General Assembly of IUCN already recognised through Resolution 19.14, *The IUCN in the Caribbean*, the seriousness of the situation facing marine, coastal and island ecosystems in the Caribbean, and stressed the need for action by IUCN in the region;

AWARE that the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention, 1983) provides the legal framework for conservation and sustainable development of the region, along with the Protocol to the Convention Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) that entered into force in the year 2000;

CONSIDERING that examples of management schemes exist in the region whose sustainable practices can contribute to development of the global system of IUCN;

NOTING that the Marine and Caribbean programmes of the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) can be strengthened by an increased collaboration and coordination of regional and international members and partners, including the Caribbean Environment Programme (CEP) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), The Nature Conservancy and others;

AWARE of the need to promote and disseminate the most recent achievements attained through the following programs and initiatives:

- Socioeconomic Monitoring of Protected Areas (SocMon) of the World Commission on Protected Areas
- The Regional Plan for Strengthening of Marine Reserves in the Caribbean, to direct marine reserves as a tool for the conservation of biodiversity
- the Network and Forum of Wider Caribbean Marine Protected Areas Management (CaMPAM)
- the identification and nomination process of World Heritage Sites
- the cooperation within the WCPA Caribbean Programme and its potential role in the implementation of the Protocol to the Cartagena Convention Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW);

CONSIDERING that there are many local and regional non-governmental and governmental organizations and universities working to improve and protect the Caribbean basin through networks that carry out effective work;

CONSIDERING MOREOVER the interest expressed by the UNEP Caribbean Environmental Programme and member organizations of the region to host IUCN professionals, with the aim of supporting the implementation of an IUCN programme for the Caribbean; and taking into account that donor agencies have expressed their interest in financing this programme;

CONSIDERING that the Spanish-speaking Caribbean members are currently incorporated in the Mesoamerican region and the rest in the North American region;

CONSIDERING that members of the insular Caribbean and other members support the creation of a structure or program of IUCN that would strengthen its role in every sense in the insular Caribbean; and

NOTING that IUCN does not have a presence at the Secretariat level in the Insular Caribbean subregion and that there is no IUCN program that focuses on the same;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) promote a greater strengthening of IUCN's presence in the Insular Caribbean, including the development of an integral regional programme and the appointment of at least one IUCN regional official for the Insular Caribbean;
- (b) promote a better coordination of the activities of IUCN in the region and increase the collaboration with interested members from the region and international members.

Sponsors:

Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente (CITMA), Cuba
Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA), Mexico
Fondo para la Biodiversidad (CONABIO), Mexico
Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico
Instituto Mexicano de Recursos Naturales Renovables (IMERNAR), Mexico
Fundación Mexicana para la Educación Ambiental (FUNDEA), Mexico
PG7 Consultores, SC Faunam A.C., Mexico
Voluntarios para la Asistencia Técnica de Honduras (VITA), Honduras
Fundación "Vida", Honduras

Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN), Guatemala
 Instituto de Medio Ambiente y Comunidades Humanas, Universidad de Guadalajara (IMACH), Mexico
 Agencia para el Desarrollo de la Mosquitia (MOPAWI), Honduras
 Instituto para el Desarrollo Sustentable en Mesoamérica, AC. (IDESMAC), Mexico
 Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda I.A.P., Mexico
 Fundación de Mujeres de San Miguelito (FUMSAMI), Nicaragua
 Universidad del Norte de Nicaragua (UNN), Nicaragua
 Asociación Club Jóvenes Ambientalistas (ACJA), Nicaragua
 Asociación de Cooperación Rural en África y América Latina (ACRA), Nicaragua
 Asociación Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño (CEASPA), Panama
 Sociedad Audubon de Panamá (SAP), Panama
 Fundación Smithsonian de Panamá (FSP), Panama
 Centro de Estudios para el Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo (CEMAD), Panama
 Fundación para el Mejoramiento Humano (PROGRESSIO), Dominican Republic
 Fundación de Defensa del Medio Ambiente Baja Verapaz (FUNDEMABV), Guatemala
 Centro para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía Samaná y Entorno (CEBSE), Dominican Republic
 Centro de Protección para Desastres (CEPRODE), El Salvador
 Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Centre, Belize
 Asociación para la Recuperación y el Saneamiento Ambiental (ARMSA), Guatemala
 Centro de Derecho Ambiental y de los Recursos Naturales (CEDARENA), Costa Rica
 Asociación de Organizaciones del Corredor Biológico Talamanca-Caribe (CBTC), Costa Rica
 Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestres (APREFLOFAS), Costa Rica
 Consejo de la Tierra, Costa Rica
 Fundación Acceso (ACCESO), Costa Rica
 Asociación Mesa Nacional Campesina (MNC), Costa Rica
 Asociación Ecológica de Paquera, Lepanto y Cóbano (ASEPALECO), Costa Rica
 Asociación de Voluntariado, Investigación y Desarrollo Ambiental (VIDA), Costa Rica
 Belize Audubon Society, Belize
 SalvaNatura, El Salvador
 Asociación Salvadoreña Pro-Salud Rural (ASAPROSAR), El Salvador
 Fundación Salvadoreña de Desarrollo y Humanismo Maquilishuatl (FUMA), El Salvador
 Fundación para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Comunal de El Salvador (CORDES), El Salvador

Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña (UNES), El Salvador
 Fundación Solar, Guatemala
 Asociación Amigos del Bosque, Guatemala
 Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre (ARCAS), Guatemala
 Centro Mesoamericano de Estudios sobre Tecnología Apropriada (CEMAT), Guatemala
 Defensores de la Naturaleza, Guatemala
 Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (FUNDAECO), Guatemala
 Sociedad Cubana para la Protección del Medio Ambiente (ProNaturaleza), Cuba

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to the Programme Committee to consider the programmatic and cost implications in the context of the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-08.

COSTS: If adopted as presented the full cost of opening a new regional office with staff would require CHF 500,000 plus an additional CHF 150,000 to cover initial one-off expenses, such as recruiting of staff, equipping the office, etc.

**CGR3.RES008
 The Mediterranean Mountain
 Convention**

NOTING that the mountain ranges of the Mediterranean cover about 1.7 million sq km of land, equivalent to 21 percent of the all countries' area, and are home to 66 million people, 16 percent of the area's total population;

CONSCIOUS of the fundamental role that mountain systems have played over centuries and play today in ensuring the resources necessary for the development of the coastal areas and their settlements;

RECOGNISING the direct influence that mountains have on plains and coastal urban areas, home to 60 to 80 percent of the population of the Mediterranean countries, particularly with regard to the stability of hydro-geological cycles and the quantity, quality and availability of water resources;

RECOGNISING that today the majority of clean freshwater, timber products and agricultural and livestock supplies to the coastal cities of Mediterranean Europe, Middle East and North Africa come from the mountains;

CONSIDERING that the Mediterranean biogeographic region is one of the world's richest

in terms of biodiversity and at the same time among the most threatened by desertification, climate change and other land transformation processes, and that the highest concentration of biodiversity and endemic species are in its mountain areas;

NOTING that many areas of high biodiversity value are located in the geographical context of the Mediterranean mountains, such as the many Important Bird Areas found on these mountains;

RECOGNISING that the rich biodiversity in the Mediterranean area is strictly connected to and largely the result of the landscape diversity resulting from the millenarian interaction between the environmental conditions and the human cultures and identities;

NOTING that the existing protected areas in the Mediterranean basin are mostly found in mountain areas;

CONSIDERING the diversified systems of protected areas that cover the Mediterranean mountains (Alps, Appennines, Littoral and pre-littoral Catalan Cordillera, Sierra Morena, Dinaric Alps, Atlas, Taurus, etc.) and that, if adequately coordinated and managed, they will promote sustainability of the vast territorial and environmental systems of which they are part;

CONSIDERING that the goal of conserving the biological diversity heritage and particularly that of the Mediterranean mountains is strictly linked to the strategies for local development and for the reinforcement of the landscape and cultural protection;

RECALLING chapter 13, "*Managing Fragile Ecosystems: Sustainable Mountain Development*", of *Agenda 21* of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992), inviting all the countries with mountains to strengthen the national capacity for sustainable development of the above and to prepare long term action plans for the mountains;

RECALLING Recommendation V.6 noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), "*Strengthening Mountain Protected Areas as a Key Contribution to Sustainable Mountain Development*";

RECALLING the *Convention for the protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution* adopted in Barcelona in 1976, and that mountain areas management policies can provide an important contribution to its implementation, tackling at the

origin the problems and criticalities of the river mouths, along the coast and at sea;

RECALLING the final documents of the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit and the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development, both held in 2002, which reinforce the calls to action and the definition of priority actions for sustainable development in mountain areas;

RECALLING the on-going conservation developments in the Mediterranean, some in the initial phase like the *Convention of the Pyrenees* and the *Convention of the Alps*, and other more mature "system projects" based on protected areas and covering:

- (a) the littoral and pre-littoral Catalan Cordillera;
- (b) the Sierra Morena in Andalusia; and
- (c) APE - Apennine Park of Europe (representing an advanced experiment involving one of the largest mountain systems of the European continent, the 5th for extension, 17 percent of which is covered by protected areas and up to 24 percent when considering also the Sites of Community Importance and Special Protection Areas);

RECALLING the *Declaration of Naples*¹, signed within the IUCN Members' Conference of the Mediterranean Countries held in June 2004, where IUCN and all the Mediterranean countries are requested to coordinate their actions aiming to promote strategic plans for the conservation of the most significant environmental systems of the Mediterranean, such as mountain areas, large watersheds, coastal marine systems, islands and the open sea;

NOTING the absence of specific environmental policies for the mountains of the Mediterranean, promoting the sustainable development of investments for the access to fundamental services (particularly education and health assistance), and for the creation of new employment opportunities based on the promotion of the heritage of natural, landscape and cultural resources; and

CONSIDERING the importance that the project the Mediterranean Mountain can have in promoting policies of cooperation and sharing responsibilities among national and regional institutions, and friendship and fraternity among communities and peoples still involved in national, cultural and religious conflicts;

¹http://www.iucn.org/places/medoffice/members%20meeting/Declaration_final_en.pdf

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS ON national, regional and local institutions to promote plans of action, even trans-national, for each of the major mountain ranges of the Mediterranean for the conservation and valorisation of their richness in biological, landscape and cultural diversity;
2. REQUESTS that the action plans:
 - (a) provide for a central and fundamental role of protected area institutions in focusing towards sustainability the environmental and territorial systems in which they are located;
 - (b) represent an opportunity for coordination, integration, implementation, application and experimentation of conventions, programmes and initiatives at national and international level aiming at the protection and fair management of the resources, landscape and commons of the Mediterranean mountains; and
 - (c) be institutionally recognised and included in a convention that represents the political and institutional instrument for the cooperation among national, regional and local institutions, stakeholders and protected area authorities;
3. URGES that the action plans represent the necessary common framework to help the local institutions and communities to be proactive in the promotion and realization of actions, therefore to be able to carry on integrated and coordinated territorial initiatives;
4. URGES that the different conventions, even though remaining specific and independent from one another, converge into the promotion of a wider Mediterranean Mountain Convention to be signed by the year 2005;
5. URGES that the Mediterranean Mountain Convention, as a strategic global framework for the conventions related to the mountain ranges of the region, be recognised as an initiative of international value at institutional, cultural and social level; and
6. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure IUCN promotes and facilitates among all relevant parties, the preparation of a draft for

discussion leading to approval of a Mediterranean Mountain Convention.

Sponsors:

Legambiente, Italy
Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli, Italy
Lliga per a la Defensa del Patrimoni Natural, Spain
Dipartimento Interateneo Territorio Politecnico e Università di Torino, Italy
Servei de Parcs Naturals Diputació de Barcelona, Spain
Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association), Lebanon

RWG COMMENT:

If adopted this motion would be substantially a Recommendation to stakeholders within Mediterranean countries. IUCN is called on to "promote and facilitate ... the preparation" of a draft Convention.

The motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group and subsequently to the Programme Committee to ensure that stakeholders from the region have an opportunity to comment and clarify the scope of IUCN's responsibilities.

CGR3.RES009

Ratification and implementation of the revised African Convention

RECALLING Resolution 16.10 (*Regional Conventions*) of the 16th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Madrid, 1984) and Recommendation 1.83 (*Forest Ecosystems of Africa*) of the 1st Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

NOTING the 1968 *African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Algiers Convention)* which was drafted with support by IUCN and at the time of its adoption was recognised as one of the most modern legal instruments for the conservation of the environment;

COMMENDING the Governments of Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Nigeria for their initiative to bring about the revision of the Convention;

FURTHER COMMENDING the Commission of the African Union (formerly the Organization of African Unity), the United Nations Environment Programme and IUCN for their endeavour to update the text of the 1968 African Convention in order to take into account recent developments in

the African environment and natural resources spheres, while bringing the Convention to the forefront of current multilateral environmental agreements; and

WELCOMING the decision of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union held at Maputo, Mozambique, 10-12 July 2003 to approve the revised 1968 African Convention;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES African States, as far as they have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the revised African Convention in order to bring it into force as early as possible;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) assist the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union to take all necessary measures to raise awareness and understanding of the revised Convention in order to facilitate its implementation; and
 - (b) transmit IUCN's readiness to answer the call of the African Union to collaborate with the Commission and Member States of the African Union to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention.

Sponsors:

International Council of Environmental Law,
Germany
Macquarie University Centre for Environmental
Law, Australia
Center for Environmental Legal Studies, USA
International Council for Game and Wildlife
Conservation, Hungary

RWG COMMENT:

The motion would be strengthened if linkages were included between the African Convention and the New Partnership for Africa's Development's (NEPAD) environmental action plan.

COSTS: The proposed actions would have low impact on the programme budget.

The motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to consider inclusion of a link with the NEPAD, and subsequently to the Programme Committee.

CGR3.RES010

Protecting the Earth's waters for public and ecological benefit

RECOGNISING that freshwater is fundamental for life and a finite natural resource which belongs to the earth and all species for all time;

AWARE that readily available freshwater represents less than one-half of one percent of the world's total water stock;

CONCERNED that many countries currently face severe water shortages;

ALARMED that unsustainable practices lead to depletion of aquifers, falling water tables, and pollution of ground and surface water;

AFFIRMING the customary rights of indigenous peoples and traditional communities over the control and management of their water resources;

TROUBLED, however, that indigenous peoples and traditional communities have had the waters on which they depend exceedingly polluted and exploited; and

GREATLY CONCERNED that global trade and investment agreements treat water as a commodity and contain rules that favour profit by transnational corporations over protection of the resource;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

CALLS ON the IUCN Director General and the Governmental and Nongovernmental members of IUCN to promote actions consistent with the following principles:

- (a) all water resources, including the oceans, must be protected as a public trust so that commercial use of water does not diminish the resource's public or ecological benefits;
- (b) access to clean, sufficient and affordable drinking water is a human right necessary for human health and survival. This right must be protected by government policies and international agencies, consistent with ensuring access to safe and adequate quantities of water resources for all wildlife on the planet and sustainability of these resources;

- (c) all members of society, including local civil society organizations, citizens' associations, environmental groups, indigenous peoples and traditional communities, farmers, women, workers and others, have a right to direct and meaningful participation in overseeing decisions about the conservation, protection, distribution, use, and management of water in their communities, localities, and regions;
- (d) an ecosystem approach to water resource management must be central to national and transboundary governance structures; and
- (e) to protect water for people and nature, water and water services should be excluded from any multinational, regional or bilateral trade and investment agreement.

Sponsors:

Sierra Club, USA
 Cenesta, Iran
 SOBREVIVENCIA, Friends of the Earth
 Paraguay, Paraguay
 Tibet Justice Center, USA
 Friends of the Earth International, Netherlands
 Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association),
 Lebanon

RWG COMMENT:

The motion puts forward five principles for the management of water resources. Two are at the core of IUCN policy and practice: Application of the Ecosystem Approach and participation of stakeholders. The others would establish substantial and broad new policy for IUCN. No. 5 seems to go beyond IUCN'S mandate and authority. The links with conservation issues need to be better spelled out as well as the rationale for the actions recommended.

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to foster debate on the policy implications and redrafting to address the issues noted above.

CGR3.RES011

A moratorium on the further release of genetically modified organisms (GMOs)

RECALLING that the IUCN Intersessional Programme Framework adopted at the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) included a request to play a major role in identifying and defining issues that affect biodiversity and that attention be paid to environmental impacts of biotechnology;

APPRECIATING that Resolution 2.31 (*Genetically Modified Organisms and biodiversity*), which was adopted at the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), noted two key concerns regarding GMOs, namely:

- (a) the potential for significant reduction or loss of biodiversity, as a result of releases of GMOs into the environment; and
- (b) the potential role of GMOs in "achieving global food security" which it notes "have not been adequately demonstrated so far";

NOTING that there has been a promotion of GMO products worldwide, especially in developing countries, with little or no controls on their entry into national or regional markets; and that there is growing concern over their safety for human and animal health;

FURTHER NOTING that a balance must be made between the potential negative impact GMOs have on biodiversity and human and animal health on the one hand and the positive benefits they may have in achieving global food security;

RECOGNISING that the precautionary approach as set out in Principle 15 of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* is not an overarching one but rather an aspect in the evaluation and management of risks relating to GMOs;

AWARE that the *Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety* has incorporated the precautionary approach in determining risk management as to what is an acceptable level of risk;

OBSERVING that GMO use and introductions are controlled primarily by the private sector, whose incentives for development and marketing may be greater than for assessing potential problems;

AWARE of the public concern that GMO technology needs to be more transparent particularly in the biosafety area; and

WELCOMING the Key Result Areas in the draft IUCN Intersessional Programme 2005–2008 which take into consideration the impact of GMOs on biodiversity, such as calling upon key private sector companies to integrate biodiversity into their corporate social responsibilities and actions;

The World Conservation at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS for a moratorium on further environmental releases of GMOs until they

can be demonstrated to be safe beyond reasonable doubt;

2. REQUESTS the Council to prepare policy guidance for sustainable GMOs through a multifaceted approach during the next intersessional period;
3. REQUESTS IUCN to promote and support initiatives to ratify the Cartagena Protocol on Biodiversity; and
4. URGES IUCN to encourage public awareness and promote access to information.

Sponsors:

Ecological Society of the Philippines, Philippines
Environmental Foundation Ltd. (Sri Lanka), Sri Lanka
Centre for Sustainable Development, Bangladesh
Ochrana prírody a kultúrne združenie poľia, Slovakia
The Wilderness Society, Australia
Tibet Justice Center, USA
Združenie Národných Parkov a Chránených Uzemi Slovenska, Slovakia
Slovenska Ekologická Spoločnosť, Slovakia
DAPHNE-Institut aplikovanej ekológie, Slovakia
Statná ochrana prírody Slovenskej republiky, Slovakia
Danmarks Naturfredningsforening, Denmark
Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association), Lebanon

RWG COMMENT:

This motion should be considered with the motion entitled CGR3.RES061 - Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and Biodiversity. Given the policy implications, the preamble should reflect the different sides to the GMO debate and note the position statement Council has adopted.

This motion and CGR3.RES061 are referred to an ad hoc contact group to: a) assess the perspectives provided by each, and b) prepare a consolidated draft. If the consolidated text implicates the Programme, the motion will be referred to the Programme Committee for assessment.

CGR3.RES012

Policy on control of animal populations for the purpose of biodiversity conservation

RECALLING that the conservation of biological diversity is central to the mission of IUCN (*Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources*, Annex to Resolution 2.29 that was

adopted at the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress in Amman, Jordan, 2000);

RECOGNISING that certain animal populations may pose a threat to biodiversity in ecosystems in which they occur, particularly invasive alien species (which are recognised to be one of the most serious threats to ecosystem integrity and species survival – Resolution 2.67 adopted at the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress in Amman, Jordan, 2000) and also naturally occurring species in certain situations;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that in the interest of protecting biodiversity it may be necessary for agencies responsible for managing ecosystems to reduce, control or eradicate animal populations that pose a threat to biodiversity;

RECOGNISING that control or eradication of an animal population is potentially an emotive issue and a source of concern for many people;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that certain species may increase in number to the point where species of other animals and plants in the ecosystem are threatened, or ecological processes are seriously disrupted. This occurs sometimes in the case of large mammalian herbivores in ecosystems where dispersal of the over-abundant species is limited by barriers such as fences, habitat destruction or human activity in surrounding areas;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that invasive alien species, not having co-evolved with the naturally occurring species, are particularly prone to displace species or to significantly alter natural ecological processes; and

CONCERNED that the highest ethical standards be maintained in implementing population eradication or control, so as to minimize stress and suffering on the part of the animals;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. ACCEPTS in principle that animals may be captured and translocated, or culled, if this is necessary to avert threats to biodiversity and ecological integrity;
2. RECOMMENDS that agencies responsible for managing ecosystems, particularly protected areas managed for biodiversity conservation, should:
 - (a) through research and monitoring, determine whether population control of

any naturally occurring species may be warranted to avert threats to biodiversity in natural ecosystems of particular conservation value; and

- (b) because of the particular threat they pose, take all feasible measures to eradicate alien species;
3. RECOMMENDS, in recognition of the potentially emotive nature of population control or eradication, that agencies responsible for managing ecosystems:
- (a) take steps to increase general public awareness of the potential of certain animal populations to threaten biodiversity; and
 - (b) consult with stakeholders and the public and conduct awareness campaigns with regard to specific cases where population control or eradication may be necessary to avert threats to biodiversity; and
4. URGES all involved in population control, where population control is deemed necessary, to maintain the highest ethical standards for the treatment of animals, for example by submitting detailed plans for operating procedures and methodology for evaluation by an appropriately constituted animal ethics committee.

Sponsors:

South African National Parks, South Africa
Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa
World Wide Fund for Nature - South Africa, South Africa

RWG COMMENT:

The motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to ensure members have the opportunity to consider the implications of this proposed policy before it is considered in Plenary.

CGR3.RES013

HIV/AIDS pandemic and conservation

NOTING that AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is the late stage of infection caused by Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), commonly referred to as HIV/AIDS;

RECOGNISING that HIV/AIDS is a pandemic which is starting to seriously affect conservation success in Africa, and is likely to have big impacts

in next-wave countries such as Russia, China, India and Eastern European countries;

FURTHER NOTING that HIV/AIDS is reducing the biodiversity management capacities of protected area staff, local communities and mobile peoples. It is also resulting in increased and often unsustainable offtake of natural resources and greater poverty, as AIDS-affected households lose salary earners and capacity for heavy agricultural labour;

RECALLING that the HIV/AIDS Pandemic and Conservation was listed as Emerging Issue 11 at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress as the pandemic impacts IUCN's Mission and the broader mission of the conservation community;

AWARE OF the need to acknowledge the problem, work to understand conservation impacts better, and take action to mitigate impacts in affected countries; and

RECOGNISING that actions needed to be taken by the conservation community are:

- (a) promoting HIV/AIDS prevention in protected area staff and communities;
- (b) finding solutions to relieve unsustainable harvesting (e.g. through non-labor-intensive micro-enterprise to support community livelihoods);
- (c) developing HIV/AIDS strategies in protected area authorities; and
- (d) collaborating with other sectors including health and agriculture;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS the Director General to work with other agencies to:

- (a) acknowledge the linkages between HIV/AIDS and biodiversity conservation;
- (b) play a leadership role in highlighting this linkage in the conservation sector and other sectors;
- (c) encourage IUCN members to integrate HIV/AIDS and conservation linkages within their organizations' planning;
- (d) help facilitate information exchange on HIV/AIDS and conservation linkages; and

- (e) propose policies, advocacy and actions for IUCN programmes and IUCN members to address this devastating issue affecting People and Nature and the future of sustainable development.

Sponsors:

African Wildlife Foundation, Kenya
Wildlife and Environmental Society of Malawi,
Malawi
The Wildlife Conservation Society, USA
Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, South Africa

RWG COMMENT:

There is a need to frame the focus of this motion in the context of IUCN's Mission and core conservation competencies as well as its geographic focus.

Recent outcomes of the international conference in HIV/AIDS may provide updated information on the "next-wave" countries that are referenced in the second preambular paragraph. The Director General's activities need to be clarified in the operant paragraphs.

COSTS: The activities called for could require one full-time person at CHF 80,000 per year.

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to consider the needs outlined by RWG and subsequently to the Programme Committee to reassess the impact the actions would have on the programme and the financial requirements.

CGR3.RES014

The Harold Jefferson Coolidge Medal

RECALLING the enormous personal contributions of the many individuals who generously gave of their time and expertise and resources to help establish IUCN in 1948;

THANKFUL for the inspiration provided by the Union's devoted leaders such as John C. Phillips or Peter Scott or Wolfgang E. Burhenne, whose service to IUCN is recalled at each World Conservation Congress;

MINDFUL that throughout IUCN there are other individuals who contribute enormously of their time, expertise and resources, who draw encouragement to do more through the examples of the Union's earlier leaders;

APPRECIATIVE of the proposal by former IUCN Directors General, Gerardo Budowski, Lee Talbot, and Kenton Miller, that IUCN should

commemorate the extraordinary service of the late Harold Jefferson Coolidge by establishing an award in his memory;

GRATEFUL to Harold Coolidge for his leadership as one of the founders of IUCN, as a former president of the Union and its principal fundraiser from 1948 to the 1980s, as architect of IUCN's unique framework of Commissions, through which scientists and other experts contribute vastly to the work of IUCN, as a scientist and conservationist who pioneered in expanding IUCN's programmes into Asia, Africa and the Americas; and

AWARE that colleagues and friends of Harold Coolidge have offered to endow an appropriate IUCN award in his memory;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. DECIDES to establish the Harold Jefferson Coolidge Medal, to be conferred upon individuals for outstanding contributions to conservation of nature and natural resources;
2. REQUESTS the Council to establish the criteria for nomination and selection of individuals to be awarded this medal, and that selection be by a jury, whose members should reflect the geographical and other diversity of IUCN;
3. DECIDES FURTHER that the first Harold Jefferson Coolidge Medal should be conferred at the 4th World Conservation Congress; and
4. DIRECTS the Director General of IUCN to undertake all appropriate measures to facilitate the establishment and award of this Medal.

Sponsors:

Defenders of Wildlife, USA
Pace Center for Environmental Legal Studies,
USA
World Resources Institute, USA
The Nature Conservancy, USA
International Council of Environmental Law,
Germany
Schutzgemeinschaft Deutsches Wild (Organisation zur Erhaltung der freilebenden Tierwelt),
Germany

RWG COMMENT:

In view of the growing number of environmental awards, Council suggested to explore the possibility of creating a new award incorporating the names of both John C. Phillips and Harold

Coolidge, recognising the legacy and achievements of these pioneers.

CGR3.RES015

Providing an office for IUCN's Observer Mission to the United Nations in New York

RECALLING Resolutions 1.80 (*Relations with the United Nations System*) adopted by the 1st Session of the World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) and 2.10 (*IUCN's relations with the United Nations System*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), regarding the IUCN Observer Status in the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Union's Relations with the United Nations' system respectively;

WELCOMING the report of the Director General of IUCN to this Congress in accordance with Resolution 2.10, and the measures taken by the Director General of IUCN, with the assistance of the Commission on Environmental Law, and the Environmental Law Programme, to provide staff and volunteer experts for the Union's Observer Mission to the United Nations;

NOTING that the agenda for the General Assembly now has an average of at least 20 agenda items addressing issues related to the environment, nature and natural resource conservation, and their relationship to sustainable development, world order, and socio-economic well-being;

RECOGNISING that IUCN is unique among the organizations that the UN General Assembly has invited to serve as an Observer, since it is the only Observer organization providing worldwide expertise on the conservation of nature, biodiversity and natural resources;

AWARE that IUCN provides its State members in the United Nations careful and succinct submissions of scientific and technical expertise regarding the many environmental issues currently arising in the General Assembly and in the Economic & Social Council, and throughout many of the United Nations' subsidiary bodies and specialized agencies;

CONCERNED that the provision of this expertise will require IUCN to devote further time of its expert volunteers, of its Secretariat, and of its budget, in order for IUCN to meet its responsibilities as an Observer Mission to the United Nations; and

WELCOMING and ENCOURAGING the voluntary contributions of services, expertise or financial support from IUCN's members to assist the Director General in fulfilling the responsibilities of the Union's Observer Mission, such as the provision of post-graduate student interns from Pace University and Yale University to the Observer Mission at UN headquarters;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. INVITES IUCN's State members to avail themselves of IUCN's extensive expert scientific, legal, and technical capabilities, in order to facilitate their deliberations on environment and sustainable development in the meetings, conferences and sessions of the United Nations;
2. CALLS upon the IUCN Council to ensure that provision is provided in the regular annual budget of the Union for the operation of the Union's Observer Mission to the United Nations, including the resources required for establishment of an appropriate office, staff, logistic, travel and other support;
3. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to provide the IUCN Observer Mission to the United Nations with appropriate office, staff, logistic, travel and other support needed to fully implement the Union's Observer Status; and
4. REQUESTS the Commission on Environmental Law to continue its assistance to the IUCN Director General, through qualified legal experts as volunteers, and invites the other IUCN Commissions to assist with the submission of appropriate expert scientific and technical advice.

Sponsors:

Pace Center for Environmental Legal Studies,
USA

Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental, Peru
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United
Kingdom

Sierra Club, USA

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to the Programme Committee to: 1) clarify if the intent is to call for the establishment of an office in New York or address IUCN's observer status throughout the UN system; and 2) assess the impact of the envisaged activities on the Intersessional

Programme for 2005-08. It is noted that operative paragraph 2 circumvents the Director General's authority to set programmatic priorities. The Director General reports to each Council meeting on the status of all Resolutions and Recommendations adopted at Congress, which provides a means for accountability. Therefore it is recommended that operative paragraphs 2 and 3 be consolidated to read:

CALLS UPON the Director General to identify funding sources to establish and run the IUCN Observer Mission in New York.

COSTS: The Secretariat estimates the cost would be CHF 500,000 per year for three full-time staff: Diplomatic Chief, Secretary and Communications Officer.

CGR3.RES016

Audit of international conventions, treaties and agreements on the environment

CONSIDERING that international conventions, treaties and agreements on the world's environment are the subject of more than 200 texts of international relevance and more than 300 texts of regional relevance;

CONSIDERING that many international agreements have seen undeniable success, as was the case with the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Protocol to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer), and that IUCN contributes significantly to the success of important international conventions;

CONSIDERING that many commitments remain ineffective or have had an extremely limited impact to date, and that it is necessary to have an overall assessment of their application;

CONSIDERING FURTHER the fact that the profusion of agreements and their decisions could become counter-productive in the long-term for the protection of the world's environment as the dispersion of technical, human and financial means to respond to all these undertakings, in terms of work, secretariats, conferences, leads to the slowing down of their implementation;

NOTING that the richer countries are not fulfilling all of their obligations and that they have not all ratified the conventions or protocols that are nonetheless deemed important for the world's environment; and

DRAWING ON IUCN's role as observer with the United Nations;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) suggest to the Secretary General of the United Nations that an international audit be launched into the application of the intergovernmental conventions, treaties and agreements on the environment, in order to assess, overall and objectively, the progress made and difficulties encountered by States, and to make suggestions so as to improve the effectiveness and synergy of these legal instruments as a whole, in connection with the implementation of the Millennium Declaration (Goal 7 *Ensure Environmental Sustainability*, Millennium Development Goals); and
- (b) examine the general state of progress made in the transposition of international conventions into national legislations in order to gauge the extent to which States take international environmental issues into account.

Sponsors:

Conservatoire de l'espace littoral et des rivages lacustres, France
Association des Amis de la Forêt de Fontainebleau, France
Association des Naturalistes de la Vallée du Loing (ANVL), France
Association Française des Ingénieurs Ecologues, France
Association pour la Sauvegarde de la Nature Néo-Calédonienne (ASNNC), France
Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), France
Club Alpin Français, France
Eurosite, France
Fédération des Parcs Naturels Régionaux de France, France
Fédération Française des Sociétés de Sciences Naturelles (FFSSN), France
Fondation Internationale pour la Sauvegarde de la Faune, France
Fondation Nicolas Hulot pour la Nature et l'Homme, France
Fondation Sansouire, France
France Nature Environnement (FNE), France
Ligue pour la préservation de la faune sauvage et la défense des non chasseurs, France
Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, France
Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, France

Office National des Forêts (ONF), France
Oiseaux Migrateurs du Paléarctique Occidental (OMPO), France
Réserves Naturelles de France, France
Société Européenne des Réalisateur de l'Environnement (SERE), France
WWF France - Fonds Mondial pour la Nature, France

RWG COMMENT:

Certain conventions have undertaken evaluations of their activities. An audit of certain key conventions would be useful, given that there are more than 500 conventions in over 180 countries that are relevant to the environment. This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to revise preambular paragraph 2 in order to limit the motion to those conventions that are within IUCN's competence areas.

COST: Implementation of the actions called for would require estimated resources between CHF 200 000 and CHF 300 000 for staff. It will also require significant project resources.

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group, which will examine the scope of the requested measures, and subsequently to the Programme Committee.

CGR3.RES017

Drafting a charter of ethics for biodiversity conservation

RECALLING Humans' primary responsibility for the preservation of the diversity of life on earth, taking into account the past and present impact of his activities on the environment;

REAFFIRMING the value of the existence of biodiversity, linked to Humans' own value as well as to the satisfaction and wellbeing that its existence brings, and the additional value it represents for future generations;

HIGHLIGHTING the concerns raised by the use and impact of new biotechnology tools on the future of biodiversity, particularly as regards certain genetically modified organisms, and by negotiations on the patentability of living matter;

HIGHLIGHTING ALSO the limits, or even pernicious effects of a strictly utilitarian view of biodiversity and the services rendered by nature;

RECALLING the first paragraph of the preamble to the Convention on Biodiversity, which underlines the intrinsic value of biological

diversity and the value of its elements on social, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic levels;

RECALLING FURTHER that the Global Biodiversity Strategy and the "Caring for the Earth" Strategy set down as the first principle the respect due to all peoples and forms of life on earth, and stipulates that our development must not be carried out at the expense of future generations, nor threaten the survival of other species;

REAFFIRMING its commitment to the preamble of the IUCN Statutes, which affirms that nature conservation contributes to the establishment of peace, progress and human prosperity and that natural beauty constitutes the essential framework for Humans' spiritual development, which an increasingly mechanised existence renders necessary more than ever; and

NOTING that many philosophical and religious schools of thought are becoming more and more explicitly involved in nature conservation;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REAFFIRMS IUCN's commitment to bring an ethical view of nature conservation, based on the respect for the diversity of life as well as the cultural diversity of peoples;
2. CALLS ON the Director General to establish a working group in charge of drafting a charter of ethics for the conservation of biodiversity, accompanied by aims to be achieved and actions to be undertaken, and to submit such charter for adoption at the next World Conservation Congress;
3. PROPOSES that IUCN take an interest in the efforts made by existing philosophical and religious schools of thought regarding nature conservation throughout the world;
4. RECOMMENDS that IUCN reinforce its activities with States in order to promote the adoption of national charters of ethics offering each and every person rights and duties for the respect of the diversity of life on Earth.

Sponsors:

Conservatoire de l'espace littoral et des rivages lacustres, France
Association des Amis de la Forêt de Fontainebleau, France

Association des Naturalistes de la Vallée du Loing (ANVL), France
Association Française des Ingénieurs Ecologues, France
Association pour la Sauvegarde de la Nature Néocalédonienne (ASNNC), France
Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), France
Club Alpin Français, France
Eurosite, France
Fédération des Parcs Naturels Régionaux de France, France
Fédération Française des Sociétés de Sciences Naturelles (FFSSN), France
Fondation Internationale pour la Sauvegarde de la Faune, France
Fondation Nicolas Hulot pour la Nature et l'Homme, France
Fondation Sansouire, France
France Nature Environnement (FNE), France
Ligue pour la préservation de la faune sauvage et la défense des non chasseurs, France
Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, France
Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, France
Office National des Forêts (ONF), France
Oiseaux Migrateurs du Paléarctique Occidental (OMPO), France
Réserves Naturelles de France, France
Société Européenne des Réalisateurs de l'Environnement (SERE), France
WWF France - Fonds Mondial pour la Nature, France

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to clarify: a) what the Director General is called on to do; and b) relationships between the Earth Charter and the Charter for Nature. Because of the cost implications the motion is also referred to Programme Committee for guidance.

COSTS: Implementing the actions called for by the Secretariat will require CHF 50,000 to CHF 100,000 from core funds. Full implementation will require project funds.

CGR3.RES018

International Covenant on Environment and Development

RECALLING Resolution 1.66 (*Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development*) adopted at the 1st Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress and Recommendation 2.96 (*Earth Charter and draft International Covenant*) adopted at the 2nd Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress;

NOTING that the IUCN *Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development*¹ was first launched at the United Nations Congress on Public International Law held at New York on 13 March 1995;

FURTHER NOTING that the first revised text of the *Draft Covenant* was presented to the Member States of the United Nations on the occasion of the Closing of the United Nations Decade of International Law;

RECOGNISING that the second revised text of the *Draft Covenant* was presented to the Member States of the United Nations on the occasion of the 59th Session of the General Assembly;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the *Plan of Implementation* adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development held at Johannesburg, South Africa, 2002 has reaffirmed the international consensus on legal principles, rights and obligations for environmental conservation and sustainable development through its renewed pledge by States and Governments to ensure their implementation on the global, regional and national levels;

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGING the participation of distinguished experts, including representatives of the United Nations system, at a meeting held at the IUCN Environmental Law Centre in Bonn, Germany (10-11 March 2003), convened by the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law and the International Council of Environmental Law in order to account for the results of Johannesburg and other recent developments in international environmental law;

EXPRESSING further gratitude to the participating organizations and individuals who helped to revise the text of the *Draft Covenant* based on the results of the above-named meeting and updated the extensive Commentary which provides further insight into the legal foundations and precedents on which the collected principles are based;

THANKING ESPECIALLY the Elizabeth Haub Foundation for Environmental Policy and Law - Canada for providing the necessary funds to cover the expenses necessary in order to organize the meeting, to produce and publish the revised edition of the *Draft Covenant*, as well as to distribute it to Member States of the United Nations;

¹http://www.iucn.org/themes/law/pdfdocuments/EPLP31EN_rev2.pdf

ENCOURAGED by the continued initiatives driven forward within the framework of the United Nations to strengthen international law;

MINDFUL that the *Draft Covenant* was drafted by the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law and the International Council of Environmental Law as a model for an international framework agreement consolidating existing legal principles related to the environment and development which is to serve as a possible basis for multilateral negotiations on this subject;

CONVINCED that the *Draft Covenant* serves another important function of collecting and codifying accepted norms and well-established principles on the conservation of the environment and sustainable development and therefore must be continuously updated as a “living document” until it has served the above-mentioned purpose;

AWARE that the current and past editions of the *Draft Covenant* have been used by legislators as well as the responsible ministers and civil servants in many States as a authoritative reference as well as a useful checklist for national legislation designed to foster sustainable development;

FURTHER AWARE that diplomats at international negotiations use the *Draft Covenant* as a guide to ensure consistency among the treaty obligations for sustainable development and to coordinate their positions with respect to prospective multilateral agreements;

PLEASED that the most notable example of the above is the recently revised text of the 1968 *African Convention (Algiers Convention) on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources* which builds extensively on the *Draft Covenant*; and

NOTING with appreciation the release of the 3rd Edition of the *IUCN Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development*;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) continue to promote the *Draft Covenant* among the membership of IUCN as well as other States and organizations associated with the work of IUCN;
 - (b) use the principles contained within the *Draft Covenant* as a source of guidance

for the legal and policy advice of IUCN and its components; and

- (c) ensure that the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law continues to serve as a custodian of the *Draft Covenant* and ensure that its text will be revised at necessary intervals in order to reflect important developments in international law pertaining to sustainable development and environmental conservation; and

2. STRONGLY RECOMMENDS that the *Draft Covenant* be used as guidance for negotiations on multilateral treaties, as well as the drafting of national legislation and policy directives.

Sponsors:

International Council of Environmental Law,
Germany
Macquarie University Centre for Environmental Law, Australia
Center for Environmental Legal Studies, USA
Fédération des Associations de Chasse et Conservation de la Faune Sauvage de l'UE,
Belgium

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the policy implications and potential impact on the Intersessional Programme this motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group and the Programme Committee.

COSTS: There would be a significant impact (above CHF 50,000) on the Secretariat core resources.

CGR3.RES019

Education and communication in the IUCN programme

CONSIDERING that IUCN has significantly contributed to the development of environmental education worldwide as a means to inform people and support them to change towards sustainable development;

CONSIDERING that this has advanced the interrelation between the natural and social sciences, as well as contributed a renewed linkage between intellect and creative action for the maintenance of life, not only to inform the population, but to make it change;

RECOGNISING that each region has its own cultural values related to nature, which influences

its means of communication and education so that it is appropriate to the people;

CONVINCED that education is a means to social learning and cultural renewal and develops competencies to critically reflect, understand, assess and apply knowledge and have the skills to take action;

AWARE that the social changes towards sustainable development require more complex processes than the provision of information and knowledge;

AWARE that education and communication are an essential component of an empowerment strategy for the IUCN Programme, and are a means to reduce vulnerability and risk of populations, assisting to alleviate poverty, reorient consumption patterns, and to re-affirm the relationship between humans and nature;

CONCERNED about the loss of positioning and political visibility of environmental education on national and international environmental agendas during recent years; and

REAFFIRMING AND EXTENDING Resolution 2.50 (*Environmental education in the Meso-american Component Programme*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to launch regional programmes in order to support the United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development, to be celebrated from 2005 to 2014; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General to incorporate specific activities and goals on education and communication in the IUCN Intersessional Programme 2005-2008 pursuant to the aforementioned point.

Sponsors:

Corporación de Gestión Tecnológica y Científica sobre el Ambiente, Ecuador
Instituto de Medio Ambiente y Comunidades Humanas, Universidad de Guadalajara (IMACH), Mexico

Agencia para el Desarrollo de la Mosquitia (MOPAWI), Honduras
Asociación Amigos del Bosque, Guatemala

Asociación Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño (CEASPA), Panama
Asociación Club Jóvenes Ambientalistas (ACJA), Nicaragua
Asociación de Cooperación Rural en África y América Latina (ACRA), Nicaragua
Asociación de Organizaciones del Corredor Biológico Talamanca-Caribe (CBTC), Costa Rica
Asociación de Voluntariado, Investigación y Desarrollo Ambiental (VIDA), Costa Rica
Asociación Ecológica de Paquera, Lepanto y Cubano (ASEPALECO), Costa Rica
Asociación Mesa Nacional Campesina (MNC), Costa Rica
Asociación para la Recuperación y el Saneamiento Ambiental (ARMSA), Guatemala
Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestres (APREFLOFAS), Costa Rica
Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre (ARCAS), Guatemala
Asociación Salvadoreña Pro-Salud Rural (ASAPROSAR), El Salvador
Belize Audubon Society, Belize
Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Centre, Belize
Centro de Derecho Ambiental y de los Recursos Naturales (CEDARENA), Costa Rica
Centro de Educación y Promoción Popular, Ecuador
Centro de Estudios para el Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo (CEMAD), Panama
Centro de Protección para Desastres (CEPRODE), El Salvador
Centro Mesoamericano de Estudios sobre Tecnología Apropiada (CEMAT), Guatemala
Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA), Mexico
Centro para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía Samaná y Entorno (CEBSE), Dominican Republic
Consejo de la Tierra, Costa Rica
Defensores de la Naturaleza, Guatemala
EcoCiencia, Fundación Ecuatoriana de Estudios Ecológicos, Ecuador
Fondo para la Biodiversidad (CONABIO), Mexico
Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (FUNDAECO), Guatemala
Fundación "Vida", Honduras
Fundación Acceso (ACCESO), Costa Rica
Fundación de defensa del Medio Ambiente Baja Verapaz (FUNDEMABV), Guatemala
Fundación de Mujeres de San Miguelito (FUMSAMI), Nicaragua
Fundación Mexicana para la Educación Ambiental (FUNDEA), Mexico
Fundación para el Mejoramiento Humano (PROGRESSIO), Dominican Republic
Fundación para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Comunal del El Salvador (CORDES), El Salvador

Fundación Salvadoreña de Desarrollo y Humanismo Maquilishuatl (FUMA), El Salvador
Fundación Smithsonian de Panamá (FSP), Panama
Fundación Solar, Guatemala
Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda I.A.P., Mexico
Instituto Mexicano de Recursos Naturales Renovables (IMERNAR), Mexico
Instituto para el Desarrollo Sustentable en Mesoamérica, AC. (IDESMAC), Mexico
Lliga per a la Defensa del Patrimoni Natural, Spain
Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN), Guatemala
Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente (CITMA), Cuba
PG7 Consultores, SC Faunam A.C., Mexico
SalvaNatura, El Salvador
Sociedad Audubon de Panamá (SAP), Panama
Sociedad Cubana para la Protección del Medio Ambiente (ProNaturaleza), Cuba
Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico
Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña (UNES), El Salvador
Universidad del Norte de Nicaragua (UNN), Nicaragua
Voluntarios para la Asistencia Técnica de Honduras (VITA), Honduras

RWG COMMENT:

Pursuant to paragraph 29 of the Regulations, the RWG provides a consolidated motion which reflects the intent of the sponsors of draft motions entitled Educación y Comunicación en el Programa de UICN and Education and Communication programme. Sponsors of both are referenced. It is referred to the Programme Committee to clarify the scope of the activities envisaged and the role of the Commission on Education and Communication.

CGR3.RES020

Policy on capacity building and technology transfer

RECALLING that the importance of adequate capacity to achieve sustainable development has been highlighted at UNCED in 1992, the resulting Agenda 21 and subsequent multilateral environmental agreements, and that this was subsequently reaffirmed at the World Summit on Sustainable Development 2002;

RECALLING that countries have committed to the Millennium Development Goals to eradicate poverty through sustainable development, and to incorporate environmental concerns into their development policies;

UNDERSTANDING that whilst there is diversity of development challenges and of national development efforts globally, communities around the world have clearly expressed their desire to be fully included as part of development decision-making processes and as beneficiaries of development;

RECOGNISING that to be successful, sustainable development requires good governance, robust and effective institutions, comprehensive legal and regulatory frameworks, sensitivity to cultural diversity, fully inclusive participative processes, local empowerment, public-private partnerships and improved access to knowledge, and that all of the above require adequate or enhanced human and technical capacity; and

NOTING that a key element of IUCN's programme of work is to further the development of local, regional, and global capacity in conservation and sustainable development, in particular to support countries in the implementation of their commitments under multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs);

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REAFFIRMS its commitment to capacity development and technology transfer, with particular emphasis on less-developed countries;
2. RECOGNISES that an action plan for capacity development must be based on further development and/or improvement of existing structures and mechanisms whereby relevant technology transfer and capacity building from those countries which have appropriate technology and expertise to those which have capacity needs, can be expedited;
3. CALLS UPON those agencies, institutions and countries with the greatest financial capacity, to provide funding where it is required to ensure delivery within the shortest timeframes; and
4. CALLS UPON the Director General to develop an action plan for capacity development and technology transfer, in association with other parties sharing the same objectives, to provide for a more coherent and coordinated approach to capacity development activities, and more effective programs of capacity development.

Sponsors:

The Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa
WWF South Africa, South Africa
South African National Parks, South Africa
Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa

RWG COMMENT:

As a synthesis motion establishing institutional policy on capacity building and technology transfer, relevant previously adopted resolutions [and recommendations] should be referenced in the preamble, i.e., 17.20, 1.17, 1.41, 1.43, 1.73, 1.85, 2.33, and 2.94.

The motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to ensure the issues are understood and subsequently to the Programme Committee for consideration.

CGR3.RES021

Capacity building of Young Professionals

DEFINING Young Professionals as individuals worldwide between the ages of 20 and 35, committed to conservation at local, regional and/or global levels as their profession;

ACKNOWLEDGING the support already given to younger generations by IUCN through Outcome 6 of the Durban Action Plan noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003);

WELCOMING the initiatives of individual member organizations in establishing programs to involve Young Professionals in their conservation efforts;

RECOGNISING the ability of Young Professionals to contribute to member organizations and their conservation achievements by bringing innovative knowledge, techniques, diverse perspectives, open-mindedness and enthusiasm to decision-making processes; and

CONCERNED with the difficulty that young people face when trying to enter the conservation arena in a professional and meaningful way;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) establish a Young Professional Program within IUCN;
- (b) establish a coordinating mechanism that assists member organizations in developing

programs for Young Professionals such as fellowships, internships, exchange programs, and mentorships according to their capacity, and collects and disseminates information about these programs to Young Professionals; and

- (c) ensure that IUCN and its member organizations make their programs accessible to Young Professionals from developing countries.

Sponsors:

Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, USA
Natural Resources Defense Council, USA
Conservation International, USA
Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon, Lebanon
Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, South Africa

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the implied needs for enhancing capacity in the IUCN Human Resources Unit, the activity would be linked to Key Result Area 6. Because of the financial implications, this motion is referred to the Programme Committee for consideration.

COSTS: Implementation of the actions called for would require staff support in IUCN's Human Resources Unit at an estimated cost of CHF 100,000 to 150,000 per year, plus training and other costs. It is anticipated that some of the costs will be offset by the benefits realized by the institution.

CGR3.RES022

Capacity building in applied and demand-driven taxonomy

CONSCIOUS that the ongoing decline in taxonomic capacity has created a widely recognised *Taxonomic Impediment* to the equitable and ecologically sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity;

WELCOMING the adoption by Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) of the work programme of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) in April 2002 (CBD Decision VI/8);

RECALLING that the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002) highlighted the importance of the Global Taxonomy Initiative in

realising the target of significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010;

NOTING that the GTI work programme depends for its success on capacity building;

NOTING the key role of regional and global technical cooperation and technology transfer in cost effective capacity building;

AWARE that IUCN is a significant end-user of taxonomy, is at the forefront of making taxonomic information widely available through its Species Information Service and that many components of IUCN's programme (thematic, regional and Commissions) have a strong dependence on or inter-relations with taxonomic expertise and institutions;

NOTING that IUCN, through the wide use of taxonomic information and expertise by its programmes and membership, is uniquely positioned to advise on the most urgent taxonomic demands of end-users;

AWARE OF IUCN's keynote contribution to the Third Global Taxonomy Workshop (organized in 2002 by BioNET-INTERNATIONAL, the CBD Secretariat, UNESCO-Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme and the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention) and the resulting Plan of Action for demand-driven taxonomic capacity building in support of the GTI work programme; and

RECOGNISING the urgency of capacity building to make taxonomic expertise, resources and information freely accessible in a timely manner and in forms required by users;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. ENDORSES IUCN's contributions to taxonomic capacity building, including its involvement since 2002 in member and partner-driven initiatives in support of the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI);
2. REQUESTS the Director General to continue supporting IUCN's involvement in promoting and delivering taxonomic capacity building, especially where this supports the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs);
3. RECOMMENDS that IUCN and its members actively participate in and help develop the GTI including, as appropriate, via

participation in its Coordination Mechanism; and

4. CALLS UPON the Director General and the Commissions to work with members to identify potential synergies and taxonomic capacity building partnerships.

Sponsors:

BioNET-INTERNATIONAL: The Global Network for Taxonomy, United Kingdom
Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa
Plantlife, United Kingdom

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES023 **Cherishing volunteers**

NOTING that IUCN's Statutes expect its Commissions to be networks of expert volunteers entrusted to develop and advance the institutional knowledge, experience and objectives of the Union;

APPLAUDING the fact that, largely through the Commissions, volunteers have made a unique, distinguished and dedicated contribution to the achievement of IUCN's mission and the enhancement of its reputation with a wide range of partners;

ACKNOWLEDGING that, while electronic media facilitate exchanges of material within expert networks, they add to the time pressures faced by volunteers in a situation where academic and other funding arrangements allow little scope for non-contracted work;

RECOGNISING that lack of funding also constrains the ability of volunteers to attend face-to-face meetings, which remain vital for building confidence and reaching consensus on difficult issues;

ACCEPTING the generally recognised principle that while volunteers agree to donate some of their time to IUCN, they should not personally incur out of pocket expenses as a result of their voluntary activity, over and above the time they donate, unless they so choose;

WELCOMING with appreciation the valuable collection and analysis of information contained in the Species Survival Commission (SSC) report on Voluntarism of 2001 (*Voluntarism in the Species*

Survival Commission), which demonstrates both positive and negative experiences of volunteers and staff under existing arrangements; and

BELIEVING that significant unrealized potential for IUCN's work could be harnessed by an overhaul of the way that it uses and manages the goodwill and expertise available to it through both Commission members and other volunteers;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, in consultation with Commission Chairs to design and implement a 'Volunteer Initiative' which will:

- (a) add value to IUCN's delivery of its mission and intersessional programme;
- (b) integrate the expertise and commitment of volunteers more effectively into its operational structures; and
- (c) increase the professionalism and efficiency of interactions between employed staff and consultants on the one hand and volunteers on the other;

2. FURTHER REQUESTS that those undertaking the "Volunteer Initiative" take into account the recommendations of the SSC report *Voluntarism in the Species Survival Commission*, as well as:

- (a) developing basic criteria for recognising the various types of voluntary involvement such as Commission experts, office and administrative assistants and interns;
- (b) setting out in a signed standard document for each recognised volunteer a statement that their contribution will be valued, what IUCN expects of them, and what it will do for them;
- (c) enhancing direct communication with Commission members by mail or e-mail to ensure that at least once a year they are informed about, and therefore feel part of, the wider IUCN community;
- (d) promoting the use of assessments by expert groups as an input to decision making at all levels of IUCN, including the participation of such experts in IUCN teams at appropriate meetings;

(e) assisting expert groups to network with other groups and organizations, to produce maximum synergy and to avoid resource-wasting duplication of effort;

(f) seeking funding for Commission or *ad hoc* expert networks, especially their chairs, to function effectively, on the condition that such networks contribute timely and defined outputs within IUCN's programmes;

(g) arranging capacity building for and by volunteers as needed, not least in data management, communication and presentation of expert findings; and

(h) fostering regular transparent audits of the scientific capacity and integrity of Commission networks along with measures to increase their national and international reputation.

Sponsors:

International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), Hungary
Fauna and Flora International, United Kingdom
International Association for Falconry and Conservation of Birds of Prey, Belgium
European Bureau for Conservation and Development, Belgium
Fédération des Associations de Chasse et Conservation de la Faune Sauvage de l'UE, Belgium

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the programmatic and governance implications of this motion it is referred to both the Programme and Governance Committees for their assessment and guidance.

COSTS: Because of the large number of volunteers in IUCN, the cost of implementing this motion would be substantial.

Explanatory memorandum:

The main purpose of the motion is to encourage the IUCN community to realize more of the potential of its volunteer resource in order to deliver its mission and current programme more effectively.

It is often said that IUCN's unique status derives from the fact that it combines governmental and non-governmental member bodies on an equal footing. However an even stronger claim to uniqueness is the role played by its six Commissions in which some 10,000 individual

experts aim to pool their expertise in the full range of matters within IUCN's competence and do so as volunteers. The main business of Commission members is to apply the findings of their various disciplines to conservation issues to enable decisions to be taken in the light of the best information available. Among the most well known examples of Commission outputs are the red lists of the status of endangered or threatened species, the classification and management of protected areas, advice to CITES parties on species listing proposals and the articulation of the ecosystem approach and sustainable use principles.

Because of the global coverage of the Commissions, the fact that many, though by no means all, of the world's leading experts on specific conservation topics belong to them and their widely recognized integrity, IUCN has become the global leader or one of the global leaders in the areas mentioned and several others. This is what attracts people to give as much time as they can to the Commissions on a voluntary basis. Most members are earning a living in academic institutions, but others are in governmental or non-governmental organizations, are consultants or are retired. Much in the external environment has changed since the mostly unwritten principles on which the Commissions work were invented.

A major enquiry into this situation was launched by the SSC in 2000 and its report *Voluntarism in the Species Survival Commission of IUCN* by Mark Stanley Price (pp. 246) was completed in 2001. Most of the analysis is relevant to the other Commissions. The report confirmed anecdotal impressions that those members not at the heart of their Commissions (e.g. through serving on executive committees) felt neglected and undervalued, especially by the wider IUCN. Moreover the need of Chairs of Commissions and large groups within Commissions for organizational support and the need for members engaged in serious assessment work to meet face to face at reasonable intervals, like their counterparts in other professions, emphasised the financial limitations to what might be described as pure voluntarism.

The motion therefore asks for the IUCN institutions to address the suggestions in the SSC report and some others, given purely as examples, in the form of a specific structured process. If, as a result, the Commissions could be more integrated into the wider IUCN, the *quid pro quo* would be a readiness on the part of the Commissions to deliver their part in the quadrennial programme of the Union.

CGR3.RES024

Volunteer translators and interpreters to serve IUCN

NOTING that much of the work of IUCN is done by experts, NGOs and others working on a voluntary basis, often with interaction and sharing of ideas between people of different languages;

AWARE that sometimes the transmission of knowledge, ideas and other work of the Union for improved conservation is hampered by lack of language interpretation and/or translation;

RECOGNISING that there are supporters of the Union and people in IUCN members, affiliates, Commissions and other organs of the Union who are both qualified and willing voluntarily to translate documents or act as interpreters into the official and/or target languages of IUCN and its outreach targets;

AWARE that those in the Union who need gratis translation and/or interpretation services mostly do not know who is able and willing to help in this way;

RECOGNISING that there is seldom translation or interpretation across specialist groups, Commissions or other units and organs of IUCN;

ALSO RECOGNISING that not all such language-qualified and willing members, affiliates, Commission members and supporters have been identified and are contributing translations or interpretations; and

GIVEN the increasing need for translation and interpretation within and across IUCN regions and activities;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to:

1. conduct a survey of IUCN members, affiliates, Commissions, other organs and supporters to identify individuals and organizations who would be prepared to provide voluntary translation or interpretation services and to identify areas of need for such services;
2. develop a steering group to investigate and report to Council how a coordinating mechanism can be established to maintain a database or other information mechanism to

allow for the matching of such volunteers with those in the Union who need such services for the work of the Union;

3. consider that one option could be that volunteers be sought to organize the voluntary translation and interpretation services; and
4. consider how to maintain information on the availability of such gratis services of translation and interpretation and make it available to all members, Commissions, specialist groups and organs of the Union.

Sponsors:

Environment and Conservation Organizations of New Zealand, New Zealand
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, New Zealand
Istituto Nazionale per la Fauna Selvatica, Italy

RWG COMMENT:

Quality control requirements should be considered in the study that is proposed

COST: A staff member to support and coordinate the volunteer network would be required at a cost of CHF 70,000 per year.

Explanatory memorandum:

The draft resolution is proposed on the suggestion of a qualified linguist and expert in species conservation who conducts voluntary translation and interpretation for some specialist groups of the Species Survival Commission and for some NGOs. The suggestion is that other qualified linguists, supporters of the Union's conservation work, some also conservation specialists in their own right, are likely to be ready to offer voluntary services.

What is needed is a mechanism for identifying such volunteers and to coordinate matching them with those who want to use their voluntary services.

Initial identification work needs to be done by the Secretariat in conjunction with other organs of the Union, and a mechanism explored and developed for maintaining a register or database and "matching" mechanism. A steering group could be established along the lines of a specialist group to implement this proposal.

CGR3.RES025

Establishment of the World Conservation Learning Network

RECOGNISING the considerable knowledge that exists within the Union on conservation management and sustainable development, which still needs to be extended toward key actors;

AWARE that in current knowledge-based societies, learning continues throughout life and that many individuals and organizations can benefit from capacity building in conservation and sustainable development;

RECALLING that the mission of IUCN is to encourage, assist and influence societies, as well as the work in capacity building carried forth with many organizations;

CONVINCED that many sectors make decisions impacting negatively on conservation and sustainable development due to a lack of knowledge, skills and attitudes;

WELCOMING the efforts of the Commission on Education and Communication to initiate the World Conservation Learning Network; and

NOTING that the role of the World Conservation Learning Network will be to provide a series of Internet courses, which will be adapted and implemented through different universities and training institutions for professional development;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) give strategic and urgent consideration to this initiative; and
 - (b) facilitate projects and lessons drawn from the application of the IUCN Programme as part of the input for developing the courses of the World Conservation Learning Network;
2. REQUESTS the Director General and the Commission on Education and Communication to facilitate the development of a network of universities and training institutes, under the auspices of the Commission on Education and Communication or some other network associated with IUCN, with the aim of working with IUCN to expand access to programmes for professional

development that integrate the problems of conservation and sustainable development; and

3. INVITES all IUCN members with an interest in advancing the World Conservation Learning Network to provide the IUCN Programme all assistance possible in this sense.

Sponsors:

Instituto de Medio Ambiente y Comunidades Humanas, Universidad de Guadalajara (IMACH), Mexico
Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA), Mexico
Fondo para la Biodiversidad (CONABIO), Mexico
Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico
Instituto Mexicano de Recursos Naturales Renovables (IMERNAR), Mexico
Fundación Mexicana para la Educación Ambiental (FUNDEA), Mexico
PG7 Consultores, SC Faunam A.C., Mexico
Voluntarios para la Asistencia Técnica de Honduras (VITA), Honduras
Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente (CITMA), Cuba
Fundación “Vida”, Honduras
Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN), Guatemala
Agencia para el Desarrollo de la Mosquitia (MOPAWI), Honduras
Instituto para el Desarrollo Sustentable en Mesoamérica, AC. (IDESMAC), Mexico
Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda I.A.P., Mexico
Fundación de Mujeres de San Miguelito (FUMSAMI), Nicaragua
Universidad del Norte de Nicaragua (UNN), Nicaragua
Asociación Club Jóvenes Ambientalistas (ACJA), Nicaragua
Asociación de Cooperación Rural en Africa y América Latina (ACRA), Nicaragua
Asociación Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño (CEASPA), Panama
Sociedad Audubon de Panamá (SAP), Panama
Fundación Smithsonian de Panamá (FSP), Panama
Centro de Estudios para el Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo (CEMAD), Panama
Fundación para el Mejoramiento Humano (PROGRESSIO), Dominican Republic
Fundación de Defensa del Medio Ambiente Baja Verapaz (FUNDEMABV), Guatemala
Centro para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía Samaná y Entorno (CEBSE), Dominican Republic
Centro de Protección para Desastres (CEPRODE), El Salvador

Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Centre, Belize
Asociación para la Recuperación y el Saneamiento Ambiental (ARMSA), Guatemala
Centro de Derecho Ambiental y de los Recursos Naturales (CEDARENA), Costa Rica
Asociación de organizaciones del Corredor Biológico Talamanca-Caribe (CBTC), Costa Rica
Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestres (APREFLOFAS), Costa Rica
Consejo de la Tierra, Costa Rica
Fundación Acceso (ACCESO), Costa Rica
Asociación Mesa Nacional Campesina (MNC), Costa Rica
Asociación Ecológica de Paquera, Lepanto y Cóbano.(ASEPALECO), Costa Rica
Asociación de Voluntariado, Investigación y Desarrollo Ambiental (VIDA), Costa Rica
Belize Audubon Society, Belize
SalvaNatura, El Salvador
Asociación Salvadoreña Pro-Salud Rural (ASAPROSAR), El Salvador
Fundación Salvadoreña de desarrollo y Humanismo Maquilishuatl. (FUMA), El Salvador
Fundación para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Comunal del El Salvador (CORDES), El Salvador
Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña (UNES), El Salvador
Fundación Solar, Guatemala
Asociación Amigos del Bosque, Guatemala
Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre (ARCAS), Guatemala
Centro Mesoamericano de Estudios sobre Tecnología Apropiaada (CEMAT), Guatemala
Defensores de la Naturaleza, Guatemala
Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (FUNDAECO), Guatemala
Sociedad Cubana para la Protección del Medio Ambiente (ProNaturaleza), Cuba

RWG COMMENT:

This motion supports an important project launched by the Commission on Education and Communication. If adopted, a number of project activities are anticipated. While most costs would be funded from external sources, core funds in the order of CHF 40,000 will be required for project development.

The motion is very similar to CGR3.RES026 - Establishment of the World Conservation Learning Network and sponsors have been invited to submit a consolidated text prior to the opening of the Congress. The consolidated text will be referred to an ad hoc contact group and subsequently to the Programme Committee.

CGR3.RES026

Establishment of the World Conservation Learning Network

RECOGNISING the Union's significant knowledge on conservation management and sustainable development, and the IUCN 2005-2008 Programme's strategy of empowerment;

RECALLING IUCN's mission to encourage, assist and influence societies, and IUCN's work with many organizations in the field of capacity development;

AWARE that in today's knowledge-based societies, learning is life long and many individuals and organizations can benefit from capacity development in conservation and sustainable development;

CONVINCED that many sectors make decisions that negatively impact on conservation and sustainable development due to a lack of knowledge, skills or attitudes;

ACKNOWLEDGING the presentation to Council in 2003-2004 of the efforts of the Commission on Education and Communication to initiate the World Conservation Learning Network;

WELCOMING the initiative taken by the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication to establish the World Conservation Learning Network; and

NOTING that the role of the World Conservation Learning Network will be to provide a framework to further advance professional capacity building for sustainability at global, regional and national levels through courses, E-Learning, research, exchange and related activities;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS Council to give urgent consideration to this endeavour within IUCN's overall Programme before the next World Conservation Congress;
2. REQUESTS the Director General and the Chair of the Commission on Education and Communication to take into account and collaborate with existing international and regional capacity development networks and institutions and to develop a detailed statement of goals, functions, structure and legal form of

the World Conservation Learning Network for the consideration of Council; and

3. INVITES all IUCN members with an interest in advancing the World Conservation Learning Network to provide all possible assistance to the IUCN Programme in this regard.

Sponsors:

Corporación de Gestión Tecnológica y Científica sobre el Ambiente, Corporación, Ecuador
Centro de Educación y Promoción Popular, Ecuador
EcoCiencia, Fundación Ecuatorina de Estudios Ecológicos, Ecuador
Lliga per a la Defensa del Patrimoni Natural, Spain

RWG COMMENT:

This motion supports an important project launched by the Commission on Education and Communication. If adopted, a number of project activities are anticipated. While most costs would be funded from external sources, core funds in the order of CHF 40,000 will be required for project development.

The motion is very similar to CGR3.RES025 - Establecimiento de la Red Mundial de Aprendizaje para la Conservación and sponsors have been invited to submit a consolidated text prior to the opening of the Congress. The consolidated text will be referred to an ad hoc contact group and subsequently to the Programme Committee.

CGR3.RES027

Strengthening the action of the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation

RECALLING that previous General Assemblies of IUCN and Sessions of the World Conservation Congress have approved Recommendations calling for specific IUCN action in the Mediterranean, because of the serious problems faced by the marine, coastal and insular ecosystems of the region caused by demographic concentration, economic activities and pollution;

CONSCIOUS that these serious problems still exist despite the best efforts of Governments, international bodies and non-governmental organizations;

NOTING more specifically Resolution 2.7 (*Implementation of the IUCN Component Programme for the Mediterranean*) adopted by the

2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

AWARE of the work carried out under the auspices of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (the Barcelona Convention) through its Contracting Parties, the Mediterranean Action Plan's (MAP) Co-ordinating Unit in Athens and its Mediterranean Regional Activity Centres (RACs);

NOTING the active role played by the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development (MCSD) in recent years;

SENSITIVE to the serious problems of desertification encountered in many Mediterranean countries, notably those in the south and east of the region, and appreciating the work of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification;

TAKING ACCOUNT of the importance of the work on global climate change carried out by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, in particular as it affects the Mediterranean region;

NOTING the contribution to conservation and wise use of wetlands in the Mediterranean made by the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971), and in particular of the MedWet initiative which concentrates on the Mediterranean region;

AWARE of the considerable efforts made by the European Union to find solutions for these Mediterranean problems (in particular through its Short and Medium-Term Priority Environmental Action Programme (SMAP)), the more so as several additional Mediterranean states have recently become members of the European Union);

NOTING the long-term work on fisheries in the Mediterranean carried out by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, based in Rome; and

RECOGNISING the role played in sustainable development of the Mediterranean by regional and national non-governmental organizations, many of them members of IUCN;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REASSERTS concerns expressed in previous Recommendations over environmental issues in the Mediterranean and calls for increased attention to be paid to finding solutions;

2. WARMLY WELCOMES the establishment of the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation in Malaga (Spain) in 2001 and thanks those who have supported the establishment of this office, notably the Ministerio de Medio Ambiente de España (Ministry of Environment of Spain) and the Consejería de Medio Ambiente de la Junta de Andalucía (Ministry of Environment of the Autonomous Regional Government of Andalucía);

3. REAFFIRMS that the primary function of the IUCN Centre for the Mediterranean Cooperation remains the support and promotion of the activities of the Mediterranean members of IUCN and cooperation with other organizations, notably those mentioned in the Preamble to the present Recommendation, which share the Union's objectives (see Resolution 2.7 (*Implementation of the IUCN Component Programme for the Mediterranean*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000)); and

4. RECOMMENDS that the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation:

(a) continue its present activities in support of IUCN members in the Mediterranean region in their work on the numerous environmental problems affecting the region;

(b) pay particular attention to strengthening and extending its network of contacts and cooperation with other environmental organizations active in the Mediterranean region;

(c) devote particular attention in the next triennium to three issues, likely to be of critical importance to the Mediterranean:

(i) establishment of transboundary protected areas;

(ii) effects in the Mediterranean of global climate change and its implication on the management of water resources; and

(iii) issues of marine governance, both in territorial and extra-territorial waters; and

(d) develop, in particular in the three fields mentioned above, concrete projects, capable of enhancing the mobilization and

cohesion of IUCN members from the whole Mediterranean basin.

Sponsors:

Fondation Sansouire, France
Mouvement écologique algérien, Algeria
Association Marocaine pour la protection de l'environnement, Morocco
Conservatoire de l'espace littoral et des rivages lacustres, France

RWG COMMENT:

This motion updates and confirms Resolution 2.7, Implementation of the IUCN Component Programme for the Mediterranean, which should be explicitly referenced in the preamble. This motion is referred to the Programme Committee to consider the programmatic and cost implications in the context of the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-08, which already includes a substantial part of the proposed activities.

CGR3.RES028

Aral Sea Basin as the hot spot for Biodiversity Conservation

RECOGNISING the value of the Aral Sea Basin for the survival and sustainable development of the more than 50 million Central Asian people and nature;

NOTING that this sub-region suffers from many environmental problems and is the most degraded area of the former Soviet Union due to the dramatical changes that are continuously threatening the unique biodiversity of the area, especially around the Aral Sea and in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya deltas;

EMPHASISING that the development efforts during the last four decades of the 20th century (expansion of grain and cotton production beyond the traditional boundaries of the ancient irrigated oases, the creation of massive irrigation systems stretching for thousands of kilometers and accompanied by a vast network of hydroelectric stations and reservoirs, and the large scale development of oil, natural gas, iron and copper, and the rapid expansion of the cities and industrial settlements) that led to the redistribution of water resources of the basin taken for the irrigation purposes were unsustainable and had serious negative impacts on the natural resources and the landscape in the region;

CONCERNED that even after realization of several environmental programmes and spending

of about 30million US\$ for solving the problem, people and natural ecosystems continue to suffer under severe pressure of these activities;

RECALLING that the changes that happened in the Aral Sea basin were recognised by world community to be one of the greatest catastrophes of the 20th century,

MINDFUL of the efforts of the Central Asian States to overcome the ecological crisis and to improve the socio-economic situation through the establishment of the International Fund for the Aral Sea and the development and approval of "Plans of Action for the Period of 2003-2010" for the "Improvement of Environmental, Social and Economic Situation in the Aral Sea Basin" under agreement of the Governments of participating countries;

AWARE of the need to protect and manage outstanding natural areas of this region at the level of ecosystems, even if shared among several States; and

AFFIRMING the international importance of landscapes, biodiversity and natural ecosystems of the Aral Sea Basin, their natural and cultural heritage unique in the world, but which are heavily threatened by human activity;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, members and Commissions to launch a campaign to save the biodiversity of this threatened region;
2. CALLS ON countries of the Central Asian region to incorporate into their Aral Sea Basin programmes elements to promote as the priority objective the assistance in implementation of projects on rehabilitation of ecological stability and biological productivity of the natural ecosystems and increase of water ecosystem stability in the Aral Sea Basin, including restoration of wetland systems in the deltas of the Amu Darya and Syr Darya rivers and conservation of wetlands biodiversity;
3. URGES the Central Asian States to conserve the biodiversity of the region to:
 - (a) ensure limitation of intensive agriculture and irrigation especially harmful for the environment;

- (b) preserve all remaining natural wild ecosystems along the two main Central Asian rivers – Amu Darya and Syr Darya;
- (c) prepare independent environmental impact assessments of the economic and ecological consequences of the irrigation process; and
- (d) initiate the continuation of programs on the biodiversity rehabilitation and restoration in the Aral Sea basin;

4. URGES the IUCN Species Survival Commission to support the development and implementation of the *Strategy for Biodiversity Conservation in Aral Sea Basin*.

Sponsors:

Uzbekistan Zoological Society, Uzbekistan Biodiversity Conservation Centre, Russian Federation
Sierra Club, USA

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to the Programme Committee to assess if the actions called for can be accommodated within the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-08. Based on Programme Committee actions, the motion may be referred to an ad hoc contact group.

CGR3.RES029 Antarctica and the Southern Ocean

RECALLING Resolutions 1.110 (*Antarctica and the Southern Ocean*) adopted by the 1st Session of the World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) and 2.54 (*Antarctica and the Southern Ocean*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) as well as earlier decisions¹;

¹ [15/20 *Antarctica environment and the Southern Ocean* adopted by the 15th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Christchurch, 1981), 16/8 *Antarctica I* adopted by the 16th Session of the General Assembly (Madrid, 1984), Recommendations 17.52 *Antarctica*, 17.53 *The Antarctic: minerals activity* adopted by the 17th Session of the General Assembly (San Jose, 1988), 18.75 *Antarctica* adopted by the 18th Session of the General Assembly (Perth, 1990).] ALSO RECALLING Resolutions 16/9 *Antarctica II* adopted by the 16th Session of the General Assembly (Madrid, 1984), 18.74 *The Antarctic Conservation Strategy* adopted by the 18 Session of the General Assembly (Perth, 1990), and 19.96 *Antarctica and the Southern Ocean*, as well as Recommendation 19.95 *Improved Protection for Wildlife in Subantarctic Island Ecosystems* adopted by the 19th Session of the General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);]

ALSO RECALLING Recommendation V.23 (*Protecting Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Processes through Marine Protected Areas beyond National Jurisdiction*) noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) originating from the marine theme participants, calling for the establishment and effective management by 2008 of at least five scientifically and globally representative High Seas marine protected areas, and recalling the WPC *Message to the Convention on Biological Diversity*, calling for relevant organizations to “by 2012, devote urgent attention to creating and expanding marine protected area networks, including the marine biodiversity and ecosystem processes in the world oceans that lie beyond national jurisdiction, including Antarctica”, with the Ross Sea highlighted as a priority for protection as the largest largely intact marine ecosystem remaining on earth;

WELCOMING the entry into force in May 2002 of Annex V to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty (Madrid, 1991) on Area Protection and Management, allowing for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPAs) and Antarctic Specially Managed Areas (ASMAs) in both terrestrial and marine environments;

ALSO WELCOMING the establishment of a permanent Secretariat for the Antarctic Treaty in Buenos Aires in 2004;

TROUBLED about the cumulative environmental impacts of the more than five-fold increase since 1990 in the numbers of tourists landing in Antarctica, and the opening of over 100 new tourist landing sites since 1990, without sufficient effective regulation of the tourism industry being in place;

AWARE of increasing interest in biological prospecting and applications for patents for commercial exploitation of genetic material from unique organisms in the Antarctic Treaty area and the Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) area of the Southern Ocean that is likely to cause conflict within the Antarctic Treaty System;

GREATLY CONCERNED about the continued harmful levels of over-fishing of certain fish species in the oceans around Antarctica, much of it illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU), particularly within the area covered by CCAMLR;

AWARE of increasing interest in Antarctic krill fishing (*Euphausia superba*) which could become the largest global fishery, with the potential to significantly affect the trophic structure of the Antarctic marine ecosystem;

ALARMED by the continuing deaths of seabirds in large numbers, especially from IUU long-line fishing operations in the oceans around Antarctica, which constitutes the main threat to albatrosses and petrels, with 19 of the world's 21 albatross species and five species of petrel now listed as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable;

WELCOMING the entry into force of the Convention on Migratory Species' Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) on 1 February 2004 and its ratification by Australia, New Zealand, Ecuador, Spain, Republic of South Africa and UK;

ALSO WELCOMING the International Whaling Commission's thorough scientific review and renewed endorsement of the Southern Ocean whale sanctuary at its 56th annual meeting in Sorrento, Italy, July 2004; and

RECOGNISING the important role of IUCN in providing a forum for the discussion of issues affecting Antarctica's environment by governmental and non-governmental bodies and in contributing to the work of the components of the Antarctic Treaty system;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES all Parties to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to take the steps necessary to:
 - (a) develop a comprehensive network of protected areas pursuant to Annex V of the Protocol, with special urgency being given to protecting marine habitats and biological diversity;
 - (b) in particular, declare the Ross Sea an Antarctic Specially Protected Area under Annex V of the Protocol;
 - (c) complete as a matter of priority the elaboration of rules and procedures relating to liability for environmental damage arising from activities taking place in the Antarctic Treaty area covered by this Protocol;
2. ENCOURAGES all Parties to the Antarctic Treaty to develop and establish a comprehensive Antarctic tourism management regime;
3. ALSO ENCOURAGES the Parties to the Antarctic Treaty and to CCAMLR to examine

and resolve the legal and environmental issues surrounding bioprospecting and to regulate this activity if it is to be permitted in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean;

4. CALLS ON all range states to accede to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP), especially those few breeding range states that have not yet ratified, and encourages existing parties to start working on effective implementation of the Agreement;
5. CALLS ON governments, including but not restricted to Parties to both the Antarctic Treaty and CCAMLR, to take urgent steps to stop the illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing for toothfish (*Dissostichus* spp.) in the oceans around Antarctica, to ensure that all fishing allowed follows prudent rules that will support conservation of these ecosystems, to introduce a Centralized Vessel Monitoring System, and to strengthen and implement more effectively the "Catch Documentation Scheme" for toothfish adopted at the 1999 meeting of CCAMLR parties;
6. URGES those nations whose vessels undertake longline fishing in the Southern Ocean to assess their fisheries in terms of seabird mortality, if they have not already done so, and if warranted, to produce, adopt and implement National Plans of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries (NPOA-Seabirds) in terms of the International Plan of Action (IPOA-Seabirds) adopted by the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1999;
7. STRONGLY ENCOURAGES CCAMLR Members to further develop and strengthen the existing precautionary management regime of the Antarctic krill fishery, to ensure that impact of fishing on krill dependent species is minimised, particularly in local areas and at critical times of the year for krill predators;
8. REQUESTS the Director General:
 - (a) in consultation with Parties to the Antarctic Treaty and IUCN members, Commissions and Council, to seek to ensure, subject to availability of resources, a balanced and effective set of IUCN Antarctic-related activities, and in particular to support actively:
 - (i) establishment and management of new Antarctic protected areas, with

- special emphasis given to marine sites;
- (ii) conclusion of negotiations to elaborate rules and procedures relating to liability for environmental damage arising from activities taking place in the Antarctic Treaty area covered by the Protocol; and
 - (iii) more steps to ensure that cumulative environmental impacts are understood and taken into account in decision-making within the Antarctic Treaty System;
- (b) in consultation with IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas, to ensure that the entire area to which the Protocol on Environmental Protection applies is considered for inclusion in future versions of the list of protected areas produced by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre;
 - (c) in consultation with IUCN's members, Commissions and Council, as well as Parties to CCAMLR, to promote new measures and enforcement of existing measures in order to ensure the viability of ecosystem management of Antarctic marine ecosystems, and in particular to stop illegal harvesting and other forms of over-fishing in the region;
 - (d) to participate in meetings of Antarctic Treaty System components where such participation will contribute to achieving the objectives referenced above;
 - (e) to continue and strengthen the capacity of the Antarctic Advisory Committee to advise the IUCN Council, Director General and Commissions, including with additional funds and Secretariat support; and
 - (f) to designate the Antarctic Advisory Committee as an inter-Commission Task Group, which will allow formal links to be established with all relevant IUCN Commissions, thereby enhancing effective communication and collaboration with IUCN members who have expertise concerning the Antarctic region;
9. RECOMMENDS that the Director General of IUCN should:
- (a) continue to develop and put forward policy advice, especially on:
 - (i) effective implementation of the Protocol on Environmental Protection, including the designation of marine and terrestrial protected areas under Annex V of the Environmental Protocol;
 - (ii) negotiation of rules and procedures relating to liability for environmental damage arising from activities taking place in the Antarctic Treaty area and covered by this Protocol;
 - (iii) stopping illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the oceans around Antarctica and improving CCAMLR's management and enforcement systems; and
 - (iv) preventing seabird mortality from by-catch in long-line fisheries;
 - (b) develop more effective collaboration with IUCN members and other bodies and organizations who have relevant experience concerning the Antarctic; and
 - (c) contribute to raising public awareness about Antarctic and sub-Antarctic conservation issues, through seminars, technical sessions and publications; and
10. CALLS ON IUCN members to mobilize the resources needed to enable this Resolution to be implemented.
- Sponsors:
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom
 World Wide Fund for Nature - U.K., United Kingdom
 Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, New Zealand
 WWF Australia, Australia
 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom
 WWF South Africa, South Africa
 Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, New Zealand
 Environment and Conservation Organizations of New Zealand, New Zealand
- RWG COMMENT:
It is noted that a large part of this motion has been addressed in several Resolutions adopted at previous General Assemblies and World

Conservation Congresses. The motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to revise the text to reference those elements that have not been addressed previously, such as tourism and bioprospecting. Those components that have been previously adopted will be posted on the motions website and will be available to the contact group.

Explanatory memorandum:

This motion has been fully reviewed by the IUCN Antarctic Advisory Committee and by several other Antarctic experts. This memo explains the reasons for having an up-to-date motion on Antarctica, bearing in mind the need not to repeat the substance of previously agreed motions, and to keep motions as brief as possible.

The Antarctic – some 10% of the planet – is governed by international treaties (primarily the Antarctic Treaty, its 1991 Protocol on Environmental Protection and CCAMLR, the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources). IUCN attends the annual Treaty meetings as an invited expert, and needs an up-to-date statement of IUCN policy and concerns to table and refer to.

Issues concerning Antarctic and Southern Ocean conservation have been addressed in Recommendations at many IUCN General Assemblies and Congresses, and much of the material in previous motions is still very relevant. However, there are several emerging conservation issues in the Antarctic, and there remains an urgent need for further action on many previous issues. All the specific points highlighted in the draft 2004 recommendation are new or have been updated.

The preambular section highlights events since the Amman Congress in 2000, including: the World Parks Congress endorsement for more marine protected areas, the entry into force of the Protected Areas annex to the Protocol, the establishment of the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat, the emergence of bioprospecting as an issue, the increasing interest in krill fishing, and the entry into force of the Convention on Migratory Species' ACAP.

Other issues which were in the Amman recommendation have not been repeated in this draft even though they are still important (e.g. conservation of sub-Antarctic islands, the threat of drilling into the subglacial Lake Vostok, the need for States to enforce the Protocol rules).

The paragraphs on the threats to seabirds from long-lining, and on the ever-increasing numbers of tourists have been updated, since these are

important threats that need urgent action – it is no longer enough to refer to the previous recommendations. The bird bycatch threat is especially important given that this time there is no Recommendation specifically addressing it as there was in 2000.

The operative section picks up several new points (emphasis on marine protected areas, need for a tourism management regime, bioprospecting, need to ratify ACAP, measures to reduce longline bird bycatch, and need to control the krill fishery). The only sections that partly repeat previous recommendations are:

- the need for a network of protected areas (though this now emphasises marine areas),
- the need for a liability regime, and
- the need for control of IUU fishing (though this now spells out what needs to be done).

These have been retained because they are particular issues where there has been very little progress since 2000, and where IUCN has special expertise and so could assist the relevant Treaty Parties.

As for the last **three paragraphs which are directed at IUCN** itself, they could well be separated from the Recommendation, provided they get into the IUCN Programme. These paragraphs do repeat much of the Amman motion, but they have been only partly implemented since 2000 and we consider it important for them to be in the IUCN Programme for the next four years.

CGR3.RES030

Arctic legal regime for environmental protection

RECALLING Resolution 1.7 (*An IUCN Strategy for the Arctic*) and Recommendation 1.106 (*Protection of the Arctic Ocean*) of the 1st Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

RECALLING Resolution 2.22 (*IUCN's Work in the Arctic*) of the 2nd Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), recognising the circumpolar Arctic as a priority ecosystem of IUCN;

COMMENDING the release of the study entitled "*Arctic Legal Regime for Environmental Protection*" initiated by the IUCN Environmental Law Centre and the International Council of Environmental Law representing an initial inquiry whether the current approach can sufficiently address the threats to the Arctic;

WELCOMING the findings of the meeting of experts held in Ottawa, Canada from 24-25 March 2004, convened by the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law and the International Council of Environmental Law as a follow-up to the above-named study, resulting in an indicative list of issues requiring further analysis whilst paying particular attention to preserving the ecosystem while respecting the needs of indigenous peoples and local communities;

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE to the Government of Canada for providing logistical support to the meeting in Ottawa, as well as to other government authorities for sending officials to participate in the meeting, as well as the Elizabeth Haub Foundation for Environmental Policy and Law – Canada for providing the necessary funds for producing and publishing the study, as well as covering the remaining expenses of the meeting; and

AWARE that the present legal regime needs strengthening if the current challenges are to be met;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to examine which measures can be taken to strengthen the present legal regime on the global, regional, bilateral or national level; and
2. REQUESTS the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law to consider this complex set of issues enumerated at the above meeting and to coordinate its input with the other Commissions.

Sponsors:

International Council of Environmental Law,
Germany
Macquarie University Centre for Environmental
Law, Australia
Center for Environmental Legal Studies, USA

RWG COMMENT:

This motion would be improved if the work of the Arctic Council were acknowledged.

The motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to ensure that Arctic indigenous peoples' organizations are consulted.

CGR3.RES031

Conservation and sustainable development of mountain regions

NOTING that mountain regions occur on all continents, occupy almost a quarter of the Earth's terrestrial surface, and are inhabited by almost one eighth of the world's human population;

RECOGNISING that mountain regions provide vital goods and services to at least half the global population, including the provision of not only water, food, forest products, and minerals, but also places for recreation and tourism and are of spiritual value;

ACKNOWLEDGING the increased awareness of the values of mountain regions that resulted from the International Year of Mountains, 2002, during which the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in Johannesburg, South Africa, specifically addressed mountain regions in Chapter 42 of its *Plan of Implementation*;

ACKNOWLEDGING the establishment of the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions, which the General Assembly of the United Nations invited the international community and other relevant partners to join, in its Resolution 57/245, adopted at its 78th plenary meeting on 20 December 2002;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that mountain regions support distinctive ecosystems and species constituting an important component of global biodiversity, and that these include animals, plants and other organisms of economic importance, including the ancestors of many of the world's major crops;

HAVING CONSIDERED the *Programme of Work on Mountain Biological Diversity* adopted by the 7th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Kuala Lumpur, 2004);

RECOGNISING the large number of projects undertaken in mountain regions by IUCN and its members;

RECALLING Resolution 2.45 (*Conservation of mountain ecosystems in Europe*), which was adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

RECALLING Workshop Recommendation V.06 (*Strengthening Mountain Protected Areas as a Key Contribution to Sustainable Mountain Development*), which was noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003); and

APPRECIATING the joint establishment of the Mountain Initiative Task Force by the Chairs of the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS ON national governments, international agencies and the non-governmental community, in particular those that are members of IUCN, to implement the effective conservation and sustainable use of the biological diversity and ecosystem resources of mountain regions, as called for in the *Programme of Work on Mountain Biological Diversity* of the Convention on Biological Diversity and in other recent fora cited in the preamble; and
2. URGES the Director General to recognise the vital global importance of IUCN activities in mountain regions in contributing to IUCN's Global Programme, particularly with regard to Key Result Area 5 of the draft IUCN Intersessional Programme 2005-2008 on Ecosystems and Sustainable Livelihoods, by:
 - (a) Considering the expansion of the Mountain Initiative Task Force to include representatives from all relevant Commissions and Programmes of IUCN in order to ensure that IUCN takes a comprehensive, Union-wide approach to its activities in mountain regions;
 - (b) Making appropriate provision to the Mountain Initiative Task Force to undertake a critical review of past and current projects of IUCN and its members in mountain regions, in order to widely promote and facilitate the sharing of lessons learned from experience with mountain-related policy and practice;
 - (c) Ensuring that IUCN engages fully in the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions and in the implementation of the Programme of Work on Mountain Biological Diversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity, capitalizing on its unique and diverse membership and its convening capacity to contribute to improved policy-making for conservation and sustainable development in mountain regions; and

- (d) Ensuring that IUCN works with member countries and organizations in conducting its mountain initiatives by engaging in local and regional partnership arrangements.

Sponsors:

ICIMOD, Nepal
Scottish Council for National Parks, United Kingdom
The Banff Centre, Mountain Culture, Canada
King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation, Nepal
The Wilderness Society, Australia
Sierra Club, USA
Association of National Parks and Protected Areas of Slovakia, Slovakia
Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association), Lebanon

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to the Programme Committee for guidance and advice.

COSTS: Initially, CHF 150,000 for one-off expenses; subsequently CHF 120,000 annually.

CGR3.RES032

Protection of the Macal River Valley in Belize

RECALLING that the World Conservation Congress at its 2nd Session (Amman, 2000) adopted Recommendation 2.86 (*Protection of the Macal River Valley in Belize*);

RECALLING that this Recommendation identified the tropical forests of Belize as providing some of the richest and best preserved habitat for endangered flora and fauna in Central America, and in particular, described the outstanding conservation values of Belize's Macal River Valley, an area that features important habitat for species of international significance including the Jaguar (*Panthera onca*), Morelet's Crocodile (*Crocodylus moreletii*), Belize's national animal, the Central American Tapir (*Tapirus bairdii*), and a local sub-species of Scarlet Macaw (*Ara macao cyanoptera*), numbering fewer than 200 in Belize;

RECALLING that this Recommendation referred to the proposal to build a hydro-electric storage dam, known as the "Chalillo Project" on the Upper Macal River, which would flood parts of the protected Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve, Chiquibul Forest Reserve, and parts of the Chiquibul National Park;

RECALLING that this Recommendation

1. Urged the sponsors of the Chalillo Project to conduct a fully transparent and participatory environmental impact assessment (EIA) of the proposed hydro-electricity facility, and to agree to terminate the project unless such EIA shows that the project would not cause significant degradation or destruction of wildlife habitat and the natural environment;
2. Called on the government of Belize to require that a fully transparent and participatory environmental impact assessment be conducted for the project and not to allow construction of the project unless such EIA showed that the project would not cause significant degradation or destruction of wildlife habitat and the natural environment; and
3. Requested the Director General of IUCN to provide technical and scientific support to Belize during the preparation, review and evaluation of the EIA;

FURTHER RECALLING that the 2nd World Conservation Congress adopted Recommendation 2.87 (*Protected areas and the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor*), which highlighted the various initiatives signed and supported by regional governments concerning the Corridor and called on the States of Mesoamerica to continue implementation of and compliance with their regional and international environmental commitments;

NOTING that the Belize Electricity Company Limited (BECOL), owned by Fortis, Inc. of Newfoundland, Canada, submitted an EIA prepared with financial support of the Government of Canada on the Chalillo Project to the government of Belize in August, 2001;

AWARE that the wildlife study for the EIA, conducted by the Natural History Museum of London, concluded that the project would cause significant degradation and destruction of wildlife habitat and the natural environment, resulting in “significant and irreversible reduction of biological diversity in Belize” and the “fragmentation of the proposed Mesoamerican Biological Corridor”;

AWARE that this wildlife study recommended that if a decision were made to continue planning for the project, substantial additional research about the potential impacts on wildlife be undertaken, and said that “much more information is required for an informed and defensible decision”;

NOTING that IUCN Mesoamerica provided a technical analysis of the EIA, which concluded that the EIA was insufficient and required “more biological, ecological, geological, hydrological and socio-economic baseline studies, from which to have a justified and solid final decision”;

AWARE that the National Environmental Appraisal Committee (NEAC) of Belize nonetheless approved the EIA, that the Department of Environment allowed the project to go forward, that the courts refused to overturn such approval, that construction began in May 2003 and is now ongoing;

NOTING that approval for the Chalillo Project was conditional upon fulfilment of an environmental compliance plan that includes studies of the safety and geological suitability of the site, studies of the Maya heritage sites that would be affected by the project, monitoring of the project site and evaluation of the construction effects on wildlife and the natural environment;

FURTHER NOTING that access to the project construction site has been restricted and that there is no publicly available information about any follow-up to the studies and assessments referred to above, including the results of any archaeological or monitoring studies, or studies of the effects of construction on wildlife and the natural environment;

REAFFIRMING the view expressed in Recommendation 2.86 that all decisions regarding the project must take into account the best interest of the people of Belize and their desire to achieve balanced development; and

RECOGNISING that a public and transparent accounting of the benefits and effects of this project serves the best interest of the people of Belize;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS on the Government of Belize to create an independent commission of national and international experts to:
 - (a) investigate and report on the potential benefits of the project as well as the impacts of the continued construction of the project on public safety, water quality for downstream communities, wildlife populations, and on the Meso-American Biological Corridor; and

- (b) include in this report recommendations for future action, including measures to minimize harmful impacts on wildlife and wildlife habitat, and steps to ensure compliance with these measures;
2. CALLS on BECOL and Fortis, Inc. to make available to the public and to any such commission as referred to under (1) all available data that are relevant to the project's potential benefits, safety issues, and environmental effects; and
 3. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to provide technical and scientific support for the proposed commission to assist in determining the impacts of the construction of the project on public safety, water quality and wildlife populations, and on the Meso-American Biological Corridor.

Sponsors:

Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Centre, Belize
 Belize Audubon Society (BAS), Belize
 Centro de Derecho Ambiental y de los Recursos Naturales (CEDARENA), Costa Rica
 Asociación de Organizaciones del Corredor Biológico Talamanca-Caribe (CBTC), Costa Rica
 Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestres (APREFLOFAS), Costa Rica
 Consejo de la Tierra, Costa Rica
 Fundación Acceso (ACCESO), Costa Rica
 Asociación Mesa Nacional Campesina (MNC), Costa Rica
 Asociación Ecológica de Paquera, Lepanto y Cubano (ASEPALECO), Costa Rica
 Asociación de Voluntariado, Investigación y Desarrollo Ambiental (VIDA), Costa Rica
 Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente (CITMA), Cuba
 Sociedad Cubana para la Protección del Medio Ambiente (ProNaturaleza), Cuba
 SalvaNatura, El Salvador
 Centro de Protección para Desastres (CEPRODE), El Salvador
 Asociación Salvadoreña Pro-Salud Rural (ASAPROSAR), El Salvador
 Fundación Salvadoreña de Desarrollo y Humanismo Maquilishuatl (FUMA), El Salvador
 Fundación para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Comunal del El Salvador (CORDES), El Salvador
 Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña (UNES), El Salvador
 Fundación Solar, Guatemala
 Asociación Amigos del Bosque, Guatemala
 Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre (ARCAS), Guatemala

Centro Mesoamericano de Estudios sobre Tecnología Apropiada (CEMAT), Guatemala
 Defensores de la Naturaleza, Guatemala
 Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (FUNDAECO), Guatemala
 Asociación para la Recuperación y el Saneamiento Ambiental (ARMSA), Guatemala
 Fundación de Defensa del Medio Ambiente Baja Verapaz (FUNDEMABV), Guatemala
 Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN), Guatemala
 Fundación "Vida", Honduras
 Voluntarios para la Asistencia Técnica de Honduras (VITA), Honduras
 Agencia para el Desarrollo de la Mosquitia (MOPAWI), Honduras
 PG7 Consultores, SC Faunam A.C., Mexico
 Fundación Mexicana para la Educación Ambiental (FUNDEA), Mexico
 Instituto Mexicano de Recursos Naturales Renovables (IMERNAR), Mexico
 Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico
 Fondo para la Biodiversidad (CONABIO), Mexico
 Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA), Mexico
 Instituto de Medio Ambiente y Comunidades Humanas, Universidad de Guadalajara (IMACH), Mexico
 Instituto para el Desarrollo Sustentable en Mesoamérica, AC. (IDESMAC), Mexico
 Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda I.A.P., Mexico
 Fundación de Mujeres de San Miguelito (FUMSAMI), Nicaragua
 Universidad del Norte de Nicaragua (UNN), Nicaragua
 Asociación Club Jóvenes Ambientalistas (ACJA), Nicaragua
 Asociación de Cooperación Rural en África y América Latina (ACRA), Nicaragua
 Asociación Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño (CEASPA), Panama
 Sociedad Audubon de Panamá (SAP), Panama
 Fundación Smithsonian de Panamá (FSP), Panama
 Centro de Estudios para el Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo (CEMAD), Panama
 Centro para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía Samaná y Entorno (CEBSE), Dominican Republic
 Fundación para el Mejoramiento Humano (PROGRESSIO), Dominican Republic

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the controversy over the dam, the motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to ensure that all interested parties have the opportunity to contribute to the debate. The contact group should consider the funding implications of operant paragraph 3, in

consultation with a member of the Programme Committee.

CGR3.RES033 **Biodiversity in Southern Sudan**

RECALLING the 20-year old war in the southern regions of Sudan and its tragic impacts such as the death of millions of people and animals, extensive destruction of property, displacement of about four million citizens and widespread decline to sub-human living conditions;

MINDFUL of the serious damage inflicted by the war on the natural ecosystems including the eighteen protected areas and one of the world's most extensive wetlands (the Sudd region) together with special habitats like the equatorial mountain areas;

THANKFUL to the international community for its efforts in promoting the conclusion of the peace agreement and for its promised support; and

CONSCIOUS of the fact that during the six-year transitional period provided for in the agreement, the priorities of donors will centre on resettlement of the displaced population, rehabilitation of urban and rural support systems, creation of livelihood opportunities, construction of the infrastructure and provision of basic services;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004;

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) assess the impacts of the war on the natural resources of southern Sudan with an emphasis on special habitats and protected areas;
- (b) develop a conservation strategy for southern Sudan; and
- (c) develop urgent action programmes for addressing conservation and sustainable developmental issues such as capacity building for biodiversity conservation, and management of protected areas and special habitats.

Sponsors:

Sudanese Environment Conservation Society,
Sudan
Nature Kenya - The East Africa Natural History
Society, Kenya
East African WildLife Society, Kenya

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is to be considered with CGR3.RES034 - Resource-based conflicts in Darfur, Sudan. Concerns for staff safety and the costs prompt submitting this motion to the Programme Committee for guidance and assessment of the impact the envisaged activities would have on the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-08.

CGR3.RES034 **Resource-based conflicts in Darfur, Sudan**

NOTING the arid and semi-arid fragile ecosystem of the Darfur region in western Sudan which has been subjected to recurrent droughts and intensive desertification;

ALSO NOTING that human and domestic animal population increases from within the region in Sudan as well as from neighbouring countries, coupled with the environmental conditions, are leading to serious degradation of the environment and destructive competition over land resources between settled cultivators and nomadic pastoralists, and to famines;

CONSCIOUS of the transboundary movement of humans and animals, the easy proliferation of firearms into the area and the failure of governments to sustainably manage land resources for the different users; and

ALARMED by the fact that the on-going conflict has persisted for more than sixteen months and has claimed many lives, destroyed properties and displaced at least a million citizens and that the war which started as a resource-based conflict could develop into an ethnic war and could spread into other regions of Sudan and neighbouring countries;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November, 2004:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) develop a conservation strategy for the Darfur region with special emphasis on areas prone to desertification;
- (b) contribute to the design of a land use plan for Darfur to ensure sustainability of natural resources for all users;

- (c) assist development of a management plan for each of Jebel Mara, Radom National Park and Wadi Howar National Park that will incorporate sustainable development as well as biodiversity conservation; and
- (d) promote the building of local capacity for natural resource management.

Sponsors:

Sudanese Environment Conservation Society,
Sudan
Nature Kenya - The East Africa Natural History
Society, Kenya
East African WildLife Society, Kenya

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is to be considered with CGR3.RES033 - Biodiversity in Southern Sudan. Concerns for staff safety and the costs prompt submitting this motion to the Programme Committee for guidance and assessment of the impact the envisaged activities would have on the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-08.

CGR3.RES035
Durban Action Plan and CBD
Programme of Work on Protected Areas

RECALLING the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, generously hosted by South Africa in Durban, 8-17 September 2003, which adopted the Durban Accord, and the Message to the Convention on Biological Diversity on the importance of protected areas and noted the Durban Action Plan and the 32 Workshop Recommendations;

NOTING the welcome adoption of a *Decision and Programme of Work on Protected Areas* by the 7th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Kuala Lumpur, 9-20 February 2004), which strongly reflects guidance from the World Parks Congress, and includes an important set of tasks specifically addressed to IUCN;

ALSO NOTING the joint NGO commitment on protected areas made during the 7th Conference of the Parties, where BirdLife International, Conservation International, Flora and Fauna International, The Nature Conservancy, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wide Fund For Nature, and World Resources Institute all committed themselves to supporting Governments in implementing the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas;

BELIEVING that IUCN should give urgent attention and priority to the actions called for in Durban and Kuala Lumpur, as there are now higher and more precise international and inter-governmental expectations of IUCN in the field of protected areas; and

WELCOMING the achievements of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress and in particular its success in influencing the decisions of the 7th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. DECIDES that IUCN-led actions in the Durban Action Plan should be incorporated into relevant components of the IUCN Quadrennial Programme 2005-2008; and
2. DECIDES that actively supporting the CBD work programme on Protected Areas be made a programmatic priority for all relevant IUCN component programmes.

Sponsors:

Department of the Environment and Heritage
Australia, Australia
South Australian Department for Environment and
Heritage, Australia
Department of Conservation (NZ), New Zealand

RWG COMMENT:

The work called for in this motion is substantially being carried out by the Protected Areas Programme and the World Commission on Protected Areas. This motion and CGR3.RES036 - IUCN Guidelines for protected areas management categories are referred to an ad hoc contact group to facilitate clarification of the actions that are called for; subsequently the motion is referred to the Programme Committee to clarify the programme and funding implications.

CGR3.RES036
IUCN Guidelines for protected areas
management categories

RECALLING the endorsement of the protected area management categories by the IUCN General Assembly at its 19th session held in Buenos Aires in January 1994 (Resolution 19.4 *National Parks and Protected Areas*), which led to the publication of the 1994 IUCN Guidelines on this topic;

WELCOMING the results of the research work “*Speaking a Common Language*” undertaken in preparation for the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) on the impact of the IUCN protected area management categories, the final report of which was completed in preparation for the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress in Bangkok (November 2004) and contains valuable lessons on the operation and development of the system;

WELCOMING Workshop Recommendation V.19 (*IUCN protected area management categories*) noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, which clarifies the role of the system as “an internationally recognised conceptual and practical framework for the planning, management and monitoring of protected areas”, endorses the six category approach as the foundation of that system, and makes a number of recommendations which seek to improve use of the categories at national and international levels;

MINDFUL of the importance of decision VII/28 of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, which, *inter alia*, calls on Governments and relevant organizations to assign protected area management categories to their protected areas and to provide information consistent with the IUCN protected area management categories for reporting purposes;

RECOGNISING that there is a need to broaden understanding of the IUCN protected area management categories in order to respond to Workshop Recommendation V.19 noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress and decision VII/28 of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity; and

WELCOMING the action of the World Commission on Protected Areas in setting up a Task Force on the system of protected area management categories; The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, the World Commission on Protected Areas, and other Commissions as appropriate to work closely together to:
 - (a) produce, as a priority, a review and update of the 1994 IUCN Guidelines on protected area management categories;
 - (b) identify the best mechanisms for assisting Governments in their response to decision VII/28 of the Conference of Parties to the

Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular as it relates to IUCN protected area management categories; and

- (c) in light of b), develop and implement programmes for further guidance, awareness raising, capacity building, monitoring and research, along the lines indicated in workshop recommendation 5.19 noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress and taking into account the lessons learnt from the research project “*Speaking a Common Language*”, with the aim of improving the effectiveness of the categories system at every stage, and specifically including improved assignment of categories of protected areas; and

2. ENCOURAGES all IUCN members to support Governments in responding to decision VII/28 of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular as it relates to their use of the IUCN protected area management categories in providing information for reporting purposes that is comparable across countries and regions.

Sponsors:

Department of the Environment and Heritage
Australia, Australia
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority,
Australia
Conservation International, USA

RWG COMMENT:

The work called for in this motion is substantially being carried out by the Protected Areas Programme and World Commission on Protected Areas. This motion and CGR3.RES035 are referred to an ad hoc contact group to facilitate clarification of the actions that are called for; subsequently the motion is referred to the Programme Committee to clarify the programme and funding implications.

CGR3.RES037 Community Conserved Areas

AWARE that a considerable part of the Earth’s surviving biodiversity is located on territories under the ownership, control, and/or management of indigenous peoples and local communities (including hunting and gathering, pastoral, fishing, and farming peoples and communities), including mobile peoples;

NOTING that such peoples and communities are conserving many sites within these territories, through traditional or other means and that such sites add considerably to humanity's efforts to protect and conserve biodiversity, serve as examples of how to reconcile the objectives of conservation, livelihood, food sovereignty, and local sustainable development and often demonstrate how to manage diverse landscapes and seascapes that contain both wildlife and agricultural diversity;

RECALLING Workshop Recommendation V.26 (*Community Conserved Areas*) noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) which defines Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) as "natural or modified ecosystems, including significant biodiversity, ecological services, and cultural values, voluntarily conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities through customary laws or other effective means", and provides a clear direction on the need to recognise and support CCAs, fitting the objectives of all Protected Area (PA) categories in the IUCN PA Category system;

NOTING the specific targeted actions for the recognition and support of CCAs, in the Programme of Work on Protected Areas, adopted at the 7th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (Kuala Lumpur, February 2004);

AWARE that, at present, most CCAs remain unrecognised in national and international conservation systems, and are largely outside the official protected area networks of countries;

RECOGNISING that CCAs everywhere are facing threats, including those resulting from unclear and insecure tenure arrangements, unsustainable development projects, de-legitimation of customary rights, centralized political decision-making processes, inequities of a social, economic and political nature, loss of knowledge and cultural change, and commercialization of resources; and that communities need support and facilitation to be able to respond to these threats;

NOTING Recommendation V.26 and the relevant parts of the *Durban Accord* of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress; and

WELCOMING the importance given to CCAs in the CBD Programme of Work on PAs;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand 17-25 November 2004:

1. RECOGNISES and AFFIRMS the conservation significance of Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) and the role of indigenous peoples and local communities in managing such sites;
2. URGES IUCN to provide leadership and supportive roles in local, national, and global recognition of CCAs, including through:
 - (a) promoting the recognition of CCAs as a legitimate form of biodiversity conservation, and where communities so choose, their inclusion within national, provincial/state, and local systems of protected areas;
 - (b) providing guidance and case materials to members, countries and communities, that would help in the implementation of the *Durban Action Plan* and the relevant elements of the CBD Programme of Work on PAs;
 - (c) supporting existing CCAs, and facilitating new ones, through various measures including support to the restitution of traditional and customary rights, and other means considered appropriate by the communities concerned;
 - (d) advocating support to communities to protect CCAs against external threats, including through respecting their integrity in operations that could affect such sites or the relevant communities, by applying the principles of Prior Informed Consent, participatory environmental impact assessments, and other measures as elaborated in various decisions of the CBD; and
 - (e) facilitating self-monitoring and evaluation of CCAs by relevant communities, participatory monitoring and evaluation by outside agencies/actors, and effective mechanisms of internal and external accountability;
3. REQUESTS the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) to:
 - (a) ensure that CCAs are central to the forthcoming revised guidance regarding the IUCN Protected Area categories, including through the integration of cultural values in the criteria to define them; and work towards identifying CCAs that fit into each of the categories;

- (b) guide relevant bodies in the revisions or updating of the Global Database on Protected Areas, the UN List of Protected Areas, the State of the World's Protected Areas, and any other such databases or documents to appropriately include CCAs;
 - (c) assess the conservation value of CCAs and disseminate information about it; and
 - (d) include a substantive workplan on CCAs within its programme of work for the next four years;
4. REQUESTS the Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP) to:
- (a) commission or support inventories and participatory studies of CCAs in various parts of the world, in particular regarding best practices and lessons learnt so far;
 - (b) guide relevant national and international bodies on issues at the interface of CCAs and livelihoods, food security and food sovereignty, poverty eradication, equity/gender and other social issues (including problems of human-wildlife conflicts); and
 - (c) facilitate the development of guidelines for the participatory assessment and monitoring of CCAs; and
5. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to develop Secretariat capacity and specific initiatives for effectively carrying out the above leadership and support role.

Sponsors:

Centre for Sustainable Development, Iran
 Foundation for Ecological Security, India
 Atlantic Centre for the Environment, USA
 Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico
 Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña (UNES), El Salvador
 Cent para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía Samaná y entorno (CEBSE), Dominican Republic
 Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestre (APREFLOFAS), Costa Rica

RWG COMMENT:

The current drafting mixes up the mandates of the three referenced Commissions, which needs to be rectified. Terminology should be clarified to

separate Indigenous Peoples from other local communities.

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to clarify the different Commission roles and the terminology and the implications for protected areas criteria.

CGR3.RES038

Integrating protected area systems into the wider landscape

AWARE that protected areas to be effective and achieve biodiversity conservation and other goals they must be managed in the context of the broader landscape and seascape;

UNDERLINING the importance of conservation of biological diversity not only within but also outside protected areas in order to achieve a significant reduction of the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010;

RECALLING the “Message of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)” which states that the global system of protected areas needs to comprise an ecologically representative and coherent network of land and sea areas that include protected areas, corridors and buffer zones, and is characterized by interconnectivity with the landscape and existing socio-economic structures and institutions;

RECALLING the decision of the 7th Conference of Parties of the CBD that by 2015 all protected areas and protected area systems are integrated into the wider land- and seascape, and relevant sectors, by applying the Ecosystem Approach and taking into account ecological connectivity and the concept of ecological networks;

AWARE that protected areas, ecological networks, corridors, buffer zones, rehabilitated and restored habitats, and ecosystems can provide opportunities for protection of ecological services, stakeholder participation and sustainable planning and management, thus meeting the objectives of conserving biodiversity, sustainable use of biological diversity, the equitable sharing of benefits, and social and economic development;

RECOGNISING that the presence and needs of human populations consistent with biodiversity conservation within and in the vicinity of protected areas should be reflected in the overall design and management of protected areas and the surrounding landscapes;

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of engaging indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders in participatory planning and governance, recalling the principles of the Ecosystem Approach; and

AWARE that the challenges of climate change require broad conservation strategies that include elements such as the creation of new protected areas that are specifically designed to be resilient to change and the creation of corridors to protect biodiversity from the effects of climate change;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES IUCN, in accordance with the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas, to actively support the development of appropriate measures to integrate regional, national and sub-national systems of protected areas into broader land- and seascapes, such as *inter alia* the establishment and management of ecological networks, ecological corridors and/or buffer zones, where appropriate, to maintain ecological processes and also taking into account the needs of migratory species;
2. ENCOURAGES IUCN to promote the application of the Ecosystem Approach and support involvement of all relevant sectors and local and indigenous communities, NGOs and private enterprises in the management of protected areas, ecological networks, buffer zones, corridors and areas which are the focus of ecological restoration;
3. ENCOURAGES IUCN to continue work on the identification of opportunities for adequate funding of protected areas and ecological networks, including through the ecological services they provide and the marketing of the benefits of sustainable management;
4. REQUESTS IUCN to contribute to the development of programmes for communication, education and public awareness in support of policy approaches that integrate protected area systems in the wider landscape and seascape; and
5. CALLS on IUCN to assist in mainstreaming protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity into national and international development planning and policy, particularly poverty reduction strategies and the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

Sponsors:

Government of the Netherlands, Netherlands
Parks Canada, Canada
European Centre for Nature Conservation,
Netherlands

RWG COMMENT:

The implementer of the actions called for is not clear and therefore it is difficult to attribute accountability, therefore this motion is referred to the Programme Committee for guidance and advice.

CGR3.RES039

Freshwater protected areas

RECALLING Recommendation 19.38 (*Targets for Protected Areas Systems*), of the 19th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994), as well as Recommendation 16 of the IVth World Parks Congress (Caracas, 1992), which urged governments to ensure that protected areas should cover a minimum of 10 percent of each biome by the year 2000;

RECALLING that Recommendation 17.38 (*Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment*), adopted by the 17th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (San Jose, 1988), Recommendation 1.37 (*Marine Protected Areas*), adopted by the 1st Session of the World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), and Resolution 2.20 (*Conservation of marine biodiversity*), adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), support the establishment of protected areas in marine aquatic environments;

RECALLING that Resolution 2.47 (*Conservation of the last wild rivers of Europe*), adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), urges IUCN to review and promote development of an international classification of river categories according to their degree of naturalness;

RECALLING that Recommendation V.31 (*Protected Areas, freshwater and integrated river basin management frameworks*), noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), supports the establishment and implementation of integrated river basin management in which networks of protected areas and regimes of protection are a key development strategy;

RECALLING that Decision VII/2 of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Kuala

Lumpur, 2004) adopts a goal of establishing and maintaining comprehensive, adequate and representative systems of protected inland water ecosystems within the framework of integrated catchment/watershed/river basin management;

CONCERNED that the use of freshwater resources and the rate of degradation of freshwater habitats are increasing;

CONCERNED that the World Wide Fund For Nature's Living Planet Index indicates that freshwater biodiversity has declined at a greater rate than in either the forest or marine biomes, declining by 55% from 1970-2000;

CONCERNED that an estimated 17% of freshwater fish species in the 20 countries for which assessments were most complete are classified by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species as threatened with extinction;

COMMITTED to the adoption of integrated river basin management as an essential means of achieving sustainable use of freshwater ecosystems and of maintaining aquatic biological diversity;

ACKNOWLEDGING there is an urgent need to ensure that a substantial portion of all ecosystems is conserved to act as reference, replenishment and refuge areas;

CONVINCED that freshwater protected areas represent an important method for conserving marine biodiversity and contributing to the sustainable use of freshwater resources; and

NOTING that the *IUCN Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories* identify a range of protected area types and that systems of protected areas in freshwater environments should be complemented by systems of integrated river basin management;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. RECOMMENDS that all States:

- (a) establish freshwater protected areas for all freshwater ecosystems, including but not limited to riverine, lacustrine, wetland, estuarine and groundwater dependent ecosystems, in cooperation with local communities and resource users, so as to safeguard the biodiversity of each of their freshwater ecosystems, and set a percentage target for protection where useful and appropriate;

- (b) establish their systems of freshwater protected areas within the framework of integrated river basin management; and

- (c) as part of their overall programs of freshwater protected areas, establish viable freshwater protected areas which meet the protection criteria for IUCN Categories I and II, so as to safeguard a sustainable representative proportion of freshwater ecosystems in a natural state and thus help maintain sustainable use and biodiversity throughout their freshwater ecosystems; and

2. RECOMMENDS that the World Commission on Protected Areas develop guidance on the application of the *IUCN Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories* in freshwater environments.

Sponsors:

Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales, Australia
Australian Conservation Foundation, Australia
National Parks Association of New South Wales, Australia

RWG COMMENT:

This motion builds on earlier resolutions and calls for concrete action to increase the protection of freshwater ecosystems. It is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES040

Threats from Olympic Games and other major sport events to protected areas

CONCERNED by the threats to rare and threatened species as well as to valuable existing protected areas, including National Parks, Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage Sites, that would be incurred by many applications for Winter Olympic Games, World Ski Championships and by other major Sport Events;

RECALLING the essential role of well conserved Protected Areas for the well being of nature as well as human populations, as underlined once again by the 7th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

RECALLING also that the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the International Ski Federation (FIS) and other relevant international sport federations very often mention environmental issues as being important selection criteria;

AWARE that the environmental impact of major sport events are often irreversible; and

ALSO AWARE that proper independent environmental impact assessments are rarely made before starting activities, or that their results are not adequately taken into account;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to communicate to the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the International Ski Federation (FIS) and other relevant international sport federations:
 - (a) the concerns of the Conservation Community regarding the effects some past sporting events have had on the integrity of protected areas, other areas of recognised biodiversity importance and on the conservation of threatened species;
 - (b) that respect for the integrity of designated protected areas and other areas of recognised natural or cultural importance becomes an absolute requirement when selecting the location for sporting events;
 - (c) that early, thorough, and independent environmental impact assessments should be required, where
 - (i) public access to the results of such environmental impact assessments is assured, and
 - (ii) and full consideration be given to these impacts during the whole process, including site selection, realization and post-event rehabilitation work; and
 - (d) a dialogue be established, so that IUCN can assist and advise on the location of sporting venues so that they are compatible with the conservation of biodiversity and other natural and cultural resources;
2. RECOMMENDS the Director General to undertake this action in close collaboration with all relevant international initiatives, programmes and agreements, such as the World Heritage Convention, the UNESCO – Man and the Biosphere Programme, the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971), and other regional conventions; and

3. URGES the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the Species Survival Commission (SSC) to work closely with the Director General regarding the organization of sport events which may affect nationally and internationally recognised protected areas or sites identified as particularly vulnerable or rich in biodiversity, and to provide independent expertise from their networks to evaluate the environmental impact of such events.

Sponsors:

Pro Natura, Switzerland
Commission Internationale pour la Protection des Alpes, Liechtenstein
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom
Schweizerische Akademie der Naturwissenschaften, Switzerland
Suomen Luonnonsuojeluliitto - Finnish Association for Nature Conservation, Finland

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to address the following Issues: Operant para 1(d) infers that IUCN would be part of an IOC or national planning committee, which is not guaranteed. Further, IUCN cannot provide an independent review if it is involved in selecting sites. Because of concerns about the capacity of IUCN to deliver the expected actions, the motion is referred to Programme Committee for guidance.

CGR3.RES041

Policy on climate change and adaptation: adapting biodiversity conservation approaches

RECALLING that the conservation of biological diversity is central to the mission of IUCN as stipulated in the *Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources*, adopted under Resolution 2.29 (adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000));

RECOGNISING that climate change poses a substantial threat to global biodiversity both directly (e.g. due to droughts, floods, fires) and indirectly (due to phenological changes and the need for range shifts, morphological and genetic adaptations, uncoupling of mutualisms, etc.);

RECOGNISING that 18-35% of species are predicted to go extinct by 2050 due to climate change (Thomas *et. al.* 2004. "Extinction risk from climate change". *Nature* 427: 145-148);

UNDERSTANDING that interactions with other biodiversity threats will compound the negative impacts of climate change;

CONCERNED that unless conservation planning incorporates climate change, protected areas may not reach biodiversity conservation objectives in the future as they may no longer be suitable for the species they aim to conserve;

FURTHER CONCERNED that existing formally protected areas may become climatically less suitable for the species they aim to conserve and that alternative biodiversity refuges may need to be sought;

ALSO CONCERNED that current IUCN policy for Red Listing of threatened species does not adequately deal with the complex threat of climate change;

NOTING that failure to adequately assess the threat of climate change to threatened species decreases the value of IUCN's Red Listing strategy;

ACKNOWLEDGING that as the weight of evidence indicating large current and future climate change impacts increases, the crucial need for up-to-date biodiversity policies recommending ways to mitigate and adapt to climate change becomes apparent;

AWARE that as the climate warms, current climatic zones shift latitudinal and altitudinal, forcing species, if they are to remain within the climate zones to which they are suited, to move their ranges polewards and upwards; and that as a result, areas that currently form refuges for the species they aim to conserve may no longer be suitable for these species;

EMPHASISING therefore that the inclusion of climate change impacts in conservation planning is essential to ensure the conservation of biodiversity in the long-term;

NOTING that IUCN's Red List criteria were developed to provide an objective, realistic indication of a taxon's threat of extinction that is consistent across taxa ranging from mammals to plants; and

NOTING ALSO that the impacts of climate change have not previously been included in assessments; and that such inclusion is required to facilitate the comparison of the relative impacts of biodiversity threats as well as provide a more accurate indication of species most in danger of extinction;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. RECOMMENDS that comprehensive assessments of all regional and national climate change impacts are conducted by the next World Conservation Congress;
2. RECOMMENDS that climate change projections are included in conservation planning involving:
 - (a) assessment of proposed protected areas as future biodiversity refuges;
 - (b) assessment of current protected areas as future biodiversity refuges; and
 - (c) assessment of the relative impact of predicted climate change on biodiversity;
3. RECOMMENDS that climate change is included as a distinct threat in the IUCN Red List Criteria; Existing Red List criteria (Versions 3.0 and 3.1) should be amended and/or appended to, so that the threat of climate change can be comprehensively and realistically included when assessing a species' risk of extinction; and
4. RECOMMENDS exploring conservation strategies for species predicted to be severely affected by climate change.

Sponsors:

Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa
South African National Parks, South Africa
WWF South Africa, South Africa
Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa,
South Africa

RWG COMMENT:

According to the Secretariat, the Criteria for listing species in the Red List assess changes in the status of species, not the factors that affect that status. Sponsors of this motion and motion CGR3.RES042 - Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action are requested to consider preparing a consolidated text, which is to be considered by an ad hoc contact group. The SSC is invited to consider this motion at its meeting preceding the opening of the Congress and report to the scheduled ad hoc contact group. If the action called for in the consolidated motion affects the Intersessional Programme, it is referred to the Programme Committee for assessment and guidance.

COSTS: If adopted as presented there will be significant financial impact, on the order of CHF 800,000 over four years, for staff time, travel and overhead.

CGR3.RES042

Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action

RECALLING Resolution 2.16 (*Climate Change, Biodiversity, and IUCN's Overall Programme*) adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000); and

FURTHER RECALLING Recommendation Vth IUCN World Parks Congress.05 (*Climate Change and Protected Areas*) noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, which requested the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas to *inter alia*:

- (a) Expand partnerships and deepen its expertise in the provision of advice to practitioners, management agencies and communities on options and guidelines for adapting protected areas to the forces of global change; and
- (b) Identify and communicate best practices to establish methods to anticipate the impacts and opportunities from global change, and adapt management to those changes;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. AFFIRMS that conservation actions are likely to fail unless they adapt to climate change;
2. AFFIRMS the benefits of early action to assist ecosystems to adapt to climate change;
3. REQUESTS the Director General to establish a working group that will:
 - (a) establish a register of existing activities to adapt to climate change;
 - (b) review these existing activities;
 - (c) develop guidance on best practice;
 - (d) disseminate and promote this guidance; and
 - (e) report annually on progress to IUCN members;

4. INVITES members of IUCN to submit information on activities to adapt to climate change to the abovementioned register; and
5. CALLS UPON members of IUCN to adapt their conservation programs, plans and strategies in light of observed and projected impacts of climate change.

Sponsors:

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom
Conservation International, USA
The Nature Conservancy, USA

RWG COMMENT:

See motion CGR3.RES041 - Policy on climate change and adaptation: adapting biodiversity conservation approaches.

CGR3.RES043

Military activities and the production, stockpiling and use of weapons that are of detriment to the environment

RECALLING Resolution 19.41 (*Armed Conflict and the Environment*) adopted at the 19th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994) and Resolution 1.75 (*Armed conflict and the environment*) adopted at the 1st Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

RECALLING Workshop Recommendation V.15 (*Peace, conflict and protected areas*) noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress;

RECOGNISING international instruments and provisions to protect the environment during the course of armed conflict, referring in particular to the Geneva Conventions, the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, and the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects;

AWARE that in recent conflicts provisions contained in the above-named international agreements have not been fully observed;

COGNISANT of the Desk Studies compiled by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

on the deleterious effects and lasting impact of recent armed conflicts in the former Yugoslav Republic and the Gulf;

WELCOMING the study entitled “Legal Regulation of the Effects of Military Activity on the Environment” prepared on behalf of the German Federal Environmental Agency and presented to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme;

RECOGNISING that amongst the recommendations of the above study the Draft Convention on the Prohibition of Hostile Military Activities in Protected Areas prepared by the IUCN Environmental Law Programme appears to have the best prospect of success of any substantive reform proposal;

DEEPLY CONCERNED not only about the immediate impact, but also the lasting effects on the human population and the environment, including the loss of wildlife and its habitat, as well as the severe limitation of prospects for sustainable development; and

ALSO CONCERNED that the relevant multilateral legal agreements, especially vis-à-vis the stockpiling, removal and destruction of chemical weapons and anti-personnel mines, focus almost exclusively on humanitarian aspects, while putting a lesser emphasis on environmental concerns, although it has been demonstrated that even in times of peace the production and storage of such weapons can cause significant environmental harm; and

WELCOMING the work undertaken by the Member States of the United Nations to develop measures to guarantee the Observance of Environmental Norms in the Drafting and Implementation of Agreements on Disarmament and Arms Control;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that higher priority is given within the IUCN Programme and its components to address the concerns listed above;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to initiate an exchange of opinions among its membership as well as selected experts in this field with a view toward developing practical proposals for introducing appropriate legal measures;

3. INVITES the Executive Director of UNEP to act upon the recommendation contained within the above-named study to undertake a comprehensive review of the environmental effects of warfare, whereto IUCN is to offer its scientific expertise; and
4. INVITES the Director General to respond favourably to the recommendation contained in the study exploring the possibility of convening a diplomatic conference to consider the Draft Convention on the Prohibition of Hostile Military Activities in Protected Areas.

Sponsors:

International Council of Environmental Law,
Germany
Macquarie University Centre for Environmental
Law, Australia
Center for Environmental Legal Studies, USA
International Council for Game and Wildlife
Conservation, Hungary

RWG COMMENT:

If this motion is adopted as presented, it would have substantial impact on the Intersessional Programme. Operative paragraph 2 is redundant as the activities called for are already included in the IUCN Programme.

COSTS: The cost to implement this motion, if adopted, would be in the order of CHF 50,000-CHF 100,000 and would need to be raised from external sources.

CGR3.RES044

IUCN’s energy-related work related to biodiversity conservation

NOTING that sound and sustainable energy policies are essential to fulfilment of IUCN’s mission and in particular to the conservation of the earth’s biodiversity;

NOTING that global warming is primarily caused by energy-related combustion of fossil fuels and that it threatens disastrous consequences to biodiversity and natural resources;

APPRECIATING the work presently being done by IUCN to address the impact of climate change and to promote sustainable energy policies;

WELCOMING the work that the IUCN Environmental Law Programme, through the IUCN Environmental Law Centre and the Climate and Energy Specialist Group of the IUCN

Commission on Environmental Law, has done to promote the concept of energy law for sustainable development;

AWARE that the IUCN World Conservation Congress, at its 2nd Session in Amman, Jordan (October 2000) adopted Resolution 2.17 (*Climate and Energy*), recognising the importance of energy to IUCN's mission and specifically requesting the Director General "to request IUCN regional offices... to help educate government officials, the civil society and private sector within their regions about the World Energy Assessment and about cleaner, more affordable available energy options evaluated therein";

RECALLING that *Agenda 21* of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development called upon all nations to promote sustainable development utilizing the precautionary principle; that the 9th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development called on all nations to promote clean energy policies; that the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation* adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development contains specific guidance for implementing those policies; and that the 14th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2006-2007 will be devoted to energy policy issues;

NOTING that the on page 16 of the draft intersessional IUCN Programme 2005-2008 it states: "Energy is likely to become a more important issue in the coming years" and that "The effectiveness of our future work... will depend not only on rich disciplinary knowledge, but also on the capacity to integrate different knowledge fields";

EMPHASISING the need to recognise IUCN's energy-related work as a central part of its programme, and mindful that there now exists no formal IUCN plan of action specifically dedicated to promotion of energy for sustainable development and no focal point within the IUCN Secretariat to coordinate and facilitate the development of IUCN's energy-related work and ensure that this works contributes to carrying out the IUCN mission; and

THANKING the Commission on Environmental Law, its Energy Law and Climate Change Specialist Group and the IUCN Centre for Environmental Law for their leadership since the 1st World Conservation Congress on the Union's technical advice on energy policy and law;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand 17-25 November 2004:

1. INCORPORATES into the revised Programme of IUCN for the next inter-sessional period for IUCN to provide leadership in advancing energy systems for sustainable development, as a necessary and core part of the biodiversity conservation objectives of the Union and in preparation for IUCN's active participation in the 14th and 15th Sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to initiate a plan of action to implement the IUCN Programme on energy policy and law reform for sustainable development;
3. INVITES the Commission on Environmental Law to continue working with the Director General, in the implementation of the IUCN Programme with respect to energy for sustainable development, climate stabilization, and conservation of biological diversity; and
4. URGES donors to give every consideration to providing the support necessary to enable the development of new energy conservation and efficiency systems, and new and renewable sources of energy, as being fundamental to sustainable development.

Sponsors:

Pace Center for Environmental Legal Studies,
USA

Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law,
Singapore

Macquarie University Centre for Environmental
Law, Australia

RWG COMMENT:

While some of the activities proposed in this motion are included in the Intersessional Programme for 2005-08, it calls for significant additional actions. This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to ensure that members have the opportunity to discuss the policy implications of this motion and to the Programme Committee to assess the programmatic and financial implications in relation to the draft Intersessional Programme.

COSTS: Implementation of the activities called for would require at least CHF 250,000, including a full-time staff position. Project funding would be needed to undertake specific activities.

CGR3.RES045
Safeguarding the protected areas of the Andean zones against open-pit mining

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION that in the South American Andean zone, the Puna in particular, there are a large number of natural and cultural protected areas, including Natural and Cultural World Heritage Sites, Biosphere Reserves, National Parks, Natural Monuments, Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar), sites dedicated to migratory species and others;

RECOGNISING that the preservation of such areas is fundamental in the conservation of the High Andean ecological corridors;

WARNING that open-pit mining in and around several of these areas has been on the increase over the last ten years;

CONSIDERING that most Andean countries have laws in place for protection against the negative environmental impact of mining and that the international regulations which led to the establishment of protected areas on a world level (Biosphere Reserves, Natural and Cultural World Heritage Sites, Wetlands of International Importance, etc.) in their articles stipulate protection and prevention measures for mining activities to be implemented by those countries adhering to said international instruments;

AWARE of the fact that mining engineering has now advanced to such a point where mining can be carried out with little or no environmental impact, that palliative and mitigating measures have been developed and exist for the various types of mining methods and mines, widely proven by their effectiveness;

RECOGNISING that mining with the "open pit" technique is preferred by the multinational companies in countries considered to be underdeveloped, due to the view that it involves less financial risk, less economic investment and fewer initial permanent structures, and in turn requires for its operation fewer personnel to achieve efficiency and such personnel can be unskilled;

RECOGNISING ALSO that these companies exert great pressure on local governments to authorize this technique, focusing on the need to create new sources of employment in deprived and practically depopulated areas (generally inhabited by indigenous communities) seriously lacking in productive activities, furthermore requesting from these governmental authorities exemption from obligations to provide all the basic infrastructure

for sanitary support systems and from the measures regarding safety equipment for personnel, thus obtaining the relevant authorization even when against the will of the local population (as in the case of the public consultation held in the city of Esquel in Argentina);

OBSERVING that open pit mining in the way it is currently carried out is generating many solid particles (some toxic) which are suspended in the atmosphere in these arid and semi-arid areas of the Puna, remaining in the atmosphere for months, and these particles, due to intense, sporadic rainfall or to strong winds which prevail at certain times of the year, are then deposited in patches of water, water supply sources, lagoons, etc., which effectively results in a fall in the reproduction of benthic resources, phytoplankton and zooplankton from water sources, reducing and in turn contaminating the existing trophic chain, thus directly affecting: (1) fish farming, (2) food supplies for terrestrial and aerial fauna using these places and (3) the inhabitants for whom these are their only source of drinking water;

OBSERVING furthermore that subterranean water supplies are being overexploited and are not being recycled or treated after use, but are poured into the ground, thus impacting even further on the critical situation mentioned in the previous paragraph; and

CONSCIOUS that if measures are not taken swiftly to prevent these negative actions, the magnitude of the problem will become chronic and irreversible;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS the Director General to work in the interests of defending the Precautionary Principle established for national protected natural areas in the IUCN programmes and towards the application on a national level of conventions, treaties and national agreements relating to nature conservation:

- (a) calling for the countries in the Andean region to take positive action to reverse the current negative situations and to take the necessary preventative steps to avoid future granting of authorization for open-pit mining in or around protected areas;
- (b) to support in an effective way the local non-governmental organizations and those of the countries involved, in the activities developed for the prevention of this type of mining;

(c) to form a provisional group of advisers to compile a list of the sites which are most affected and most susceptible to this activity, and to issue a public declaration on the current situation and future risks, ensuring that this document reaches the Union members for use as support in their activities in defence of the protected areas and the associated flora and fauna, as well as to protect the local communities from said risks, informing them of the possible alternative mining methodologies available which would have a less negative impact.

Sponsors:

Fundación RIE - Red Informática Ecologista,
Argentina
Fundación para la Conservación de las Especies y
el Medio Ambiente, Argentina
Fundación PROTEGER, Argentina

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration. Delegates are advised that a Working Group on Extractive Industries and Biodiversity has been established and the Secretariat is engaged in a dialogue on extractive issues with the ICMM.

CGR3.RES046

Influencing Private Sector actions in favour of biodiversity

CONVINCED that the actions of private sector actors have a large bearing on the goal and mission of IUCN;

NOTING that the impact of the private sector on the conservation of biodiversity can be both positive and negative;

BELIEVING that, historically, IUCN has tended to underplay the importance of the private sector to the achievement of its mission;

NOTING that IUCN has during the past quadrennium taken steps to engage in dialogue with companies, including providing expert advice on biodiversity conservation in selected sectors and undertaking expert exchanges;

RECOGNISING that IUCN will not make optimal progress towards achieving its mission unless and until it develops productive relations with key actors in the private sector;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that a range of IUCN members, including NGOs and government agencies, are increasingly working with the private sector to minimize its impact on the environment and to bring positive improvements in the environmental and social performance of corporations; and

AWARE of the importance of avoiding the name and reputation of the Union being used as “green wash” to mask misbehaviour on the part of corporate actors;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. INVITES the Director General to select and implement a limited number of partnership initiatives with private sector companies and associations representing private sector environmental interests that will advance the mission of IUCN, with a view to pinpointing the optimal areas for IUCN interaction with the private sector in future;
2. ASKS the Director General, before the end of 2005, to submit for consideration of the IUCN Council a revised workplan to broaden the scope of IUCN relations with the private sector;
3. URGES the IUCN Council to explore mechanisms for engaging with the private sector including the establishment of a Commission or other form of knowledge network on Biodiversity and Corporate Action; and
4. FURTHER INVITES the Director General to submit a detailed proposal for IUCN-private sector relations to the World Conservation Congress at its first session following the Bangkok Congress.

Sponsors:

International Institute for Sustainable
Development, Canada
Earthwatch Institute (Europe), United Kingdom
Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada,
Canada

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES047
IUCN's interaction with the private sector

NOTING that the private sector can play a major role in achieving sustainable development, promoting biodiversity conservation and contributing to the Millennium Development Goals;

CONSIDERING that this is often not achieved because of a lack of citizens' and Indigenous Peoples' participation, illegal and unjust business practice, poor company standards and codes of conduct, and inadequate national and international regulatory frameworks;

RECALLING the Recommendations of the IUCN sponsored World Commission on Dams (WCD), the World Bank's Extractive Industries Review (EIR) and the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress;

NOTING that IUCN's *Strategy for Enhancing IUCN's Interaction with the Private Sector* calls for future interaction and dialogue with the private sector to be based on clear principles;

RECOGNISING that this *Strategy* reiterates IUCN's goals of promoting a more accountable private sector which contributes to sustainable development, including conservation and social equity; and

CONCERNED that, unless based on clear principles, interactions and dialogues with the private sector, there is a risk of tarnishing the reputation of IUCN and compromising its independence;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS on the Director General to prepare clear principles of engagement before entering into further dialogues, partnership agreements and other interactions with the private sector which include commitments to:
 - (a) transparency by ensuring public access to information;
 - (b) participation of affected stakeholders and rights-holders, especially vulnerable groups, in dialogues with the private sector; and
 - (c) the principle of "Free Prior and Informed Consent" as recommended by the World

Commission on Dams and the Extractive Industries Review;

2. RECOMMENDS that the criteria for selection of activities give priority to cooperation with the private sector in areas which address the root causes of biodiversity loss, where – as stated by IUCN's above mentioned *Strategy* – action can be most effective; and
3. REQUESTS that the Director General prepare an annual report for IUCN members on the implementation of the *Strategy for Enhancing IUCN's Interaction with the Private Sector*, including steps taken to ensure adherence to agreed upon principles.

Sponsors:

Environmental Defense, USA
Sierra Club, USA
Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL), USA

RWG COMMENT:

The preamble of this motion should refer to earlier motions on the subject. Operative paragraph 1 should take into account the eight principles contained in the Private Sector Strategy approved by Council (March 2004), including the two mentioned in the motion. This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group for redrafting, in conjunction with motion CGR3.RES046 - Influencing Private Sector actions in favour of biodiversity, and subsequently to the Programme Committee for guidance.

CGR3.RES048
The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

RECALLING Resolution 2.55 (*Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) that describes the challenge of effectively managing the earth's ecosystems;

RECOGNISING the contribution that the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) is making to the emergence of a widely accepted conceptual framework to assess ecosystems and human well-being and to the consolidation of a solid foundation of scientific information on the current state, future scenarios and response options in relation to ecosystems and human well-being;

RECOGNISING the relevance of local, national and regional integrated assessments of ecosystems and human well-being as tools for decision-making for sustainable development;

NOTING the active involvement of IUCN members, Commissions, and Secretariat as authors and reviewers of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, and the representation of IUCN on the Board of the MA; and

REAFFIRMING the request in Resolution 2.55 that the IUCN Director General and IUCN's members continue to support and be involved in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. WELCOMES progress made in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) global and sub-global assessments, and in the recognition of science and traditional knowledge as sources of knowledge on the status of ecosystems and how they can be managed to contribute to human well-being while maintaining biodiversity and the delivery of ecosystem services;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to proactively disseminate the findings of the MA to the members when they are released;
3. ENCOURAGES the IUCN membership to make full use of the findings of the MA to engage in public discussions and policy dialogues, identify areas of priority action and to help promote the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems;
4. REQUESTS that the Director General and Commissions, and in particular the Commission on Ecosystem Management and the Commission on Education and Communication, facilitate the communication of the MA findings to the members and the dissemination of the tools and methods developed in the MA through, *inter alia*, relevant training and capacity building activities; and
5. REQUESTS IUCN to take an active role, in cooperation with other international organizations, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), to promote the emergence of stable mechanisms at multiple scales to carry out ongoing assessments of ecosystems and their links with human well-being.

Sponsors:

World Resources Institute, USA
The Nature Conservancy, USA

Corporación Nacional Forestal CONAF, Chile
Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano, Ecuador
Miljoverndepartementet - Norwegian Ministry for the Environment, Norway

RWG COMMENT:

This motion confirms IUCN's involvement in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES049 **Cities and conservation**

RECOGNISING that almost half the world's people live in cities and this proportion is expected to grow to 60 percent by 2030;

CONSIDERING that nature provides many significant benefits to cities and urban residents;

CONSIDERING that conservation organizations depend on support from voters, leaders, opinion-shapers, and financial resources largely concentrated in cities;

RECALLING that IUCN has acknowledged the critical roles that cities, urban people, and urban institutions play in achieving its mission, for example, in *Caring for the Earth* (1990) and at the Union's 50th Anniversary Celebration (Fontainebleau, 1998);

AWARE that Recommendation V.14 (*Cities and protected areas*) noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress calls on IUCN to:

- (a) incorporate an urban dimension into its 2005-08 Programme;
- (b) link biodiversity conservation to human settlements to advance implementation of sustainability objectives, including the United Nations Millennium Development Goals;
- (c) recruit as members organizations engaged in urban environmental issues, and invite prominent leaders and experts in urban management to participate in IUCN; and
- (d) develop partnerships with key organizations engaged in the urban environment;

AWARE that several activities have been organized at this World Conservation Congress to demonstrate that protecting nature and improving city life are interdependent goals; and

CONCERNED that consideration of urban issues is inadequately represented in the 2005-08 Programme;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, in consultation with Commissions and IUCN's members, to:
 - (a) systematically review the 2005-08 Programme to identify opportunities for strengthening existing and planned themes, component programmes, and projects by incorporating an urban component in them;
 - (b) consider how the urban dimension of conservation can best be represented within IUCN's structure, e.g. by a focal point in the Secretariat, and an intercommission task force; and
 - (c) identify and recruit as IUCN members, and develop partnerships with, key international and national organizations engaged in the urban environment; and
2. ENCOURAGES Commissions to recruit and actively involve in their work prominent leaders and experts in urban management.

Sponsors:

California Institute of Public Affairs, USA
WWF-Brasil, Brazil
World Wide Fund for Nature - U.K., United Kingdom

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the policy implications of this motion, relevant previously adopted Resolutions and Recommendations should be referenced in the preamble: GA 15/6 Urban fringes; GA15/7 The role of traditional lifestyles and local people in conservation and development; GA 16/6 Human settlements and conservation action; GA 10/5 Reserves in urban areas; GA12/5 Protection of traditional way of life; GA 16/3 Population and the World Conservation Strategy; GA 18/14 The principles of ethically sound and sustainable development; GA 18/18: Women and natural resources management; WCC 1.65: Sustainable engineering; WCC 2.45 Conservation of mountain ecosystems in Europe. The motion is referred to the Programme Committee for consideration and guidance.

CGR3.RES050

A landscape/seascape approach to conservation

RECALLING the outcome of the Vth IUCN World Park Congress concerning the importance of a global system of protected areas linked to the surrounding landscapes and seascapes, and the crucial role of landscape/seascape policies and plans as means for spreading the benefits of protected areas beyond their boundaries;

AWARE of the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species and the UNESCO-MAB World Network of Biosphere Reserves in favour of the Ecosystem Approach and ways to protect biodiversity in the wide landscape/seascape;

NOTING that, notwithstanding the impressive 11.5 percent terrestrial coverage already achieved, most of the world biodiversity exists outside of protected areas and depends on effective biological connectivity and ecological networking;

RECOGNISING that the landscape/seascape approach includes measures to protect and add value to the biological and cultural diversity of whole territories and seascapes, as demonstrated by initiatives such as the Project APE (Appennine Park of Europe) in Italy, the Parcs Naturels Régionaux of France, the National Parks of the UK and the biosphere reserves of Spain;

NOTING that many such initiatives involve the use of Category V protected areas (Protected Landscapes and Seascapes);

FURTHER NOTING that the landscape/seascape approach can help recover the relationship between people and places, strengthen local identities and cultures, and enhance the awareness and capacity of local communities to manage their natural resources and conserve their natural and cultural heritage;

STRESSING that much is still to be understood about the relationship between biological and cultural diversity in the landscape/seascape, in particular with regard to mobility and other traditional patterns of resource use that enhance biodiversity through biological connectivity and human livelihoods and cultures through social connectivity;

RECALLING the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe (Florence, 2000), which states that the "landscape has to be

recognized as an essential component of people's surroundings, a powerful expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage and a foundation of their identity";

CONSIDERING that the implementation of the Convention's principles depends on effective and equitable forms of governance at the landscape/seascape level and strong links between protected area and landscape/seascape policies, and that it can promote new alliances between people and nature; and

RECOGNISING that such alliances are crucial in all regions of the world and in places in Europe and the Mediterranean where biodiversity depends on long and complex processes of human interactions with nature, it can be demonstrated that landscape/seascape diversity reflects a tight intertwining of natural and cultural values;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS upon IUCN members, national and regional governments and civil society at large to develop innovative governance systems and strategic programmes fostering the integration of protected areas in their landscapes/seascapes, strengthening transboundary cooperation, enhancing the engagement of the relevant communities and promoting the conservation of both biological and cultural diversity;
2. EXHORTS interested parties to adhere to the European Landscape Convention and to demonstrate its effective implementation in protected areas and their regional contexts, integrating nature conservation with effective enhancement of their landscape/seascapes;
3. URGES IUCN to play a much more active role in assisting IUCN members to draw the full benefits of the landscape/seascape approach by:
 - (a) clarifying and articulating what the "landscape/seascape approach" entails and developing/diffusing examples of relevant policies, plans, methods and tools;
 - (b) promoting exchanges or experiences and networking about IUCN members and partners that have developed and implemented policies and practices inspired by the landscape/seascape approach;

- (c) reviewing lessons learned and potential for improvement, in particular with regard to landscapes/ seascapes crucial for biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods;
- (d) adopting a formal statement about the landscape/seascape approach, including advice on governance mechanisms that help integrate protected areas and other forms of conservation within the landscape/seascape; and
- (e) advocating the approach in national and international policies, supporting trans-boundary cooperation and fostering the development of national and international enabling frameworks; and

4. REQUESTS the Director General to develop Secretariat capacity and specific initiatives in support of the above in association with the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management, the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas.

Sponsors:

Dipartimento Interateneo Territorio Politecnico e
Università di Torino, Italy
Legambiente, Italy
Sierra Club, USA
Istituto Nazionale per la Fauna Selvatica, Italy
Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association),
Lebanon
Centre for Sustainable Development, Iran

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to the Programme Committee for guidance and advice.

CGR3.RES051

The protection of seamounts, deep sea corals and other vulnerable deep sea habitats from bottom trawl fishing on the high seas

RECOGNISING recent scientific investigations documenting previously undiscovered species, great species diversity, and very high endemism rates in deep sea ecosystems;

AWARE that deep sea bottom trawling represents the most serious and immediate threat to seamounts, deep sea coral, and other deep sea habitats;

RECOGNISING FURTHER that bottom trawl fishing is completely unregulated in extensive areas of the high seas, and few if any of the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations that have jurisdiction to control such fishing have done so to protect sensitive habitats;

FURTHER RECALLING decision VII/5 (*Marine and coastal biological diversity*) of the 7th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (February 2004), which stressed the need for rapid action to address threats to the marine biodiversity of areas like seamounts, hydrothermal vents, cold water corals and other vulnerable marine ecosystems and features beyond national jurisdiction, and called upon the UN General Assembly and other relevant international and regional organizations to “urgently take the necessary short-term, medium-term and long-term measures to eliminate/avoid destructive practices, consistent with international law, on a scientific basis, including the application of precaution,” through, for example, on a case by case basis, the “interim prohibition of destructive practices adversely impacting the marine biological diversity associated with [these] areas...;”

RECALLING numerous IUCN resolutions and recommendations calling on states to end the use of destructive fishing gear and practices and curtail unsustainable international fisheries, beginning in 1972 (e.g., 11.16 (1972), 12.2 (1975), 14.7 (1978), 19.61 (1994); 1.16 (1996)); to apply the Precautionary Principle to the conservation and management of high seas fisheries (e.g., 12.8 (1975), 19.55 and 19.56 (1994)); and to ratify and implement international agreements designed to prevent, deter, and eliminate unregulated fishing and apply ecosystem and precautionary approaches to fisheries conservation and management (1.17 and 1.76 (1996); 2.78 (2000));

RECALLING FURTHER Resolution 2.20 (*Conservation of marine biodiversity*) highlighting the need for conservation of marine biodiversity, adopted by the World Conservation Congress in October 2000 at its 2nd Session in Amman, Jordan;

TAKING NOTE of growing international concern over threats to vulnerable deep sea ecosystems, notably at the 2003 Defying Ocean’s End Conference, the 2003 5th IUCN World Parks Congress, and the 2003 Deep Sea Fisheries Conference, as the protection of deep sea biodiversity is a matter of interest to all nations and peoples;

RECOGNISING the Consensus Statement issued in February 2004 by over 1000 marine scientists from around the world calling for swift action to

protect imperilled deep sea coral and other ecosystems at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and urging an immediate moratorium on bottom trawling on the high seas;

ENCOURAGED by increasing recognition by governments of the urgent need to protect seamounts, deep sea corals and other vulnerable deep sea habitats, e.g., at the UN General Assembly in 2002 and 2003; the 2002, 2003 and 2004 meetings of the UN Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, and the 2003 Ministerial Meeting of the OSPAR Commission; and

NOTING the recommendations adopted by the 5th meeting of the Consultative Process urging states to consider, on a case-by-case basis, “the interim prohibition of destructive practices by vessels under their jurisdiction that have an adverse impact on vulnerable marine ecosystems,” and encouraging regional fisheries management organizations to “urgently address the impact of deep sea bottom trawling on vulnerable marine ecosystems;”

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November, 2004:

REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to strive for promoting and ensuring the conservation of seamounts, deep sea corals and other vulnerable deep sea habitats by:

- (a) urging the United Nations General Assembly to adopt a resolution declaring an immediate moratorium on high seas bottom trawling pending the development and implementation of a legally binding regime(s) to protect deep sea biodiversity from high seas bottom trawling and to conserve and manage bottom fisheries of the high seas consistent with the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (1995), the FAO Compliance Agreement (1993), the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992) and the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (1995); and
- (b) calling on IUCN members, multilateral organizations and other relevant organizations, to promote the conservation and protection of deep sea biodiversity and its equitable and sustainable use, including through an immediate moratorium on high seas bottom trawling and the development of legally binding regimes.

Sponsors:

Natural Resources Defense Council, USA
Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda I.A.P. GESIAP,
Mexico
Conservation International, USA
Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía MINAE, Costa
Rica
Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco,
Mexico
Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña C865 (UNES), El
Salvador
Cent para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la
Bahía Samaná y entorno (CEBSE), Dominican
Republic
Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna
Silvestre (APREFLOFAS), Costa Rica
Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales,
Argentina
Fundación Jatun Sacha, Ecuador
Environment and Conservation Organizations of
New Zealand, New Zealand
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New
Zealand, New Zealand

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the policy implications, this motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group.

COSTS: Less than CHF 50,000 from core funds to implement the proposed actions. Further funding would need to be raised from external sources.

This motion is to be considered with a counterpart Recommendation CGR3.REC018.

Explanatory memorandum:

Scientists and states are increasingly concerned about the threats to vulnerable deep sea biodiversity hotspots, including seamounts and cold-water corals, posed by bottom trawl fishing conducted on the high seas. These deep sea features typically support slow-growing, long-lived species, which are particularly sensitive to disturbance. Urgent action is needed to protect seamounts, deep water corals and other vulnerable deep sea habitats that occur beyond the 200-mile limit from bottom trawl fishing and to prevent the serial depletion of populations of numerous commercially important species of deep sea fish associated with them.

Seamounts are submarine mountains and hills that rise 1000 meters or more above the ocean floor. They are distributed throughout the world's oceans. Less than 1% of seamounts have been biologically sampled, but recent research indicates that seamounts have large numbers of endemic species (species that are not found anywhere else).

Along with cold water corals and other deep-sea ecosystems, seamounts represent a major reservoir of biodiversity in the oceans. There is great concern that many species are being lost to bottom trawling before they can even be identified, greatly reducing the opportunities for all states to benefit from deep sea species and biodiversity.

Bottom trawl fishing is completely unregulated in extensive areas of the high seas. This represents an important gap in the governance of the world's oceans. Only a handful of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations have authority to regulate deep sea bottom fishing, and few if any have restricted bottom trawling to protect sensitive ecosystems. In relation to other high seas fisheries, bottom trawling on the high seas is limited in terms of the number of vessels, the countries involved, and the amount and value of the catch.

The conservation and management of fisheries and the protection of biodiversity within the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zones is largely a matter for coastal state responsibility. However the international community as a whole has a collective responsibility to ensure the conservation of biodiversity and fish stocks on the high seas. It is for this reason that the UN General Assembly, Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and other international fora have repeatedly called for urgent action to address the threats to deep sea ecosystems beyond national jurisdiction.

An immediate moratorium on high seas bottom trawling provides a means of temporarily preserving deep sea biodiversity and fish stocks until an effective regulatory regime can be developed, agreed and applied. It should be accompanied by a time-limited international initiative coordinated under the auspices of the UN General Assembly that can ensure prompt scientific assessment and the negotiation and agreement of effective, equitable and sustainable regimes for high seas bottom fishing.

CGR3.RES052

On the undesirability of floating atomic stations in the world's oceans

CONSIDERING that any additional radioactive pollution of the ocean threatens biodiversity conservation;

REALIZING that any atomic power station inevitably represents a powerful source of radioactive and thermal pollution;

RECOGNISING that there are yet no atomic reactors that exclude the possibility of exploding and, consequently, of causing radioactive pollution on vast territories and aquatic areas;

RECOGNISING FURTHER the need to prevent proliferation of fissile materials in the world for the sake of reducing the threat of international terrorism; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the construction of a floating atomic power station has already started in Severodvinsk (Arkhangelskaya oblast of the Russian Federation) with governmental support, and that talks with several countries are under way on the terms of leasing of such stations;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES the Government of the Russian Federation to renounce its plans to construct floating atomic stations and to make an increased use of opportunities for developing alternative sources of energy for ensuring power supply of remote regions;
2. CALLS ON the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to review the plans on arranging leasing of floating atomic power stations with the aim of limiting the proliferation of fissile materials;
3. ALSO CALLS ON the Secretariat of the *Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter* (London, 1972), as well as international and regional organizations (including institutions from the Pacific and Mediterranean regions) to amend the existing agreements protecting the world's oceans in connection with the Russian Federation's plans to construct and lease floating atomic power stations;
4. URGES the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) to consider the implications of possible radioactive pollution of the world's oceans as a result of floating atomic power stations' activities; and
5. REQUESTS the Director General to assess the implications of radioactive pollution from floating atomic power stations on marine ecosystems in the world's oceans and prepare an IUCN statement summarising the conclusions of this assessment.

Sponsors:

Center for Russian Environmental Policy CREP,
Russian Federation
Environmental Education Centre "Zapovedniks",
Russian Federation
Biodiversity Conservation Centre BCC, Russian
Federation

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group with the request that the action called for in operant paragraph 5 be revised to fall within the competency of IUCN. Subsequently it is referred to the Programme Committee for their assessment and guidance.

CGR3.RES053

Undersea noise pollution

RECOGNISING that anthropogenic ocean noise is a form of pollution that degrades habitat and has adverse effects on marine life ranging from disturbance to injury and mortality;

CONCERNED that, over the last century, the world's oceans have become polluted by acoustic energy from many human activities, including oil and gas exploration, commercial shipping, and military testing and training;

GREATLY TROUBLED by reports of mass strandings and deaths of cetaceans coincident with the use of military sonar and with the use of technologies in mineral exploration, and disturbed by experimental evidence of physiological and behavioural impacts of sound on several species of fish;

AWARE that some types of anthropogenic noise can travel hundreds and even thousands of miles underwater and, like other forms of pollution, are not restricted by national boundaries;

WELCOMING steps taken by governments to alleviate the impact of anthropogenic noise on marine species, but noting that many sources of intense noise are not presently subject to mitigation and that few protected areas are managed for noise impacts;

MINDFUL that the International Maritime Organization, in its Guidelines for the Designation of Special Areas and the Identification of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas, has identified shipping noise as a pollutant that can adversely affect the marine environment and living resources of the sea;

NOTING that Resolution 1998-6 of the International Whaling Commission identified the impacts of anthropogenic noise as a priority topic for investigation within its Scientific Committee, and that the Scientific Committee, in its report to the 56th meeting of the Commission, concluded that military sonar, seismic exploration, and other noise sources such as shipping pose a significant and increasing threat to cetaceans, both acute and chronic, and made a series of recommendations to member governments regarding the regulation of anthropogenic noise;

APPLAUDING Resolution 5 (*Effects of Noise and of Vessels*) adopted by the 4th Meeting of Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS), and Recommendation 2.7 (*Man Made Noise*) adopted by the Scientific Committee of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS);

RECALLING that the IUCN Cetacean Specialist Group, in its current Conservation Action Plan for Dolphins, Whales, and Porpoises, has identified the rise of ocean noise as a threat to cetaceans and has observed that such noise is likely to continue rising in the twenty-first century unless drastic steps are taken; and

FURTHER RECALLING IUCN's strong commitment to the conservation of marine species and habitat, as reflected in Resolution 2.20 (*Conservation of Marine Biodiversity*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), and Recommendations 1.17 (*Coastal and Marine Conservation and Management*) and 1.37 (*Marine Protected Areas*) adopted by the 1st Session of the World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, with the assistance of IUCN's members, Commissions, and Council, to promote new measures for reducing the impacts of anthropogenic noise pollution on marine species and habitat and to ensure that such pollution is addressed;
2. CALLS ON
 - (a) the Species Survival Commission (SSC), in cooperation with its specialist groups, to take account of noise pollution and its impact on species and biodiversity in preparing the IUCN Red List and to

develop research projects and management recommendations that advance the conservation of marine species in light of such pollution;

- (b) the World Commission on Protected Areas (WPCA) to consider anthropogenic noise in all its work related to marine and coastal protected areas and specifically in its assessments of the conservation status of World Heritage sites and in its efforts to implement the programme on marine and coastal biodiversity adopted by the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity; and
 - (c) the Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) to make recommendations on legal and policy issues arising out of the international management of undersea noise pollution, and to counsel IUCN members, governments, and intergovernmental organizations on such issues, particularly in the drafting of legislative instruments;
3. ENTREATS all governments, through the mechanisms available to them under domestic and international law, including the development of legislative and regulatory instruments to;
 - (a) apply the Precautionary Principle in assessing and mitigating the potential impacts of noise generated by commercial, military, and industrial activities;
 - (b) investigate mass strandings and deaths of marine mammals that are associated with the use of intense anthropogenic noise in a publicly open, inclusive, and transparent manner;
 - (c) encourage the development of alternative technologies and require the use of best available control technologies and other mitigation measures in reducing impacts from individual noise sources;
 - (d) limit the use of powerful noise sources until their short-term and long-term effects are better understood, and, to the maximum extent possible, to avoid the use of such sources in habitat of vulnerable species and in areas where marine mammals or endangered species may be concentrated;

- (e) consider noise restrictions in their management guidelines for marine and coastal protected areas; and
- (f) work together with national and international non-governmental organizations and with the scientific community in accomplishing these goals; and

4. URGES governments of countries that are:

- (a) Parties to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 (MARPOL 73/78), to support development of an annex for the control of undersea shipping noise;
- (b) Members of the European Union (EU) to recognise under Article 12 of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) that underwater noise is a potential source of disturbance to marine species listed on Annex IV(a) and to ensure that the EU's Marine Strategy addresses the regulation of harmful noise in the marine environment; and
- (c) Parties to the Regional Seas Agreements coordinated by the United Nations Environment Programme, or to other regional marine agreements and conventions, to include the control of anthropogenic noise pollution in their strategies, action plans, and measures for the preservation of habitats and the conservation of marine biological diversity.

Sponsors:

Natural Resources Defense Council, USA
 Sierra Club, USA
 Caribbean Conservation Association, Barbados
 Defenders of Wildlife, USA
 Environmental Defense, USA

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group with the request that the Secretariat's scope of work be better defined. Subsequently it is referred to the Programme Committee to review the implications of the work and associated financial implications in the context of the programme.

CGR3.RES054

Environmental protection of the Mediterranean Sea from the risk of maritime traffic

RECOGNISING that the Mediterranean region, because of its distinctive geo-morphology and history, is one of the richest areas of biological and landscape diversity in the world, with unique ecosystems and endemisms, which makes it a global biodiversity hotspot;

NOTING that the Mediterranean is a closed sea with a time of 80 years for water recycling, where water temperature and climatic conditions make pollution risk particularly dangerous;

CONSIDERING the importance of the Mediterranean Sea for the global maritime traffic;

UNDERLINING the important role of the *Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean* (Barcelona Convention) and its specific protocols and of the International Maritime Organisation in providing support to Parties in dealing with issues related to maritime traffic risks, prevention and response to accidents;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the *Naples Declaration*, agreed by IUCN Mediterranean members in June 2004,¹ particularly where they request a renewed and improved effort in the implementation of the Barcelona Convention, encouraging States to ratify and implement the protocols especially those on navigational safety, on Specially Protected Areas and the Strategic Action Plan on Biodiversity (SAP-BIO);

RECOGNISING the important role played by IUCN in deepening the knowledge on trans-boundary environmental issues and issues related to the high seas, in raising the awareness on these issues and in empowering members and other parties through the results; and

RECOGNISING the increased attention of IUCN to Mediterranean issues, for instance by establishing the Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

1

http://www.iucn.org/places/medoffice/members%20meeting/Declaration_final_en.pdf

- (a) Place the IUCN expertise on environmental protection at the disposition of States requesting assistance in the field of the risk of maritime traffic through the Mediterranean Sea;
- (b) Propose pilot actions and support the activities of IUCN members on the Mediterranean basin, in the context of international agreements focused on this topic; and
- (c) Commit IUCN, including through its status of Observer to the United Nations General Assembly, to raise the profile of issues related to threats to biodiversity by maritime traffic through the Mediterranean Sea.

Sponsors:

Ministero dell Ambiente y della Tutela del Territorio - Servizio Conservazione della Natura, Italy
 Legambiente, Italy
 Lliga per a la Defensa del Patrimoni Natural, Spain
 Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association), Lebanon

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to the Programme Committee for guidance and advice, especially in regards to defining the scope of work called for in a subject matter which is not presently addressed directly by IUCN.

COSTS: CHF 50,000 to CHF 100,000 depending on the scope of support provided.

CGR3.RES055

International cooperation on forest management

RECALLING Resolutions 1.20 (*Biological diversity and forests*) and 1.21 (*Forest concessions*) of the 1st Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress and Resolution 2.39 (*Corruption in the forest sector*) of the 2nd Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress;

RE-EMPHASISING that:

- (a) forests play a crucial role in maintaining global biodiversity, and hold the vast majority of the world's terrestrial species; and
- (b) the maintenance of forest ecosystems is crucial to the conservation of biodiversity well beyond their boundaries;

NOTING the outcome of the United Nations Conference for the Negotiation of a Successor Agreement to the International Tropical Timber Agreement, Geneva, 26 -30 July 2004; and

RECOGNISING that upon the recommendation of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) has established the "Ad Hoc Expert Group on Consideration with a View to Recommending the Parameters of a Mandate for Developing a Legal Framework on all Types of Forests" to provide scientific and technical advice to the Forum for its work at the fifth session of the UNFF to be held in New York, 16-27 May 2005;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that IUCN continues to be represented at regular meetings of the UNFF and the ITTO and any fora that may result as an outcome of the proceedings mentioned above; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General, in cooperation with the other components of IUCN, to initiate a supplementary study:
 - (a) assessing existing regional and international binding and non-binding instruments and processes relevant to forests;
 - (b) considering other outcomes of the international arrangement on forests; and
 - (c) developing further specific proposals for enhancing the legal framework for forest management that are in accordance with sustainable development, biodiversity and other goals pursued by IUCN.

Sponsors:

International Council of Environmental Law, Germany
 Macquarie University Centre for Environmental Law, Australia
 Center for Environmental Legal Studies, USA
 International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation, Hungary
 Fédération des Associations de Chasse et Conservation de la Faune Sauvage de l'UE, Belgium

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the policy implications and the impact the activities could have on the programme, this

motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group and subsequently to the Programme Committee.

COSTS: Additional staff time and travel costs could require CHF 50,000 - 100,000 per year. Depending on the parameters of the study, this could entail a one-off cost of CHF 20,000 - 100,000.

CGR3.RES056

Transboundary cooperation in mountain areas

RECALLING Resolution 2.45 (*Conservation of mountain ecosystems in Europe*) adopted at the 2nd Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

RECALLING Chapter 13 of *Agenda 21*;

NOTING the successful conclusion of the International Year of Mountains and its culminating event, the Global Mountain Summit held at Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 29 October-1 November 2002;

WELCOMING the entry into force of the Alpine Convention and its eight Implementation Protocols;

FURTHER COMMENDING the signing of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians at Kiev, Ukraine on 22 May 2003; and

WELCOMING the fact that IUCN has joined the International Partnership for Sustainable Development of Mountain Regions;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) transmit a note to the Parties of the Alpine Convention congratulating them for initiating the implementation process of the Convention and its eight Protocols, especially commending them for the introduction of a compliance review mechanism of model character as well as encouraging them to continue their work on concluding further Implementation Protocols;
- (b) apply for observer status with the Carpathian Convention and assist its Secretariat and Parties in the further development and

successful implementation of this framework Convention; and

- (c) in cooperation with the other components of IUCN, initiate a study identifying where the development of legal frameworks for transboundary cooperation on sustainable development in mountain areas would be a practicable and realistic option.

Sponsors:

International Council of Environmental Law,
Germany
Macquarie University Centre for Environmental
Law, Australia
Center for Environmental Legal Studies, USA
International Council for Game and Wildlife
Conservation, Hungary
Fédération des Associations de Chasse et
Conservation de la Faune Sauvage de l'UE,
Belgium

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to the Programme Committee for guidance and advice.

COSTS: Observer status with the Carpathian Convention would cost CHF 50,000 per year; engaging more fully with the International Mountain Partnership would cost CHF 60,000 per year; the study would cost CHF 50,000 on a one-off basis.

CGR3.RES057

Conservation and sustainable management of high seas biodiversity

RECALLING IUCN's commitment to the goal of implementing effective protection, restoration and sustainable use of biological diversity and productivity and ecosystem processes on the high seas (including the water column and seabed) and the establishment of a representative system of Marine Protected Areas at regional and global scales that includes the high seas (e.g., Resolution 2.20 (*Conservation of marine biodiversity*));

ALARMED that the rate of degradation of the high seas due to human activities is accelerating;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides the over-arching legal framework for high seas governance and recognises that the area of the sea bed and ocean floor and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, as well

as its resources, are the common heritage of mankind; and

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) provides the overarching legal framework for the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources; and

AWARE of the need for urgent action and RECALLING the ***appeals*** [*mandates*] for action to protect and maintain high seas biodiversity and biological productivity as expressed in the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) *Plan of Implementation* (2002); the UN General Assembly (UNGA) Resolutions in 2002 and 2003; the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress; the 7th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (2004); and the 5th United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS) (2004);

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

CALLS upon the Director General, and members of IUCN to facilitate the following actions by States and relevant international organizations, both individually and collectively, to:

1. ***REQUEST the Secretary General of the United Nations to identify options to improve coordination and implementation of existing international laws and principles, in particular those affecting precautionary, integrated and ecosystem-based management of the high seas and to facilitate their adoption and application;***
2. ***BECOME party to, comply with and enforce measures associated with*** [*ACCEDE, ratify or sign, as well as fully implement obligations arising from*] UNCLoS, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the World Heritage Convention (WHC), the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (FSA), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) *and its agreements*, the FAO (Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations) Compliance Agreement, IMO (International Maritime Organization) instruments as well as regional agreements that have complementary aims; and to implement non-binding instruments like the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing and International Plans of Action;

3. ***ESTABLISH an expert process to identify gaps and deficiencies in existing governance arrangements, and to recommend options for improved governance arrangements to overcome such gaps and deficiencies for the better conservation and management of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction;***
4. ***PROMOTE*** [*CONSIDER*] the development and adoption of ***a new international instrument and/or additional mechanisms***, tools and approaches for the effective governance, protection, restoration and sustainable ***use*** [*management*] of marine biological diversity and productivity in the high seas, ***including the establishment of representative networks of marine protected areas;***
5. ***ASSIST in the development of mechanisms under the WHC and other relevant instruments to enable the recognition and protection of sites of outstanding universal value in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction;***
6. ***TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION to eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing, including the prohibition of fishing activities that are conducted in a manner inconsistent with State responsibilities or obligations for the conservation of living marine resources and the protection of biodiversity under international law;***
[*TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and ensure that fishing activities are conducted in a manner consistent with State responsibilities for the conservation of living marine resources and the protection of biodiversity under international law;*]
7. ***AGREE to upgrade by 2006 regional fisheries management organizations to conform to the principles set forth in the UN FSA, the FAO Code of Conduct, and the CBD, notably that fisheries management takes into account and minimizes the impacts on and wellbeing of the entire ecosystem in a precautionary manner;***
[*AGREE to, where relevant, incorporate an ecosystem based and precautionary approach to fisheries management in regional fisheries management organizations, consistent with the principles set forth in the UN FSA, the FAO Code of Conduct, the FAO Compliance Agreement, the CBD, and Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration*]

8. EXPLORE, formulate, consider and adopt mechanisms **by 2006** that ensure enforcement of internationally agreed rules and standards for ships where the flag state fails to control its **domestically** registered ships in accordance with its international legal obligations;
9. **COOPERATE to establish at least five high seas marine protected areas (MPAs) and to develop the scientific, technical and legal basis for establishing representative networks of MPAs in the high seas by 2008, with the aim of establishing representative networks by 2012;** and
 [COOPERATE to establish marine protected areas beyond national jurisdiction and to develop the scientific and legal basis for their establishment and contribution to a global representative network by 2012;]
10. SUPPORT marine scientific research, particularly capacity-building collaborative research, to enhance understanding of high seas biological diversity and productivity and ecological processes and to ensure the sustainability of human activities.

Sponsors:

Department of the Environment and Heritage
 Australia, Australia
 Netherlands Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, Netherlands

Australian Department of the Environment and Heritage, Australia
 BirdLife International, United Kingdom
 Environment and Conservation Organizations of New Zealand, New Zealand
 Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Argentina
 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Australia
 Natural Resources Defense Council, USA
 Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, New Zealand
 Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom
 Wildlife Conservation Society, USA
 World Wide Fund for Nature Australia (WWF Australia), Australia

RWG COMMENT:

Pursuant to paragraph 29 of the Regulations, the RWG provides a consolidated motion which reflects the intent of the sponsors of draft motions with the same title – Conservation and sustainable management of high seas biodiversity. All elements of both motions are included in the consolidated

text; exclusive contributions from Australia (one main sponsor) are in italics; exclusive contributions from the Netherlands (other main sponsor) are in bold italics.

COSTS: Estimated at CHF 130,000 per year.

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to resolve remaining differences in the contributing versions. It is to be considered with counterpart Recommendation CGR3.REC017. Subsequently this motion is referred to Programme Committee for assessment.

CGR3.RES058

Legal aspects of the sustainable use of soils

RECALLING that one of the objectives of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) since its founding in 1948 was the establishment of laws and treaties for the protection of nature;

RECOGNISING the important contributions made by IUCN since 1965 towards establishing the field of environmental law;

NOTING the significant and substantial work done by the IUCN Environmental Law Program, through the Commission on Environmental Law Specialist Group on Sustainable Use of Soil in implementing Resolution 2.59 (*Legal aspects of the sustainable use of soils*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), in cooperation with the soil science community for the improvement of environmental law and policy for the sustainable use of soils, particularly in regard to the ecological functions of soil for the conservation of biodiversity and the maintenance of human life, including:

- (a) Publication of IUCN Environmental Policy and Law Paper No. 45 – “*Legal and Institutional Frameworks for Sustainable Soils*”;
- (b) Publication in 2004 of the IUCN Environmental Policy and Law Paper NO. 52 – “*Drafting Legislation for Sustainable Soil: A Guide*”;
- (c) Communicating widely the outcomes of the IUCN ELP Sustainable Use of Soil programme among the international environmental law and soil science communities and receiving substantial support

and encouragement for the introduction of a global instrument for the sustainable use of soil; and

- (d) Having undertaken the necessary preliminary investigation work to now proceed to the preparation of various options for an international instrument for the sustainable use of soil; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that a specific global environmental law instrument for the sustainable use of soils is now justified;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to prepare outlines of the various options for a global legal instrument for the sustainable use of soils, as set out in Section 5 of the IUCN Environmental Policy and Law Paper No. 45 “*Legal and Institutional Frameworks for Sustainable Soils*”, for consideration for implementation by IUCN;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to continue the effective communication of the outcomes of the Sustainable Use of Soil programme among the environmental law and soil science communities and prepare further legal guidelines and explanatory material on the ecological needs of soil and their ecological functions for the conservation of biodiversity and the maintenance of human life as necessary to support the introduction of a global instrument for sustainable use of soil; and
3. REQUESTS the Director General to continue efforts for the development of national legislation for sustainable use of soil, in particular working with developing nations on the improvement and reform of their national soil legislation, contributing to institutional capacity building and assisting in the development of national environmental policy and strategies.

Sponsors:

Pace Center for Environmental Legal Studies,
USA
Macquarie University Centre for Environmental
Law, Australia
Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law,
Singapore

RWG COMMENT:

This motion updates and supplements Resolution 2.59 with the same title. It is passed to the Programme Committee for possible programme implications.

CGR3.RES059

Conservation of medicinal plants

RECOGNISING the fundamental importance of medicinal plants to local and traditional systems of health care, as well as to the present and future discovery and development of new medicines;

CONSCIOUS of the current and increasing importance of medicinal plants and the herbal products supply chain to local livelihoods and national economies;

ALARMED by the present and increasing threat to medicinal plant species survival from over-harvest, loss of habitat, and other threats to species and ecosystems;

RECALLING the *Chiang Mai Declaration – Saving Lives by Saving Plants* – signed on 26 March 1988 by the members of the Chiang Mai International Consultation on the Conservation of Medicinal Plants, convened by IUCN, the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), which was followed in 1993 by the WHO/IUCN/WWF *Guidelines on the Conservation of Medicinal Plants*;

NOTING the efforts of the Medicinal Plant Specialist Group, established in 1994 by the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), to address these threats; the relevant efforts of the joint IUCN/WWF support of the TRAFFIC programme focus on medicinal species in international trade; and the contributions of IUCN Regional and Species programmes to medicinal plant conservation;

FURTHER NOTING that the IUCN General Assembly/World Conservation Congress acknowledges medicinal use as an important value of species and ecosystems in the following Resolutions and Recommendations: 15/11 (*Tropical Moist Forests*) (1981), 19.66 (*Opening of the Tapón del Darien*) (1994), 2.55 (*Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*) (2000), 2.63 (*Illegal and/or unsustainable trade of wildlife species among and from the Mekong riparian countries*) (2000), and 2.88 (*Establishment of an Ecological Corridor in the Americas*) (2000);

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of efforts to conserve and sustainably use medicinal plants to

the broader plant conservation targets identified by the *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation*, endorsed by the World Conservation Congress in its 2nd Session in Amman, Jordan, October 2000 (Resolution 2.25 (*Conservation of Plants*)), and adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity on 19 April 2002, in The Hague (Decision VI/9);

AWARE of the need to revise and update these *Guidelines* to include significant new challenges and changes in approach to conservation and sustainable use; and

WELCOMING the revision of the *Guidelines on the Conservation of Medicinal Plants* undertaken by WHO, WWF, TRAFFIC, and IUCN in consultation with more than 600 stakeholders worldwide;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 15-25 November 2004:

1. SUPPORTS the revision of the 1993 *Guidelines on the Conservation of Medicinal Plants* as a joint undertaking of WHO, WWF, TRAFFIC, and IUCN in consultation with a broad spectrum of stakeholders;
2. URGES the herbal products and pharmaceuticals industries, donors, development aid agencies, national governments, conservation and rural development NGOs, and other stakeholders to endorse and implement the revised *Guidelines on the Conservation of Medicinal Plants*; and
3. REQUESTS the Director General and the Species Survival Commission to provide technical and scientific assistance to this process and institutional partnership, where possible within funding and other constraints, in order to complete the revision, and to publish and make widely available the revised *Guidelines*.

Sponsors:

Government of India, Ministry of Environment
and Forests, India
WWF - Deutschland, Germany
Canadian Museum of Nature, Canada

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

Explanatory memorandum:

Relevant IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations:

No resolution or recommendation has previously been proposed or approved concerning the 1993 WHO/IUCN/WWF *Guidelines on the Conservation of Medicinal Plants*, the Chiang Mai Declaration, the earlier partnership between WHO/IUCN/WWF to undertake this initiative in 1993 or the current partnership including TRAFFIC, to revise these *Guidelines*.

The resolutions and recommendations listed below, previously adopted by the IUCN General Assembly, mention the use of wildlife species in traditional medicine and the medicinal value of resources in the preambles, but do not directly address medicinal plants in the operant clauses (**relevant terms are indicated in boldface type**):

- 15/11 Tropical Moist Forests (Christchurch, New Zealand, 1981) contains the following clause: “AWARE that all nations stand to benefit from this major segment of the world’s biological heritage, from direct-use benefits such as forest products and **medicines**, from their important mediating roles in global cycles of elements and water, and from maintenance of a high potential of biological productivity”.
- 19.66 Opening of the Tapón del Darien (Buenos Aires, 1994) contains the following clause: “AWARE that the invaluable biological, ecological, cultural, economic, **medicinal**, and other resources of the forest area known as Darien have been recognised in a World Heritage Site, a biosphere reserve and a national park”.
- 2.55 Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (Amman, 2000) contains the following clause: “RECALLING that development prospects of nations are linked to the productivity of their ecosystems, that human development relies on ecosystem goods such as food, timber, genetic resources, and **medicines** ...”.
- 2.63 Illegal and/or unsustainable trade of wildlife species among and from the Mekong riparian countries (Amman, 2000) contains the following clause: “AWARE that wildlife species are a source of food and traditional **medicine** and that trade currently threatens their uses”.
- 2.88 Establishment of an Ecological Corridor in the Americas (Amman, 2000) contains the following clause: “BEING AWARE that the

proposed ecological corridor in the Americas would provide many benefits to society along the corridor in the hemisphere, such as permanent provision of clean water, promotion of ecotourism, prevention of natural disasters, soil conservation, production of new **medicines** and other chemical substances, storage and capture of carbon dioxide, and creation of opportunities for scientific research and artistic inspiration”.

CGR3.RES060

IUCN promotion of Ecoagriculture

NOTING that IUCN has been instrumental in developing the concept of “ecoagriculture” and piloting its practical application in many farming, pastoral, forest and fisheries systems around the world;

FURTHER NOTING that IUCN co-sponsored the establishment of Ecoagriculture Partners¹ in 2002, a new public-private partnership to promote ecoagriculture, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa (with co-sponsors Forest Trends, the World Agroforestry Centre and Future Harvest);

RECOGNISING that the partners include farmers and farmer organizations, non-government organizations, public agencies, agribusiness and food industry companies, scientific institutions, conservation organizations, and collaborators in more than 60 countries around the world;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that IUCN shares the Ecoagriculture Partners’ Vision: “the transformation of working landscapes to ecoagriculture on a scale that is globally meaningful for biodiversity, rural communities and food and fiber supply”; and

AWARE that the Ecoagriculture Partners’ Mission, “to mainstream ecoagriculture in programs, policies and practices”, is highly complementary with existing IUCN policies and initiatives related to organic agriculture, as reflected in Resolutions 2.2 (*Integrating ecosystem management in IUCN’s programme*), 2.15 (*IUCN Collaborative Management for Conservation Programme*), 2.29 (*IUCN policy statement on sustainable use of wild living resources*), 2.32 (*Organic agriculture and conservation of biodiversity*), 2.36 (*Poverty reduction and conservation of environment*), and 2.43 (*Sustainable management and protection of Asia’s major river systems*) and Recommendation 2.95 (*Drought and flood mitigation strategies*) all

adopted at the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), as well as many other biodiversity conservation initiatives in ecosystems managed and influenced by agriculture-dependent rural populations;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. NOTES the Vision and Mission of Ecoagriculture Partners, and its strategy to promote ecoagriculture through strategic partnerships among farmers’ organizations, conservation organizations, agribusiness and the food industry, consumer organizations, and policymakers;
2. CALLS UPON the Director General to work with IUCN members and partners to put ecoagriculture principles into practice on the ground, adapting ecoagriculture concepts to their local environmental, social and economic conditions;
3. URGES the members of IUCN to participate actively with the diverse partners of Ecoagriculture Partners to build their own institutional capacity in ecoagriculture, to promote institutional partnerships to implement ecoagriculture, and to influence agricultural policies to support and encourage ecoagriculture;
4. SUPPORTS action to promote diverse approaches to ecoagriculture, including such initiatives as creating space for wild biodiversity in agricultural landscapes, by developing protected areas that also benefit farmers, creating biodiversity networks and corridors in and around farms, and raising agricultural productivity. Initiatives will also include promoting innovations in productive fields, pastures, forests and water management to reduce agricultural pollution, enhance the habitat and ecosystem value of production sites, and increase biodiversity of agricultural crops, wild species associated with agriculture (such as soil organisms and pollinators) and other wild biodiversity;
5. URGES IUCN to take action to promote ecoagriculture research and development of farming, pastoral, forestry and fisheries technologies and management practices, including integrated pest management, conservation of wild crop relatives, agroforestry and other approaches that directly enhance biodiversity and ecosystem health, in

¹ <http://www.ecoagriculturepartners.org>

areas of intensive agricultural use, as well as in landscape mosaics; and

6. CALLS on IUCN to integrate these approaches into ecosystem management at a landscape scale.

Sponsors:

Forest Trends, USA
The Nature Conservancy, USA
BioNET-INTERNATIONAL: The Global Network for Taxonomy, United Kingdom
International Water Management Institute, Sri Lanka
Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association), Lebanon
Regional Community Forestry Training Center, Thailand

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to the Programme Committee for guidance and advice.

Explanatory memorandum:

Agriculture as it is often practiced –in both intensive and extensive systems – is one of the chief threats to wild species and their habitats. Over a third of the world’s land area is in landscapes heavily influenced by cropland or planted pastures; still more land is being fallowed as part of the farming cycle, or in tree crops, grazing systems and production forestry. A significant majority of the world’s over 100,000 protected areas contain significant amounts of land used for agriculture. Over 70% of the freshwater resources withdrawn for human use (up to 90% in some developing countries) are used for irrigating farms, thus modifying natural hydrological systems. Unsustainable fishing practices threaten freshwater and coastal fisheries. Many of the world’s areas richest in biodiversity contain large human populations who are plagued by chronic hunger. Meanwhile, biodiversity depletion in many regions threatens agricultural productivity as well as species conservation and human livelihoods.

Innovative farmers and conservationists around the world have begun to address these challenges by developing “ecoagriculture”– systems that increase agricultural productivity and farmer incomes, while sustaining or increasing wild biodiversity and healthy ecosystems. Their innovations draw on a wide range of sustainable agriculture and natural resource management practices to enhance biodiversity at a landscape or ecosystem scale. Ecoagriculture encourages – and requires – a much closer collaboration between farmers, conservationists and other land users to promote

the adoption of complementary land-management approaches. These landscape-scale approaches are urgently needed for agricultural communities producing in or near areas of high biodiversity and watershed value, and those working in degraded landscapes where ecosystem services need urgent rehabilitation.

CGR3.RES061

Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) and biodiversity

WHEREAS there is widespread concern and increasing controversy concerning the effects on biodiversity of GMOs and the potentially dangerous effects on living organisms and their ecosystem;

RECOGNISING the consequent importance of applying the precautionary approach as set out in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and as reflected in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and in numerous international treaties;

CONCERNED that the current developments in GMOs are predominantly meant for, or leading to large scale monocultures in agriculture, which, combined with non-selective pesticides, will affect the whole food chain and its associated ecosystems, and thereby potentially threatens biodiversity;

APPRECIATING the potential IUCN sees in Organic Agriculture, in which the use of GMOs is incompatible with its principles and therefore forbidden, and that it is seeking ways to conserve biodiversity while expanding production;

RECALLING Resolution 2.31 (*Genetically Modified Organisms and biodiversity*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), that among other things requests the Director General to propose to Council options for an IUCN contribution that will advance leadership, research, analysis, and the dissemination of knowledge regarding the potential environmental impact of the release of genetically modified organisms into the environment, focusing especially on biodiversity, socio-economic impact, and food security;

APPRECIATING the work IUCN has undertaken to support the implementation of the *Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety*;

NOTING the approval by Council, at its 58th Meeting held on 2-4 June 2004, of the background

paper on *Biosafety and Genetically Modified Organisms* that however was meant as a background for enunciation of an IUCN position and plan of action; and

CONCERNED that lack of knowledge and information development on the co-existence of GMOs with biodiversity and GMOs with Organic Agriculture will erode the credibility and hinder the leadership role of IUCN;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS UPON the Director General, in the context of Key Result Areas 4 and 5 of the draft IUCN Intersessional Programme for 2005-2008, to undertake substantive work within reasonable time and within reasonable resources to develop credible knowledge and information development concerning biodiversity, nature conservation and other areas in relation to GMOs, based on the existing background paper; and
2. CALLS UPON IUCN's Council to develop a plan of action, including reasonable resources, to guide IUCN members on biodiversity and nature conservation in relation to GMOs.

Sponsors:

International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements, Germany
Bundesamt für Naturschutz, Germany
Svenska Naturskyddsföreningen, Sweden
Al-Khat Al Akhdar, Lebanon

RWG COMMENT:

If this motion is adopted as presented it would imply substantial additional funding. Members need to consider how much effort they wish the Director General to commit to this. This motion and CGR3.RES011 - A moratorium on the further release of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), are referred to an ad hoc contact group to : a) assess the perspectives provided by each, and b) prepare a consolidated draft. If the consolidated text implicates the Programme, the motion will be referred to the Programme Committee for assessment.

COSTS: Implementation would cost CHF 200,000 to CHF 300,000 from core funds.

CGR3.RES062

Governance of natural resources

UNDERSTANDING “governance of natural resources” as the interactions among structures, processes and traditions that determine how power and responsibilities are exercised, how decisions are taken, and how citizens or other stakeholders have their say in the management of natural resources – including biodiversity conservation;

STRESSING that the concept of “good governance” includes not only clear direction, effective performance and accountability, but also rests on fundamental human values and rights, including fairness, equity and meaningful engagement in and contribution to decision making;

RECOGNISING the close dependence of conservation and sustainable development on the governance of natural resources, as affirmed by the *Plan of Implementation* of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the *Millennium Development Goals*;

ACKNOWLEDGING that all models of governance of natural resources – government-managed, community-based, co-managed, private and charitable – can be improved towards greater effectiveness and equity in conserving biodiversity and enhancing human livelihoods;

WITNESSING the increasing number of large scale conservation initiatives, including trans-boundary and eco-regional programmes where collaboration must happen across the tiers and spheres of governments, non-governmental organizations, private sector and civil society;

OBSERVING that the world is experiencing profound socio-cultural, technological, demographic and environmental changes and that countries and civil society cope with such trends in part by adapting governance arrangements (e.g., via decentralization, greater engagement of civil society in decision making, and remedies to the abuses that occur even in the best of institutions);

CELEBRATING the role that IUCN and its members have played in fostering “good governance” through their resolutions and programme initiatives – in particular policies and practices related to indigenous and local communities, co-management settings, trans-boundary conservation, management effectiveness and business, the environment and trade;

NOTING that the Action Plan noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress in Durban in 2003

identifies governance as “central to the conservation of protected areas throughout the world” (*Outcome 8 of the Durban Action Plan*), and that the Congress noted recommendations respecting the principles of good governance, and the diversity and benefits of different governance types (for example, Workshop Recommendation V.16 *Good Governance of Protected Areas* and Workshop Recommendation V.17 *Recognising and Supporting a Diversity of Governance Types for Protected Areas*);

EMPHASISING that the Programme of Work on Protected Areas adopted by the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at their 7th meeting (COP7, February 2004) includes a programme element on Governance, Participation, Equity and Benefit Sharing and identifies concrete targets related to the full participation of stakeholders in the management of protected areas, better governance practices and mechanisms for the equitable sharing of conservation benefits;

AFFIRMING improved “governance of natural resources” as a priority topic for IUCN; and

WELCOMING WITH APPRECIATION the governance-related components of the *Durban Action Plan* and specific Workshop Recommendations noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, and the aims and targets of element 2 of the *Program of Work on Protected Areas* approved at CBD COP7;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES IUCN to serve in a leadership role in relation to governance of natural resources by:
 - (a) reviewing its current status and potential for improvement, in particular with regard to natural resources crucial for biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods;
 - (b) clarifying and articulating what “good governance” entails and developing/diffusing relevant methods and tools; and
 - (c) adopting a formal statement and policy position about good governance and advocating good environmental governance as a major element in national and international policies;
2. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to develop capacity and specific initiatives to assist IUCN members in the implementation

of element 2 (Governance, Participation, Equity and Benefit Sharing) of the CBD Program of Work on Protected Areas;

3. REQUESTS the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), through the refining of its guidance on Protected Area Management Categories and in other ways that are part of its Mandate, to:
 - (a) recognise the legitimacy of a diversity of governance approaches for protected areas, all of which are capable of delivering conservation and other goals;
 - (b) advise on governance mechanisms that help integrate protected areas with the surrounding landscape/seascape and support transboundary cooperation;
 - (c) explore the special governance requirements of coastal and marine protected areas, in particular for those situated beyond national jurisdiction; and
 - (d) offer suggestions to the United Nations Environment Programme UNEP–World Conservation Monitoring Centre for more complete reporting of governance types in the UN Database and UN List of Protected Areas; and
4. REQUESTS the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) to act, within the scope of its Mandate, as a key promoter and convener to:
 - (a) advance the analysis of types and quality of governance, with emphasis on community conserved areas, stakeholder involvement and transboundary conservation;
 - (b) develop and disseminate advice on best practices for the governance of natural resources (*inter alia* in relation to human rights, benefit sharing, gender equity and human-wildlife conflicts); and
 - (c) promote and support capacity building initiatives in support of improved governance, in particular via participatory action research, participatory evaluation and mutual learning among institutions and field-based initiatives engaged in similar efforts.

Sponsors:

Legambiente, Italy

Centre for Sustainable Development, Iran
Dipartimento Interateneo Territorio Politecnico e
Università di Torino, Italy
Forest Trends, USA
ResourceAfrica, United Kingdom
Shirkat Gah - Womens Resource Centre, Pakistan
Sierra Club, USA

RWG COMMENT:

Motions CGR3.RES062 and CGR3.RES063, which address needs for good governance of natural resources, are referred to an ad hoc contact group to prepare an agreed consolidated text. RWG notes that operant paragraphs 3 and 4 should reference all Commissions. Also, the activities called for in these motions should be congruent with the Intersessional Programme for 2005-08. Because mandates of affected Commissions may require amendment, the motion(s) are referred to the Programme Committee.

**CGR3.RES063
'Good Governance' for Sustainable
Development**

WELCOMING the paper distributed by IUCN at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) Bali Preparatory Committee meeting, entitled *'IUCN and Governance for Sustainable Development'* and the important governance work undertaken by IUCN, including at the 3rd World Water Forum (Kyoto, 2003) and the 5th IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003);

RECOGNISING that the Report of the International Conference on Financing for Sustainable Development, Monterrey 2002 (the *Monterrey Consensus*) recognised 'good governance' as being "essential for sustainable development", "necessary for ODA effectiveness" and "essential for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication..." and that the WSSD Johannesburg *Plan of Implementation* considered 'good governance' as being "essential for sustainable development";

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) Johannesburg *Plan of Implementation*, the UN *Millennium Declaration* and the *Monterrey Consensus* all highlight the importance of democratic institutions and the rule of law;

NOTING that the Action Plan noted by the 5th IUCN World Parks Congress in Durban in 2003 identifies governance as "central to the conservation of protected areas throughout the world and fundamental to ensuring that future and

current generations are well served", and that the Congress produced workshop recommendations emphasising 'good governance';

FURTHER NOTING that the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* adopted by the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at their 7th meeting of February 2004 in Kuala Lumpur (CBD COP7) includes a programme element on Governance, Participation, Equity and Benefit Sharing and identifies concrete targets related to the full participation of stakeholders in the management of protected areas, better governance practices and mechanisms for the equitable sharing of conservation benefits; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the governance challenges that arise, *inter alia*, in implementing an ecosystem approach, integrated water resources management, transboundary protected areas and river basin management, and in implementing each of the governance principles identified in the draft IUCN Programme 2005-2008;

RECOGNISING and AFFIRMING that 'good governance' is essential for sustainable development and its relevance to achieving IUCN's Mission, including to ensure that any use of natural resources "is equitable and ecologically sustainable"; and

WELCOMING the governance-related components of the WSSD Johannesburg *Plan of Implementation*, the *Action Plan* and specific Recommendations noted by the 5th IUCN World Parks Congress, and the aims and the targets of element 2 of the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* approved at CBD COP7;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES IUCN to take a leadership role in relation to promoting 'good governance' for sustainable development;
2. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to further develop Secretariat capacity and specific initiatives to assist in the implementation of the CBD Program of Work on Protected Areas and other relevant governance initiatives; and
3. REQUESTS IUCN Commissions, within their Mandates, to work with the Secretariat to provide leadership and support in advancing 'good governance' for sustainable development.

Sponsors:

Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law,
Singapore
Macquarie University Centre for Environmental
Law, Australia
Center for Environmental Legal Studies, USA

RWG COMMENT:

Motions CGR3.RES062 and CGR3.RES063, which address needs for good governance of natural resources, are referred to an ad hoc contact group to prepare an agreed consolidated text. RWG notes that operant paragraphs 3 and 4 in motion [076] should reference all Commissions. Also, the activities called for in these motions should be congruent with the Intersessional Programme for 2005-08. Because mandates of affected Commissions may require amendment, the motion(s) are referred to the Programme Committee.

CGR3.RES064 **Poverty relief, food security and conservation**

CONSIDERING that world poverty has risen to alarming proportions and has provoked concern within the conservation community, due to its ethical implications and its links with biodiversity loss and ecosystem deterioration, both of which are factors in need of addressing to ensure the sustainability of life on the planet;

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION also that, paradoxically, incidences of poverty are more acute in certain areas of the world with high biodiversity, heightening the need for an urgent commitment on the part of conservation organizations with respect to poverty eradication;

REMEMBERING that over 1.3 billion people living in areas of extreme poverty depend upon wild plants and animals for their food security, and that 80% of the population of developing countries rely upon plants for health care purposes;

CONSIDERING that one of the main indicators of poverty is food insecurity, as demonstrated in the 2003 report *The State of Food Insecurity in the World*, produced by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), which estimates that between 1999 and 2001 there were 842 million undernourished people throughout the world, 798 million of these in developing countries, and which alerts us to the fact that the war against hunger has suffered a setback and that achieving the target set at the World Food Summit

of halving the number of hungry people by 2015 is looking ever more improbable;

REMEMBERING that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and wellbeing of himself and of his family, including food (Article 25), and that the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognises the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living, including food, and calls upon the parties to take appropriate steps to ensure the realization of this right (Article 11);

REMEMBERING likewise that the World Food Summit (Rome, 1996) adopted the *Rome Declaration on World Food Security*, which reaffirms “the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger”;

NOTING that the aforementioned FAO report states that drought is “the single most common cause of severe food shortages in developing countries”, and that better management of water resources, in accordance with productive needs, other human uses and their environmental functions, is a high priority in order to achieve food security;

RECOGNISING that one of the serious consequences of world poverty is the migratory phenomenon which occurs worldwide and has increased by 45 million people over the last 25 years, at an annual rate of 1.9%, greater than the overall population growth; and that from the 1990s onwards there has been an annual increase of 6 million emigrants, at a high social cost for the various gender and age groups;

CONSIDERING that the initiatives which have been implemented over the last three decades to combat poverty have not managed to achieve their objective, which has led the international community to establish new priority actions as defined in the Millennium Development Goals and the *Plan of Implementation* adopted at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development;

NOTING also the opportunities for cooperation between the Millennium Development Goals and international environmental instruments and processes such as the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Kyoto Protocol, the Ramsar Convention and the international agenda on water; instruments which offer possibilities of strengthening actions aimed at poverty relief and

nature conservation, within a framework of social and democratic participation;

RECOGNISING that adopting an ecosystem approach favours the rational use of natural resources and the maintenance of ecosystem productivity, as it considers the elements as parts of a functional whole, promotes the restoring of the ecological balance and favours the maintenance of healthy conditions in the ecosystems; and that, applied to agriculture, fisheries and the management of wildlife as primary food sources, the ecosystem approach constitutes an essential supporting tool for food security and consequently poverty relief;

CONSCIOUS that women form over 70% of the population living in conditions of absolute poverty, and that they are the ones who suffer most of the consequences of poverty, mainly due to their marginalization and subordination in many parts of the world; and conscious as well of their vital role in managing and preserving natural resources and the survival of their families;

RECOGNISING the importance of education, respect for cultural diversity and free access to relevant information in combating poverty and conserving nature;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. DECIDES that IUCN should put into practice, within its Programme, actions aimed at combating poverty through nature conservation, by means of pilot initiatives which, like the Water and Nature Initiative, reconcile the agendas of the Commissions and the Secretariat and involve members;
2. DECIDES FURTHERMORE that such initiatives and actions should be focused as a priority on ensuring tangible contributions from biodiversity conservation to food security, particularly in two of five strategic areas proposed by the FAO: (i) to improve agricultural productivity in poor rural communities, and (ii) to develop and conserve natural resources, in particular water, land and agricultural biodiversity; and that such initiatives and actions should integrate specific tools and approaches to promote gender equity and equality, applying Principle 20 of the Rio Declaration, which recognises that “Women have a vital role in environmental management and development” and that “Their full participation is

therefore essential to achieve sustainable development”;

3. DECIDES LIKEWISE to request the multilateral and bilateral development and environment agencies to work together with IUCN on actions aimed at poverty relief, sustainable development, improving quality of life and biodiversity conservation, within the framework of the IUCN Mission and Vision, and with the purpose of contributing to the realization of the agreements and commitments of the world summits on sustainable development, food security and poverty relief;
4. ENCOURAGES IUCN, its members and the agencies working with it, to increase awareness of the fact that integrated management of water resources and the ecosystem approach make it easier to grasp the complexities of collecting, distributing, managing and reusing water; and to apply the concept of environmental flows to managing the resource for productive and drainage purposes, given that sustainable management of water is crucial for food security, health and the fight against poverty;
5. RECOMMENDS likewise to the relevant institutions, understanding the relationship between ecosystems and water basins, and that in basins the socio-economic and biophysical systems interact in a complex and dynamic way, to promote an integral and non-sectorial vision of water management, considering in particular its importance in resolving problems of marginalization, poverty, environmental deterioration and ill health, and hence in ensuring fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals;
6. REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with specialized world and regional bodies, to undertake to produce an updated version of the *World Conservation Strategy*, which, considering the Millennium Development Goals, promotes and addresses sustainable development, food security and poverty relief, and is based on the active participation of populations and communities, in both urban and rural areas;
7. REQUESTS the IUCN Commissions, in fulfilling their mandates, and in cooperation with the members of all regions, to put into practice coordinated actions which contribute to ensuring that the poverty relief projects being carried out in the various regions

promote the sustainable use of natural resources and biodiversity conservation;

8. REQUESTS the Commission on Education and Communication, within the framework of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, to lead on an education and dissemination strategy on the commitments and actions of IUCN and its associates that contribute to the Millennium Development Goals, combat poverty and conserve nature ;
9. CALLS UPON IUCN members to facilitate and promote the active and full participation of NGOs; rural, indigenous, women and youth organizations; and other layers of civil society, in the execution of actions which will be of tangible benefit to poverty relief and nature conservation;
10. CALLS ALSO UPON the IUCN Commissions to facilitate access for civil society and government organizations to the necessary information for a more effective coordinated action for the respect of nature and the fight against poverty.

Sponsors:

Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico
Asociación Mesa Nacional Campesina (MNC), Costa Rica

Agencia para el Desarrollo de la Mosquitia (MOPAWI), Honduras
Asociación Amigos del Bosque, Guatemala
Asociación Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño (CEASPA), Panama
Asociación Club Jóvenes Ambientalistas (ACJA), Nicaragua
Asociación de Cooperación Rural en Africa y América Latina (ACRA), Nicaragua
Asociación de organizaciones del Corredor Biológico Talamanca-Caribe (CBTC), Costa Rica
Asociación de Voluntariado, Investigación y Desarrollo Ambiental (VIDA), Costa Rica
Asociación Ecológica de Paquera, Lepanto y Cóbano.(ASEPALECO), Costa Rica
Asociación para la Recuperación y el Saneamiento Ambiental (ARMSA), Guatemala
Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestre (APREFLOFAS), Costa Rica
Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre(ARCAS), Guatemala
Asociación Salvadoreña Pro-Salud Rural. (ASAPROSAR), El Salvador
Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Centre, Belize

Cent para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía Samaná y entorno (CEBSE), Dominican Republic
Centro de Derecho Ambiental y de los Recursos Naturales (CEDARENA), Costa Rica
Centro de Estudios para el Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo (CEMAD), Panama
Centro de Protección para Desastres. (CEPRODE), El Salvador
Centro Mesoamericano de Estudios sobre Tecnología Apropiaada.(CEMAT), Guatemala
Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA), Mexico
Consejo de la Tierra, Costa Rica
Defensores de la Naturaleza, Guatemala
Fondo para la Biodiversidad (CONABIO), Mexico
Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (FUNDAECO), Guatemala
Fundación "Vida", Honduras
Fundación Acceso (ACCESO), Costa Rica
Fundación de defensa del Medio Ambiente Baja Verapaz (FUNDEMABV), Guatemala
Fundación de Mujeres de San Miguelito (FUMSAMI), Nicaragua
Fundación Mexicana para la Educación Ambiental (FUNDEA), Mexico
Fundación para el Mejoramiento Humano (PROGRESSIO), Dominican Republic
Fundación para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Comunal del El Salvador. (CORDES), El Salvador
Fundación Salvadoreña de desarrollo y Humanismo Maquilishuatl. (FUMA)
Fundación Smithsonian de Panamá (FSP), Panama
Fundación Solar, Guatemala
Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda I.A.P. GESIAP, Mexico
Instituto Mexicano de Recursos Naturales Renovables (IMERNAR), Mexico
Instituto para el Desarrollo Sustentable en Mesoamérica, AC. (IDESMAC), Mexico
Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN), Guatemala
PG7 Consultores, SC Faunam A.C., Mexico
SalvaNatura, El Salvador
Sociedad Audubon de Panamá (SAP), Panama
Sociedad Cubana para la Protección del Medio Ambiente (ProNaturaleza), Cuba
Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico
Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña(UNES), El Salvador
Universidad del Norte de Nicaragua (UNN), Nicaragua
Voluntarios para la Asistencia Técnica de Honduras (VITA), Honduras

RWG COMMENT:

Pursuant to paragraph 29 of the Regulations, the RWG provides a consolidated motion which

reflects the intent of the sponsors of draft motions entitled El combate a la pobreza desde la naturaleza and Luchando contra la pobreza desde la naturaleza. Motion CGR3.RES065 – Conserving nature and reducing poverty by linking human rights and the environment frames IUCN’s work on poverty from a human rights perspective. Motion CGR3.066 – On the role of conservation organizations in poverty alleviation and development calls for IUCN to frame its work on poverty in the context of its “core conservation mission and values...”.

COSTS: The actions called for could have a significant impact on the Programme, and thus increased funding requirements.

An ad hoc contact group is to be established to consider motions CGR3.RES064, CGR3.RES065, and CGR3.RES066, as they all address poverty in the context of IUCN’s Programme, albeit from different perspectives. Subsequent to any agreed revisions they shall be referred to the Programme Committee to assess the implications in the context of the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-08.

CGR3.RES065

Conserving nature and reducing poverty by linking human rights and the environment

RECALLING that Principle 1 of the Stockholm Declaration (*Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment*, 1972) recognises man’s “fundamental right to freedom, equality and adequate conditions of life, in an environment of a quality that permits a life of dignity and well-being”;

ALSO RECALLING Principle 1 of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* which proclaims that human beings are “[e]ntitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature”;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 2.36 (*Poverty Reduction and Conservation of Environment*) adopted by the IUCN World Conservation Congress during its 2nd Session in Amman (October 2000), through which IUCN and its members adopted the policy of simultaneously addressing poverty alleviation and environmental rehabilitation;

CONSCIOUS that the Millennium Development Goals, including the goal to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, the health-related goals, and the goal to ensure environmental sustainability,

can only be achieved by affirming certain fundamental rights;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT paragraph 138 of the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation* that identifies respect for human rights as essential for sustainable development;

NOTING that poverty harms the realization of economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights that are embodied in internationally-binding legal instruments and internationally guaranteed as human rights;

ALARMED by the growth of poverty and the disastrous consequences that poverty has on the environment;

CONVINCED that, in order to conserve nature, steps to alleviate poverty and protect health must be taken in conjunction with environmental conservation using a human rights approach;

RECOGNISING that public access to information, public participation in decision making, and access to justice, highlighted in Principle 10 of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, are essential participatory human rights that can achieve greater participation, empowerment, and accountability of all persons, and comprehensive solutions to poverty and environmental degradation;

MINDFUL that the IUCN draft Intersessional Programme 2005-2008 identifies social equity as one of the Key Result Areas, and that social equity cannot be achieved without the promotion, protection and guarantee of human rights;

AWARE that during the IUCN Mesoamerican Committee meeting in 2003 in El Zamorano, Honduras, a Resolution was adopted recognising the links between human rights and the environment and urging that the resolution be presented to the IUCN World Congress in Bangkok for adoption;

WELCOMING the identification of substantive and procedural human rights issues as cross-cutting themes within the IUCN Environmental Law Programme’s Component Programme Plan for 2005-2008;

FURTHER WELCOMING the Mandate of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law for 2005-2008, which includes as one of its objectives “engaging its legal and policy expertise to innovate and promote new or reformed ethical and legal concepts and instruments that conserve nature and

natural resources and reform patterns of unsustainable development”; and

ADDITIONALLY RECOGNISING that the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law has established an Environmental Law and Human Rights Specialist Group within the Commission on Environmental Law;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. DECIDES that IUCN should consider human rights aspects of poverty and environmental conservation in the context of its overall mission, under the leadership of the Director General;
2. FURTHER DECIDES to explore the benefits of the use of human rights-related legal resources and actions to protect the environment, especially existing international human rights protection systems;
3. ENCOURAGES IUCN’s State members, in cooperation with its non-State members, to analyse legislation in the field of human rights and the environment in their respective countries and regions, with the aim of providing effective access to justice in the event of the violation of environment-related rights;
4. REQUESTS IUCN’s Commission on Environmental Law to provide additional legal research, analysis, and resources and contribute to building the capacity of members in the enforcement of environmental rights, in close collaboration with IUCN members; and
5. FURTHER REQUESTS IUCN’s Commission on Environmental Law to provide a progress report to future World Conservation Congresses summarising legal developments in human rights law and litigation that are pertinent to IUCN’s mission, with an emphasis on human rights tools that may be used by IUCN and its members in the pursuit of the IUCN mission.

Sponsors:

Centro de Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente,
Argentina
Center for Russian Environmental Policy, Russian
Federation
Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental, Peru
Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental, Mexico

RWG COMMENT:

This motion frames IUCN’s work on poverty from a human rights perspective, and thus is referred to an ad hoc contact group to be considered with motions CGR3.RES064 and CGR3.RES066 which also address poverty. Subsequently, as necessary, it is referred to the Programme Committee to assess the programme and cost implications in the context of the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-08.

COSTS: The actions called for could have a significant impact on the Programme, and thus increased funding requirements.

See RWG COMMENT for motions CGR3.RES064 and CGR3.RES066.

CGR3.RES066

On the role of conservation organizations in poverty alleviation and development

AFFIRMING that poverty alleviation and the conservation of the world’s natural resources are inextricably linked as moral mandates for all humanity, and that conservationists must continue to strive for increased sensitivity to concerns of the poor and indigenous peoples who live in and around areas of significance to conservation;

RECOGNISING the hope that, wherever possible, sustainable livelihoods and biodiversity conservation should be pursued jointly through effective, long-term field conservation in small communities; however, poverty alleviation and conservation may, at times, conflict or be irrelevant to one another;

UNDERSTANDING that economic growth and development initiatives on their own have failed to alleviate global poverty through the equitable distribution of assets and gains from economic growth, it is also understood that conservationists have little scope for broadly redressing these deficiencies on their own;

NOTING WITH CONCERN a shift in bilateral and multilateral donor interest and sympathy away from biodiversity conservation programs and objectives, a rising indifference to biodiversity values in development planning, and an unwarranted confidence that development programmes result in sustainable solutions in the absence of aggressive conservation activities;

CONSCIOUS of the fact that the costs of conservation losses are borne disproportionately

by the very rural poor who are targeted by global poverty alleviation programs;

CONCERNED that the proud achievement of a global protected areas strategy is now subjected to poverty alleviation demands that are neither appropriate to conservation nor achievable in decades of development and poverty alleviation projects;

EMPHASISING that all development is ultimately underpinned by the environment, and that ethically the international community needs to find alternative options to those which deplete these resources and deny their benefits to future generations; and

ALARMED that without reshaping poverty alleviation strategies to include equal concern for conservation, global biodiversity will continue to pay an unsustainable tax for growth, which will lead to global conservation loss and species extinction;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES IUCN members to:
 - (a) understand that the poorest populations on earth depend on continued natural resource conservation, and that the failure of global conservation will burden the poorest irremediably;
 - (b) reinvigorate efforts in bilateral and multilateral assistance agencies to incorporate conservation priorities in development projects and improve coordination between development and biodiversity conservation; and
 - (c) remind national development assistance agencies that sustainability is based on the environment, that protected areas are legitimate in the context of rural poverty alleviation, and that the test of conservation cannot be to alleviate rural poverty except in limited and sustained, site-specific interventions; and
2. URGES the Director General, in its work to build partnerships with development agencies, to reaffirm and not to subordinate the core conservation mission and values of IUCN.

Sponsors:

Wildlife Conservation Society, USA

The Nature Conservancy, USA
Conservation International, USA

RWG COMMENT:

This motion calls for IUCN to frame its work on poverty in the context of its "core conservation mission and values...". Because of the subject it is referred to an ad hoc contact group to be considered with motions CGR3.RES064 and CGR3.RES065. Subsequently, it is referred to the Programme Committee to assess the programme and cost implications in the context of the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-08.

COSTS: The actions called for could have a significant impact on the Programme, and thus increased funding requirements.

CGR3.RES067 Promoting food sovereignty to conserve biodiversity and end hunger

UNDERSTANDING that the IUCN vision of "A just world that values and conserves nature" inevitably depends upon ending hunger and poverty – which is also the first and most important of the Millennium Development Goals;

NOTING with alarm that more than 800 million people live in hunger and that approximately 80 percent of those live in rural areas and lack adequate access to basic productive resources such as land, according to United Nations data;

REMINDED that the conservation of biological and cultural diversity is critical to the world's continued production of safe, adequate and culturally appropriate food;

OBSERVING that the existing wealth of agricultural biodiversity is available largely as a result of thousands of years of careful breeding and development by small-scale producer communities (Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including farmers, livestock keepers/pastoralists, fisher-folk, and others) and provides the basis for their food security;

AWARE that sufficient food is now produced to feed the world, although much more effort is needed to promote sustainable ways of food production;

CONCLUDING that hunger and poverty will not be ended by increased globalization of food production, which is linked to an increased dependency on very few species of crops cultivated on large-scale monoculture systems;

AWARE that food insecurity and conservation of the world's biological heritage must be addressed through assuring access to genetic and productive resources and ensuring respect for human rights, particularly the human right to food, as stressed by the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

MINDFUL that it is essential to recognise and protect Indigenous Peoples' control of their lands, territories and natural heritage and their traditional collective land tenure systems as necessary for their survival and continued ability to conserve biological resources;

FURTHER MINDFUL that tenurial security for traditional and local communities is also necessary for their survival and ability to conserve biological resources;

CONCERNED about the increasing concentration of ownership and access to productive resources consequent to privatization of public goods, patenting of biological resources and related knowledge, and international trade rules;

TROUBLED that great biodiversity loss is due to unsustainable and dependency-generating forms of agriculture such as industrial, large-scale and high-input agriculture, extensive monocultures for export, patenting of biological resources and massive international trade in agriculture;

ALARMED that in many regions the first victims of the loss of agricultural biodiversity and globalization of agricultural trade are women and children;

NOTING that in response to these challenges civil society groups, led by peasants movements, have developed a "Food Sovereignty" platform, i.e. a set of alternative policies to the dominant model of liberalization of agricultural trade;

NOTING that food sovereignty:

- (a) is rooted in the right of peoples and countries to define their own agricultural and food policies;
- (b) prioritizes access of small-scale producer communities to productive resources;
- (c) commits to respect, conserve, restore, and protect all natural resources, including against endangering technologies such as Genetically Modified Organisms and promotes equitable and ecologically sustainable community-based agricultural practices;

- (d) is not opposed to trade but advocates for a system of international agricultural trade which prioritises local production for local markets before export; and
- (e) supports agricultural research led by small-scale food producers;

WELCOMING the recommendation of the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food that "Food sovereignty be considered as an alternative model for agriculture and agricultural trade, in order to meet State obligations to respect, protect and fulfil the right to food" (UN Economic and Social Council document E/CN.4/2004/10);

RECOGNISING many points of commonality between the concept of food sovereignty and IUCN policy, such as concern about the environmental impacts of modern agriculture (Resolution 14.3 *Environmental effects of modern agriculture*), the green revolution (Resolution 1.63 *The Promotion of Organic Agriculture*), pesticides (Resolutions 15.5 *Development Assistance*, 16.5 *International Trade in Pesticides and Other Biocides* and 17.20 *Transfer of Technology Relating to Contaminating Products Including Pesticides*), trade (Resolutions 16.22 *Environmental Impact of Trade and Aid on Developing Countries*, 18.20 *Trade Agreements and Sustainable Development*, 19.25 *The Relationship Between Conservation and Trade*, and 2.33 *Trade liberalization and the environment*), and the interlinkages between poverty and environmental degradation (Resolution 2.36 *Poverty reduction and conservation of environment*);

ACKNOWLEDGING that although there has been a significant shift in IUCN policy from agriculture as a threat to biodiversity conservation to agriculture as a resource for biodiversity conservation, social aspects have yet to be fully addressed; and

RECOGNISING that food sovereignty offers an essential framework for examining the links between poverty and environment as well as developing valuable approaches to biodiversity conservation, cultural survival and the elimination of hunger;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES all IUCN members, Commissions and the Director General to give due consideration to policies in support of food sovereignty and to their application in all stages of biodiversity

conservation, natural resource management and poverty eradication;

2. REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) take an active role in working with States and relevant international processes (Food and Agricultural Organization, World Trade Organization, Convention on Biological Diversity, etc.) to advocate for a food sovereignty approach; and
- (b) develop an inter-programmatic initiative on “Biodiversity and an End to Hunger” to enhance understanding of the relationship between hunger eradication and conservation of biodiversity (including agricultural biodiversity and cultural diversity), with the participation of IUCN Commissions and interested IUCN members; and

3. CALLS UPON the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy and the IUCN Secretariat, working with interested IUCN members and relevant partners, to spearhead initiatives on food sovereignty by:

- (a) enhancing and articulating the understanding of the relation between food sovereignty and the IUCN vision, and identifying key areas of relevant work;
- (b) enhancing understanding of the impacts of social and economic policies such as dumping and privatization of natural heritage on both poverty and the conservation of biological resources including agricultural biodiversity;
- (c) enhancing understanding of conditions, methods and tools by which biodiversity conservation and an end to hunger, can be pursued and achieved in a synergistic fashion as envisioned under the concept of food sovereignty;
- (d) promoting and supporting the development of effective policies and practices on the basis of the above understandings; and
- (e) developing conceptual and practical capacities of IUCN component programmes, members and partners.

Sponsors:

Centre for Sustainable Development (CENESTA),
Iran
SOBREVIVENCIA, Friends of the Earth
Paraguay, Paraguay
Union nationale de la femme tunisienne, Tunisia

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the policy and programme implications associated with this motion it is referred to an ad hoc contact group. Participants are asked to consider the role and prominence of food security in the Intersessional Programme for 2005-08, and as agreed, revise the text of the motion. The motion is also referred to the Programme Committee to consider the impact of the envisaged activities on the CEESP mandate, and the broader Intersessional Programme 2005-08.

CGR3.RES068

Mobile Indigenous Peoples and Conservation

UNDERSTANDING that mobile indigenous peoples (*e.g.*, nomadic pastoralists, shifting agriculturalists, hunter-gatherers, sea-nomads) are a subset of indigenous and traditional peoples whose livelihoods depend on extensive common property use of natural resources and whose mobility is both a management strategy for sustainable resource use and conservation and a distinctive source of cultural identity;

NOTING that since time immemorial, mobility has been a most effective component of community strategies for the conservation of wild and domestic biodiversity, the promotion of environmental integrity and the sustainable use of natural resources;

STRESSING that policies of mobility restriction and sedentarization have deprived mobile indigenous peoples of cultural identity, access to, and capacity to manage natural resources, and have led them in many cases to destitution and abject poverty;

EMPHASISING that, in the light of global environmental, economic and socio-cultural change and the growing role of transboundary and eco-regional conservation programmes, mobility is a major contemporary concern;

NOTING with appreciation Resolution 1.53 (*Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas*) (Montreal, 1996); Recommendation 2.92 (*Indigenous Peoples, Sustainable Use of Natural*

Resources and International Trade) (Amman, 2000); the principles of the Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation¹; as well as Workshop Recommendations V.26 (*Community Conserved Areas*) and V.27 (*Mobile Indigenous Peoples and Conservation*) and Outcomes 3 (*A global system of protected areas linked to the surrounding landscapes and seascapes achieved*) and 5 (*The Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Mobile Peoples and Local Communities Recognized and Guaranteed in Relation to Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation*) of the Durban Action Plan noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003);

FURTHER NOTING the special reference to nomadic and pastoral communities made by the Programme of Work on Protected Areas of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (adopted at the 7th Conference of the Parties, Kuala Lumpur, February 2004) with regard to the need to promote an enabling environment (legislation, policies, capacities and resources) for the involvement of stakeholders in decision making, and the development of their capacities and opportunities to establish and manage protected areas, including community-conserved areas; and

WELCOMING the creation, on the occasion of the 2003 Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, of the World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples (WAMIP), whose objectives include conservation of biodiversity as well as sustainable livelihoods for mobile indigenous peoples;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. ENDORSES the principles of the *Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation*²;
2. COMMENDS the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) for the valuable work they have done to bring to the fore the issues of mobile indigenous peoples and conservation at the 2003 Vth IUCN World Parks Congress;
3. URGES IUCN to assist its members in the implementation of the CBD Programme of

¹ The Dana Declaration is an outcome of an international meeting of social and natural scientists and NGOs that took place in Wadi Dana Nature Reserve in Jordan in April 2002 (Dana, 2002).

² <http://www.danadeclaration.org>

Work on Protected Areas, also by providing technical leadership and support to understand the relationship between mobile indigenous peoples and conservation; and

4. REQUESTS the Director General and Commissions:

- (a) to incorporate in their programme and mandates due recognition of mobile indigenous peoples and their needs and capacity to conserve biodiversity;
- (b) to articulate lessons learned and potential to enhance conservation through mobile livelihoods, in particular with regard to:
 - traditional knowledge and practices for adaptive management,
 - sustainable use of natural resources,
 - landscape conservation and,
 - community conserved areas in the migration territories of mobile indigenous peoples; and
- (c) to develop conservation policies and practices that respond to those lessons and take advantage of the unique capacities of mobile indigenous peoples.

Sponsors:

Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association),
Lebanon
Sierra Club, USA
Centre for Sustainable Development, Iran
Mountain Environment Protection Society, Iran
Moaseseyeh Tahghigh Va Tosee Paydare
Sarzamin, Iran

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the policy implications associated with this motion it is referred to an ad hoc contact group. It is noted that the term "mobile peoples" is new and not widely recognised outside of IUCN. The term "indigenous peoples" is used in the UN system to refer to a defined cultural group. Terms like "nomadic" and "pastoralist" are used to reference indigenous groups that move around based on cultural norms. Participants in the contact group should revise the text to avoid using a motion to amend a Commission mandate.

The motion is referred to the Programme Committee to consider the impact of the envisaged activities on Commissions' mandates and the Intersessional Programme 2005-08.

CGR3.RES069

Conservation in war-torn regions of West Asia – Strengthening IUCN’s presence to protect the natural and human environment

ALARMED at the continued violence in West Asia and the resulting loss of human life and disastrous environmental impact in Palestine, Iraq and Afghanistan;

NOTING the detrimental impacts of war and conflict on natural and human environments, including the use of internationally banned weapons and radioactive material such as depleted uranium, and the erection of impassable physical segregating walls;

DEEPLY CONCERNED by the degradation of land and biodiversity in the region, including some enormously important wetland areas and some of the richest sources of world agro-biodiversity, and its severe impacts on the food sovereignty and food security of the people;

AWARE that conflict-related activities (destruction of homes, infrastructure, habitats, forests and agricultural lands and pollution of water) have equally detrimental impacts on ecosystems, including soil, water and biota and seriously compromise the livelihoods and welfare of present and future generations;

RECOGNISING that socio-economic and political stability are necessary for ensuring environmental security and ecological integrity in the region;

AFFIRMING that only genuine and just peace processes offer an opportunity to protect the environment and human life in the region;

RECALLING, Principles 23, 24 and 25 in the Rio *Declaration on Environment and Development*; REMINDED of Recommendation 2.98 (*To secure the environment of Gaza Strip, West Bank, and Jerusalem*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000); and

CONSIDERING that the Vision of IUCN is to create “a just world that values and conserves nature”, and that this Vision includes peace and respect for human rights;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with relevant Commissions and other partners, to strengthen the influence and activities of the Union (Secretariat and members) in war-torn West Asia through:
 - (a) undertaking a comprehensive and participatory assessment of the environmental situation and the impact of violent conflicts in Palestine, Iraq and Afghanistan;
 - (b) highlighting and disseminating the consequences of wars, on-going conflicts and occupation on biodiversity, natural resources and sustainable livelihoods in the region, with special emphasis on the internationally condemned segregation wall in Palestine;
 - (c) promoting capacity building of official conservation agencies and local NGOs developing field programmes for the restoration of biodiversity and livelihoods in war-torn regions in collaboration with interested members and other partners;
 - (d) convening relevant actors at local, national and regional and international levels to develop and implement solutions to the problems of transboundary ecosystems in war-torn areas in the region, including wetlands;
 - (e) appealing to the international community to prevent further deterioration of biodiversity and natural heritage;
 - (f) collaborating with the United Nations and other international organizations to ensure respect for humanitarian and environmental principles consistent with International Law, Agreements and UN General Assembly Resolutions – paramount the protection of civilians, especially women, children and the elderly, and the protection of life-supporting ecosystems and biodiversity; and
 - (g) sparing no efforts to bring the violence to an end, and a just peace to the region; and
2. CALLS UPON donors, specifically those within West Asia, to provide financial support for the above activities as well as for other environmental restoration programs in Palestine, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Sponsors:

Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association),
Lebanon
Ecological Society of the Philippines, Philippines
Association Marocaine pour la protection de
l'environnement, Morocco
Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon,
Lebanon

RWG COMMENT:

Issues regarding conservation in war torn regions is not limited to West Asia. Further, actions called for in operant para 1(f) are beyond the mission of IUCN. The motion is therefore referred to an ad hoc contact group to consider alternative wording. Subsequently the motion is referred to Programme Committee for assessment of the implications of the scope of work on the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-08.

COSTS: Core resources on the order of CHF 100,000 to CHF 500,000 would be required to undertake the actions called for as presented.

CGR3.RES070

Promoting the use of *Artemia Persimilis*

CONSIDERING that brine shrimp (*Artemia*) constitute the basic food supply for the aquaculture industry worldwide, and their larvae are marketed mainly for the rearing of kingfish, *Mecrobrychium* prawns, lobsters, etc.; and that the brine shrimp is a species generally associated with salt lakes, so much so that where the brine shrimp is present, the quality of the salt lake is superior to those where it is not found;

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION that the main producer and exporter has traditionally been the United States which trades in *Artemia franciscana*, harvested from the Great Salt Lake; that in 1995 the production of that country fell by 50%, but the following year – 1996 – the price rose internationally to a value of US\$ 225 per pound of larvae (the exportable product); that the adult specimens, whether alive or dead (for domestic trade only) were being quoted at that time in China at US\$ 1.25 per kilogram and that these values have risen due to the increase in demand generated by the fish-farming and aquaculture businesses throughout the world;

RECOGNISING that: (a) the purchasing power and income of the salt miners in South America, coming from the deprived areas in the vicinity of the salt lakes, does not exceed US\$ 1,000 annually; (b) the workers suffer insanitary working conditions, with no contracts, no social security or

legal support; (c) salt mining takes place over a very short period of time, forcing them into situations of superhuman effort which affects them physically and leads to a shortened life expectancy; (d) in order to boost their income they are forced to involve their family groups in their work; (e) their extreme situation brings the family groups together, a factor which from the outset favours the creation of worker cooperatives with objectives other than those of salt mining; (f) in Argentina for example, fishing could be carried out – in a first phase – in the salt lakes located in the provinces of La Pampa, Jujuy, Salta, Córdoba, San Luis, Santiago del Estero and Río Negro (Northern part), being almost the only secure source of income for the communities in the vicinity of these lakes, as they are all generally classified as part of deprived populations; (g) the best way of ensuring long-term self-sufficiency and the rapid commencement of activities is to support the creation of worker cooperatives, which would lower the fishing and marketing costs, as well as guaranteeing proper commitment to sustainable use avoiding the draining and overexploitation of resources; and (h) for the South American region the average investment to be made (through subsidies or soft financing) to initiate the activities (supplying sieves, storing the larvae in refrigerated containers, etc.) does not exceed an investment of US\$ 1,000 per cooperative, working out at an average of US\$ 50 per job, trebling the average income of each family group from the second year onwards;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the fishing of this species does not interfere with salt mining, but on the contrary is a complementary activity generating local jobs; for example in China those who mine salt as dependent workers fish for brine shrimp as a parallel (cooperative type) job, and the income from this activity rests with the workers who in this way are able to supplement their per capita income in order to make a reasonable living;

RECOGNISING that another use of this species is for human consumption, for example, in Peru towards the end of the 1970s brine shrimps were being used in hamburgers and they have also been used by indigenous communities in South America as a food source to avoid malnutrition; in Libya and Thailand they are collected and eaten in the same way as sea shrimps;

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION that research undertaken in Argentina has confirmed that the species endemic to the southern region of South America (*Artemia persimilis*) is more nutritious in terms of fatty acids than the *Artemia franciscana* species, mainly due to the origin of the salt lakes making up their habitat, and that furthermore it

was established that in South America this species develops very well where there are no predators in its habitat, and it will therefore be the responsibility of the researchers to determine – and patent – the ideal production mechanism for each ecological situation of the various salt lakes or salt water sources;

WARNING that the situation of extreme poverty can lead to an overexploitation of the resource if a legal framework and strict controls are not put into place, and that such legislation must aim to support the generation of regional employment sources in a conclusive manner, to establish the settlement of communities in critical areas of poverty and unemployment; and

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION that this motion addresses nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 of the Millennium Development Goals and the four main themes of the World Conservation Forum in Bangkok;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS the Director General to include in the regional programme for South America the issue of sustainable use of the *Artemia persimilis* species and to this end to call on the:

- (a) Species Survival Commission: to analyse the status/classification of this species and the feasibility of promoting methods to facilitate its reproduction;
- (b) Commission on Ecosystem Management: to analyse the various saline ecosystems and recommend the best methodologies for the use of the brine shrimp without the bird life of these ecosystems being affected;
- (c) Commission on Environmental Law: to study the legal issue of the salt mining corporations whose representatives are opposed to the use of the species, proposing legislation to render both uses – mining and brine shrimp fishing – compatible, and also to propose the minimum requirements for the necessary sanitary procedures for brine shrimp destined for human consumption; and
- (d) Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy: to facilitate the establishment of worker cooperatives in collaboration with the local communities, to devise a methodology to coordinate the storage, transportation, final collection and sale of the product gathered by the various

groups, in such a way as to involve the least possible mediation, with the greatest added value possible remaining within the communities.

Sponsors:

Fundación RIE - Red Informática Ecologista,
Argentina
Fundación para la Conservación de las Especies y el Medio Ambiente, Argentina
Fundación PROTEGER, Argentina

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to the Programme Committee to assess the impact of the operant paragraphs on the mandates of the Commissions, especially CEESP, where it is called on to establish “worker cooperatives”.

CGR3.RES071

Establishing gender equity as a mandate in the strategic activities and themes of IUCN

CONSIDERING that during the conferences, meetings, forums, congresses and summits which have taken place on the subject of environment and development over the last 15 years (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Agenda 21, World Water Forum II and III, World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Beijing Platform for Action, the Millennium Development Goals) the relevance and impact of gender equity on the use, management and conservation of natural resources, environmental management and sustainable human development planning have become apparent, and it is clear that the gender and environment issue is now one of the priority issues on the international agenda;

REMEMBERING that during the World Conservation Congress in Montreal, Canada (1996) and in Amman, Jordan (2000), resolutions were passed with a view to incorporating the gender perspective into the work of IUCN, and that IUCN currently has a gender equity policy, endorsed by the Council in 1998, and has experience, takes a leading role and influences public policy in this respect;

RECOGNISING that the Union, in recent years, has begun to make substantial efforts to incorporate the gender perspective into the way it operates as an institution, but that these initiatives do not yet comply fully with the standards set in

the institution's gender policy and the mandates issued by the assembly at previous congresses.

REAFFIRMING the vital importance of the gender approach for the Mesoamerican region and for the rest of the world, and the fundamental role it plays in the formulation, planning, execution and monitoring of development policies and projects for local, national and regional progress, in the management and preservation of natural resources and in the restoration of degraded environments, in the creation of sustainable and ecologically viable production and consumption methods, and in the protection and creation of healthy living environments; and

CONSIDERING the support for an initiative to include the gender approach as part of a Union directive at the VIth Mesoamerican Members' Forum, held in El Zamorano, Honduras, from 27 July to 1 August 2003; and

WELCOMING the Mesoamerican initiative to incorporate the gender equity approach into all strategic matters dealt with by IUCN;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and the various Commissions to promote actions to ensure that in the implementation of the Intersessional Programme over the next four years, gender equity is explicitly included as an imperative in the annual plans of programmes, initiatives and projects carried out by IUCN;
2. REQUESTS the Director General and the various Commissions to include the gender approach as an obligatory matter in all forums, workshops and meetings promoted or organized by IUCN;
3. REQUESTS the Director General to allocate specific and additional funding to ensure the presence of a representative percentage of women (as representatives of partners, members, commissions and the Secretariat) in all forums, workshops and meetings promoted or organized by IUCN, as a means to ensure the incorporation of the issue of gender equity into the actions to be carried out in the next four years as part of the Intersessional Programme of IUCN.

Sponsors:

Instituto de Medio Ambiente y Comunidades Humanas de la Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico

Belize Alliance of Conservation NGOs, Belize
Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES072

Illegal and unsustainable international trade in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Mekong river riparian states

RECALLING IUCN's commitment to the goal of controlling the unsustainable trade of wildlife species occurring among and from the Mekong riparian states (Resolution 2.63 (*Illegal and/or unsustainable trade of wildlife species among and from the Mekong riparian countries*)) and managing the unsustainable commercial trade in wild meat (Resolution 2.64 (*The unsustainable commercial trade in wild meat*)), both adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

COGNISANT of IUCN's mission which includes the statement that any use of natural resources should be equitable and ecologically sustainable;

NOTING ASEAN's commitment through the *Yangon Resolution on Sustainable Development* to "sustainably manage the rich biodiversity resources of ASEAN";¹

HIGHLY SUPPORTIVE of ASEAN's efforts at addressing the regional wildlife trade problems at the 13th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) in Bangkok, October 2004;

CONCERNED that there is a rapidly increasing unsustainable and illegal, international commercial trade in wildlife and products derived from wild animals throughout ASEAN (Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) and the Mekong River riparian states (China, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam);

¹ <http://www.aseansec.org/15520a.htm>

UNDERSTANDING that:

- (a) this trade is a significant immediate threat to wildlife populations across ASEAN and the Mekong River riparian states;
- (b) a very wide range of species are at risk of local extinction across wide areas; and
- (c) several species are already presumed extinct in some countries across the region as a result of this trade; and

ALSO UNDERSTANDING that the depletion of wildlife resources across ASEAN and the Mekong River riparian states is negatively affecting human livelihoods in many rural areas;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. ADVOCATES an immediate, collective international effort to identify and implement the most appropriate solutions to control the illegal international trade in wildlife and wildlife products throughout ASEAN and the Mekong River riparian states;
2. URGES governments of all affected nations to recognise the increasing and devastating impact of the illegal international trade on the conservation of critical biodiversity, the loss of natural patrimony, and the depletion of natural resources;
3. URGES all states to enforce legislation to control the illegal international trade in wildlife and wildlife products throughout ASEAN and the Mekong River riparian states, focusing especially on strict enforcement of regulations of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) through enabling national legislation and its implementation by the Management Authorities;
4. URGES all members and States to collaborate towards establishing appropriate information exchange regarding the illegal trade in wildlife by establishing a regional working group comprising representatives of the governments of ASEAN and the Mekong River riparian states, and to use that information to formulate and implement action programmes where needed;
5. URGES donor and lending organizations to provide additional resources to support appropriate and necessary programmes to

control the illegal international trade in wildlife and address its root causes, especially actions taken in relation to 3. and 4. above; and

6. REQUESTS the Director General and the Species Survival Commission, in collaboration with relevant State members, agencies, organizations, and local stakeholders to:
 - (a) request that the International Air Transport Association (IATA) implements its own regulations concerning the transport of illegal wildlife cargoes; and
 - (b) urge all member states of the ASEAN and Mekong River riparian states to improve the effectiveness of wildlife law enforcement through ensuring that CITES-enabling legislation is strictly respected and enforced, including through Customs and other controls on land borders, especially where roads and railways cross international borders, and at airport export and import facilities, including training and the provision of resources to officers and border officials who control wildlife trade.

Sponsors:

Wildlife Conservation Society, USA
Mlup Baitong, Cambodia
Conservation International, USA

RWG COMMENT:

While this motion is similar to Resolution 2.63 adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress, it raises new issues. This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES073 Implementing the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity

BEARING IN MIND that since the publication of the *World Conservation Strategy* in 1980, IUCN has been a pioneer in promoting understanding of sustainable use as a tool to benefit both conservation of nature and human development;

ACKNOWLEDGING Resolution 2.29 (*IUCN Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

RECALLING that the said Resolution calls upon the IUCN Secretariat to report on the progress achieved in implementing the terms of the Policy Statement;

NOTING also Recommendation 2.92 (*Indigenous peoples, sustainable use of natural resources, and international trade*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

RECOGNISING with satisfaction the part played by stakeholders, including IUCN, in the preparatory process under the frame of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in developing its work on principles and guidelines for sustainable use of biodiversity;

WELCOMING the wide support of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity for this work demonstrated by their recent adoption of the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* at the 7th Conference of the Parties (COP 7) in Kuala Lumpur (February 2004);

ENVISAGING that the CBD is now in a position to play a leading role in fostering sustainable use of biological diversity, and, as a result, to take a significant step forward in achieving one of the *Millennium Development Goals* adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, that ensures environmental sustainability by integrating the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes to reverse loss of environmental resources;

AWARE of the necessity of the promotion of a wide-ranging implementation of the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*, going hand in hand with the development of indicators that provide governments, resource managers and other stakeholders with appropriate means to monitor implementation and effectiveness; and

BELIEVING that IUCN, including its members and Commissions, is able to play a leading role by bringing its experience into the process and advising governments and resource managers as they address the application of the *Principles and Guidelines* to their sphere of responsibilities;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the adoption of the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* by the 7th Conference of the 188 Parties to the

Convention on Biological Diversity in Kuala Lumpur; and

2. REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) ensure that the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*, as well as the Amman Policy Statement, are appropriately reflected in all IUCN policies and programmes;
- (b) promote initiatives which enable relevant components of the Union to work together to develop tools for the implementation of sustainable use principles in practice, while maintaining a distinctive focal point for forward thinking; and
- (c) advise the Executive Secretary of the CBD that IUCN stands ready to continue collaboration in the implementation of the recommendations for further development of the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines* as adopted at COP 7 and recommends that consideration be given to updating them in due course in order to reflect any important developments relating to sustainable development and environmental conservation.

Sponsors:

International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), Hungary

International Council of Environmental Law, Germany

Schutzgemeinschaft Deutsches Wild (Organisation zur Erhaltung der freilebenden Tierwelt), Germany

Fédération des Associations de Chasse et Conservation de la Faune Sauvage de l'UE, Belgium

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES074

The uses of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

EMPHASISING IUCN's important role of providing objective information on the conservation status of species worldwide;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* represents the cornerstone of IUCN's information on the status of species;

RECALLING Resolution 1.25 (*Guidelines for Using the IUCN Red List Categories at the Regional, National and Sub-national Level*) adopted by the 1st World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), which endorsed the Species Survival Commission's initiative for the application of the new IUCN Red List Categories in the IUCN Red Lists and promotion of their appropriate use in other documents and their utilization at the regional, national and sub-national levels;

APPRECIATING GREATLY the work of thousands of scientists worldwide within the Species Survival Commission to provide the underlying data and assessments in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*;

ACKNOWLEDGING the work of the Species Survival Commission to undertake much-needed comprehensive assessments of the status of species in selected taxonomic groups;

RECOGNISING the work of the Species Survival Commission in revising the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria in 1994 and 2001 in order to make the listing process as objective as possible;

FURTHER RECOGNISING the work of the Red List Consortium to develop the Red List Index on trends in the threat status of biodiversity, based on data in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*;

NOTING Decision VI/20 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity welcoming the further contribution that the IUCN Red List assessment has made to the work of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Convention, and Decision VII/30 identifying the Red List Indicator as a provisional indicator for the 2010 target of reducing the rate of global biodiversity loss;

AWARE of the increasing uses being made of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species by IUCN members and others around the world to guide conservation policies and practice;

NOTING in particular that IUCN Members have pioneered the development of various methods for identifying priority conservation sites, including Important Bird Areas, Important Plant Areas, Key Biodiversity Areas, and Alliance for Zero Extinction Sites, and that data from the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* are essential for the implementation of these methods;

NOTING that inclusion of a species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species is an important tool for raising awareness of the plight of the

species and indicating cases where urgent action is needed;

NEVERTHELESS CONCERNED that applications of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species to support the development of national legislation need to take into account the nature of the underlying data supporting the IUCN Red List; and that automatic triggering of conservation measures by inclusion of a species on the IUCN Red List may not necessarily advance, or may even act against, the conservation of such species;

FURTHER CONCERNED that conservation measures taken by governments on behalf of species listed as threatened on the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* should not unnecessarily limit much-needed research on such species, including scientific collecting; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the need for more guidance to IUCN members and others on these issues;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REGARDING the use of the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* to support national legislation:
 - (a) CALLS UPON governments to make use of the data in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species when considering the species to be afforded special conservation measures under national legislation;
 - (b) EMPHASISES that the inclusion of species in national legislative schedules requires information not only on the level of threat (as recorded in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*), but also on the types of threatening processes and on the conservation measures needed, and so the correct listing of threatened species in national legislation frequently requires additional information beyond that available in the IUCN Red List; and
 - (c) EMPHASISES that it is important that conservation action is not automatically linked to the inclusion of a species in any particular category of the IUCN Red List, but must rather be applied flexibly following a careful analysis of the processes driving the threats and the measures needed to counteract these. In particular, any possible negative effect of prohibitions on harvesting or trade should

- be carefully assessed before their introduction;
2. REGARDING use of the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* to support the implementation of international conventions:
 - (a) EMPHASISES that the data in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* forms a useful basis for identifying species for consideration for listing in the Appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as on regional agreements that list individual species;
 - (b) FURTHER EMPHASISES that the appropriate listing of species on CITES, CMS and other agreements also requires information in addition to that contained in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*;
 - (c) AFFIRMS that the data in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* can be used to develop indices on trends in the status of biodiversity at the species level, and encourages countries and IUCN members to make use of the Red List Index methodology developed by the Red List Consortium, with a view to measuring progress towards achievement of the 2010 Target on Biodiversity, adopted by the Convention of Biological Diversity and other bodies;
 - (d) REQUESTS the Species Survival Commission, as a matter of urgency, to implement the Sampled Red List Index based on repeated Red List assessments for a stratified selection of species that is representative of biomes (including marine, freshwater and arid ecosystems), regions and taxonomic groups (including invertebrates and plants); and
 - (e) FURTHER REQUESTS the Species Survival Commission, in partnership with other organizations, to expand the taxonomic coverage of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species to enhance its representativeness, thereby enabling the Red List Index to be more robust, and with this in mind, to:
 - (i) complete comprehensive assessments for all mammals, reptiles, freshwater fish, sharks and molluscs;
 - (ii) regularly reassess the status of amphibians and birds; and
 - (iii) give greater priority to starting rigorous comprehensive assessments for selected groups of plants, marine species and invertebrates;
 3. REGARDING use of the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* for conservation planning and priority setting:
 - (a) ENCOURAGES IUCN members and others to make use of data in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* to assist in conservation planning, especially site-based approaches implemented at the national level, combining Red List data with other datasets, as required; and
 - (b) REQUESTS the Species Survival Commission, working in partnership with IUCN Members, to convene a worldwide consultative process to agree a methodology to enable countries to identify Key Biodiversity Areas, drawing on data from the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* and other datasets, building on existing approaches and paying particular attention to the need to:
 - (i) enlarge the number of taxonomic groups used for site-based priority-setting approaches;
 - (ii) have quantitative, transparent and objective criteria to identify Key Biodiversity Areas; and
 - (iii) report on progress towards achieving this objective at the 4th Meeting of the IUCN World Conservation Congress; and
 4. REGARDING implications of the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* for Scientific Research:
 - (a) EMPHASISES the importance of governments and research institutions encouraging research on species listed as threatened by IUCN to enhance our understanding of the biology and conservation needs of these species, in the spirit of the *IUCN Policy Statement on Research Involving Species at Risk of Extinction* (1989); and
 - (b) REQUESTS the Species Survival Commission to develop technical

guidance for IUCN members and others on precautions to be taken for species listed in particular Categories, and under particular Criteria, in order to help ensure that scientific collecting is beneficial, and not detrimental, to globally threatened species.

Sponsors:

BirdLife International, United Kingdom
Conservation International, USA
PROVITA, Venezuela
Zoological Society of London, United Kingdom
Nature Kenya - The East Africa Natural History Society, Kenya
Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Canada
Fauna and Flora International, United Kingdom

RWG COMMENT:

This motion, which clarifies the role and use of Red Lists, would be a useful reference for discussions on other motions addressing Red List criteria. This motion is referred to the Programme Committee for guidance.

CGR3.RES075

Inclusion of two new categories within the classification of wild flora and fauna species: protected species of commercial value and circumstantially harmful species

CONSIDERING that the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger (one of the Millennium Development Goals) involves finding and expanding new food sources for an ever-growing population, where those most affected are infants and pregnant women;

TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION that to date the classification of species supported by IUCN only consists of: Extinct (EX), Extinct in the Wild (EW), Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN), Vulnerable (VU), Near Threatened (NT), Least Concern (LC), Data Deficient (DD), Not Evaluated (NE), in addition to rare species, non-threatened species, and invasive or exotic species, which gives a relatively simplistic view of the interaction between man – people – and nature;

RECOGNISING that the Species Survival Commission must keep itself up to date and consider the reality of the use of wild species, their sustainable use, the patterns of international trade and the legal sophistry of governments to facilitate and legalize the trading of species which would

fall into some of the protection categories, for example, by declaring them pests;

RECOGNISING ALSO that it is an obligation of IUCN members to ensure that the organization adapts to reality and to the needs of this ever-changing world, and to provide the Commissions with guidelines which comply with the requirements of the members;

HAVING ESTABLISHED that the species of which man cannot make legally sustainable use, due to its trade or use being prohibited, are those which run the greatest risk of extinction due to extractions and illegal trade on the part of the large international businesses who engage for this purpose deprived harvesters and those groups suffering extreme poverty, exploiting them in turn within systems of semi-slavery and dependency;

TAKING into account the proposed laws drafted by members of the RIE (*Red Informática Ecologista*) Foundation which were submitted to the Senate of the Argentine Republic (File S-437/1995, File S-818/1998, *inter alia*) and which include as new legal concepts “protected species of commercial value” and “circumstantially harmful species”;

CONSIDERING that the term “*protected species of commercial value*” is understood to refer to those indigenous species that due to their potential for boosting new productive activities, in the framework of sustainable development, possess or may possess in the future an economic value on the international market, thus deeming it necessary to ensure the protection of its wild genetic heritage; and that the term “*circumstantially harmful species*” is understood to refer to those which through controlled activities or development, inflict significant harm on productive economic activities or on the preservation of a natural ecosystem, such declaration having spatial and temporal legal coverage, in order to encourage a numerical reduction in accordance with regulations which are issued as a consequence;

ANTICIPATING that the legal regulations for protected species of commercial value encourage the reproduction, in their natural ecosystems by the local indigenous communities, of those species of wild flora and fauna which possess or could possess a potential value for commercialization and whose reproduction should be supported by controlled methods, as well as the acquisition of the basic nurseries for initiating the productive processes;

ANTICIPATING ALSO that such categorization can be applied both to species which are extinct in

the wild and to those which are not threatened but which are being increasingly traded; that a basic genetic bank must be established for all of these, making it possible to obtain, under custody, genetic material even from the most highly protected areas, with the due monitoring and control of the relevant governmental bodies; and that strict regulations must be established for these species in order to facilitate and ensure sustainable reproduction and non-commercialization of the basic nurseries without exception, another regulation needing to be established, this time carrying a serious penalty, where the accession regulations are not respected. In other words, for the purposes of facilitating the commencement of the reproduction activities all the species listed by the national law of each country as a protected species of commercial value, will be considered a non-threatened species, and for any irregularity, however small, the punishment corresponding to a species extinct in the wild shall be applied;

RECOGNISING IN TURN that many countries have used and abused the declaration of a species as “pest species” in order to facilitate trading in species which are included in the CITES Appendices, the elimination of this concept by the “Circumstantially harmful species” categorization on the basis that said declaration is temporally short, covers only very limited zones and in which scientific research must exist, which in addition to verifying that harm can be inflicted on man or his environment, must quantify and compare said harm with respect to other parameters which would also be harming man and his environment, and that in all cases the use of these species for commercial purposes must be authorized exclusively to small groups within the local communities in a state of poverty, destitution, survival and/or subsistence;

CONCERNED by the fact that these proposals may be exploited by large exporters and owners of pharmaceutical and cosmetics companies, producers of exotic cooking ingredients and the trading of animals as pets, among others, to the detriment of local communities who would initiate sustainable productive microcompanies; and

REMEMBERING that the four main themes of the World Conservation Forum 2004 were: (1) Ecosystem management – Bridging sustainability and productivity; (2) Health, poverty and conservation – Responding to the challenge of human well-being; (3) Biodiversity loss and species extinction – Managing risk in a changing world; and (4) Markets, business and the environment – Strengthening corporate social responsibility, law and policy;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Species Survival Commission and the Commission on Environmental Law to study the new categorizations proposed, referring to the relevant documentation which can be found in the draft laws referred to above;
2. CALLS EMPHATICALLY for the members of said Commissions to express their opinion on this subject, referring to the Millennium Development Goals and to the four main themes of the World Conservation Forum 2004;
3. CALLS for all non-governmental members of the Union to make their contribution and pass on to their governments these new legal concepts, at the same time acting as agents for the monitoring and control of the new methodology for the sustainable use of the currently wild species.

Sponsors:

Fundación RIE - Red Informática Ecologista,
Argentina
Centro de Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente,
Argentina
Fundación para la Conservación de las Especies y el Medio Ambiente, Argentina

RWG COMMENT:

The categories proposed are not consistent with the intent of the Red List to assess the status of species, not the factors that contribute to that status. The intent of the motion may be valid depending on the context in which the system would be used, for example, governments may find such a system valuable to identify key causative factors when communicating the status of a species. Because the motion would benefit from redrafting of the operative paragraphs to clarify what is requested, it is referred to an ad hoc contact group. This motion should be considered with other motions pertaining to the Red List of Threatened Species.

CGR3.RES076

Urgent measures to secure the survival of the critically endangered Western Gray Whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*)

RECOGNISING that the Western Gray whale population is one of the world's smallest

populations of large whales with only 100 individuals remaining, including 23 reproductive females, and that this population is therefore listed by IUCN as Critically Endangered;

CONCERNED that the population was reduced to this very low level by over-hunting in the early part of the 20th century and now is facing new threats from oil and gas development on its only known feeding ground;

FURTHER CONCERNED that the near-shore feeding ground is only 70 km long and 5-10 km wide and this habitat is critical to population survival as it is the only known place where females with calves feed and calves are weaned;

GREATLY TROUBLED that large oil companies (Shell, Exxon and BP) and their partners (Mitsubishi and Mitsui, etc.) have started major oil development projects in the waters off northeastern Sakhalin Island, Russia, that are directly surrounding and encroaching upon the feeding habitat of Western Gray Whales and that the cumulative impacts of these projects (individually, collectively and sequentially) have not been considered explicitly by the oil companies or by their international lenders;

AWARE that Western Gray Whales feed primarily on benthic organisms and that their feeding ground is very limited, the risk posed by a major oil spill to the near-shore ecosystem and benthic community is very high as containment of oil would be extremely difficult and prevailing currents in the area could cause spilled oil to spread across the whale feeding habitat;

NOTING and welcoming the concerns for this population expressed by the International Whaling Commission (IWC) in 2001, urging that “every effort must be made to reduce anthropogenic mortality to zero and to reduce various types of anthropogenic disturbances to the lowest possible level” (Resolution 2001-3);

MINDFUL of further similar concerns expressed by the IWC in subsequent years;

RECALLING that the IUCN SSC Cetacean Specialist Group, in its current *Conservation Action Plan* for Dolphins, Whales and Porpoises, has identified the population of Western Gray Whales as one of several populations of great whales that are severely depleted;

FURTHER RECALLING that the Cetacean Specialist Group has provided scientific and technical advice to the proponents of the Sakhalin

oil development projects regarding risk assessment and mitigation; and

NOTING that the Species Survival Commission, through its Cetacean Specialist Group, has undertaken an independent scientific review of oil and gas development plans around Sakhalin Island;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, with the assistance of IUCN’s members, Commissions, and Council, to promote the protection of the Western Gray Whales throughout their range, particularly on their feeding ground off Sakhalin Island;
2. CAUTIONS that any additional negative effect on Western Gray Whales from oil development and other human activities could lead to their extinction;
3. URGES all the range state governments (Russian Federation, Republic of Korea, China and Japan) to develop and implement their own national action plans for the conservation of Western Gray Whales;
4. ENCOURAGES the oil companies to establish and conduct independent monitoring programs that meet the highest scientific standards and are subjected to independent review by parties with no monetary interests; and
5. EMPHASIZES the importance of development and implementing realistic mitigation measures prior to the onset of major construction work on the Sakhalin Shelf in 2005.

Sponsors:

Center for Russian Environmental Policy CREP,
Russian Federation
Environmental Education Centre “Zapovedniks”,
Russian Federation
Biodiversity Conservation Centre BCC, Russian
Federation
WWF - Deutschland, Germany
World Wide Fund for Nature - Japan, Japan
Natural Resources Defense Council, USA

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES077
Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) conservation within the Caspian Basin

CONSIDERING that Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) populations within the Caspian Basin are extremely endangered;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the state of Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) populations directly depends on management of their resources;

REMEMBERING the vital importance of Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) resources for sustainable development of Caspian Region;

RECOGNISING the low level of reliability of information about the state of Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) populations; and

RECOGNISING the work within the framework of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and more specifically the so-called Paris Agreement (2001), including a plan of action to assist the States of the Caspian Sea to build a science-based management system for the long-term conservation and sustainable use of sturgeon;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, with the assistance of IUCN's members, Commissions, and Council, to promote the protection of Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) throughout its range, particularly the Caspian Basin;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to appeal to the five State Governments surrounding the Caspian Sea (Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran) to impose a moratorium on the catch and trade of Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) until reliable criteria to determine the status of Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) populations and their sustainable use have been developed;
3. CALLS on the five State Governments surrounding the Caspian Sea (Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran):
 - (a) to prioritize the recovery of natural populations (i.e. through restoration and conservation of migratory routes, places of spawning and fattening) as the best way

to enable the recovery of Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) populations; and

- (b) in collaboration with all stakeholders (including international donor organizations) to enable local communities to participate in Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) resources management and conservation and to ensure they share in the benefits of Sturgeon (*Acipenseridae*) exploitation.

Sponsors:

Center for Russian Environmental Policy CREP,
Russian Federation
Environmental Education Centre "Zapovedniks",
Russian Federation
Biodiversity Conservation Centre BCC, Russian
Federation

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.RES078
Conservation of *Gyps* species of Vultures in South and Southeast Asia

RECOGNISING that vultures are specialized scavengers that play a crucial role in ridding the environment of dead animals that would otherwise rot and cause disease, despair and death to both humans and livestock;

RECOGNISING that the Long-billed (*Gyps indicus*), Slender-billed (*Gyps tenuirostris*) and White-rumped (*Gyps bengalensis*) Vultures, endemic to South East Asia, have declined by more than 97 percent during the last 10 years in South Asia and that populations are also at very low levels in Southeast Asia;

NOTING that IUCN–The World Conservation Union has listed the three species as Critically Endangered in the IUCN Red List, the highest category of endangerment;

NOTING that historically these *Gyps* species of Vultures were common to very common in their range countries (Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Malaysia);

FURTHER NOTING that these massive declines of Vultures are caused by human activities and could be reversed;

RECALLING that sufficient habitat is present in most of the range countries for the Vulture populations to re-colonize and allow them to recover;

FURTHER RECALLING that Vultures are an integral part of the cultures in all South Asian countries and play an important ecological role by cleaning up livestock carcasses;

ACKNOWLEDGING that many range countries have taken measures to protect Vultures by including them in protected species lists;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the Bombay Natural History Society, with the financial support of the Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species (Government of the United Kingdom), the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the Zoological Society of London and the Haryana Forest Department (India) has established a Vulture Rescue Centre;

NOTING that BirdLife International has determined that all three species are “Critical Endangered” in the *Bird Red Data Book for Asia*, and that IUCN also lists these species as Critically Endangered in the IUCN Red List 2004, mainly based on the continuing precipitous population declines in all populations;

FURTHER NOTING that recent studies, published in the journal *Nature* prove that massive decline in the population of Vultures in South Asia is mainly due to the exposure to the Non Steroid Anti Inflammatory Drug (NSAID) *Diclofenac* in livestock carcasses (*Nature* **427**, 630 - 633 (12 Feb 2004));

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT *Diclofenac* is the principal cause for catastrophic decline during the last decade but recognising that other secondary factors like the loss of nesting sites, indiscriminate use of pesticides, and other factors may be important on a local scale;

AWARE of the fact that veterinary use of *Diclofenac* started in India in 1993 and in Pakistan in 1998 and within a very short time, massive deaths of Vultures were noted in both countries;

CONCERNED that widespread use of veterinary *Diclofenac* raises significant fear throughout the world about environmental contamination by lethal drugs that will further reduce the *Gyps* vultures to unsustainable levels inevitably leading to their extinction;

AWARE of the need to restore vulture population through captive breeding and release at appropriate

times, withdrawal of veterinary *Diclofenac*, and its replacement with an appropriate risk-free substitute;

FURTHER NOTING the *South Asian Vulture Recovery Plan* and its recommendations;

CONGRATULATING the Haryana Forest Department for providing free land and other support for the establishment of the Vulture Rescue Centre;

NOTING the work already under way in support of the programme by the governments of Pakistan, India and Nepal; and

CONGRATULATING the Darwin Initiative, the Peregrine Fund, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, BirdLife International, Zoological Society of London, National Bird of Prey Trust for continuing to support and fund Vulture recovery initiatives in India, Nepal, Pakistan and other countries;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS on *Gyps* Vulture range states to begin action immediately to prevent all uses of *Diclofenac* in veterinary applications that allow *Diclofenac* to be present in carcasses of domestic livestock available as food for Vultures;
2. CALLS for the establishment, with the utmost urgency, of an IUCN South Asian Vulture Task Force under the auspices of IUCN, to review, update and facilitate implementation of the recommendations of the South Asian Vulture Recovery Plan;
3. REQUESTS *Gyps* Vulture range states to develop and implement national Vulture recovery plans, including conservation breeding and release;
4. URGES the *Gyps* range states, along with national and international NGOs, especially BirdLife International, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), the Bombay Natural History Society, Bird Conservation Nepal, the Ornithological Society of Pakistan, the Peregrine Fund, the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), the National Bird of Prey Trust (NBPT), the Wildlife Conservation Society and others, and governments to give special support, technical and financial, to enable the implementation of the South Asian Vulture Recovery Plan; and

5. URGES the Director General and the Species Survival Commission to make:

- (a) a strategic commitment in developing an effective program for restoration of Vulture populations through international cooperation; and
- (b) a long term commitment including to seek transfer of technical expertise and financial support to the range states from international donor organizations and governments.

Sponsors:

Bombay Natural History Society, India
Ministry of Environment and Forests, India

BirdLife International, United Kingdom
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom
Zoological Society of London, United Kingdom

RWG COMMENT:

Pursuant to paragraph 29 of the Regulations, the RWG provides a consolidated motion which reflects the intent of the sponsors of draft motions entitled Conservation of Gyps species of vultures in South and Southeast Asia and Conservation of Vultures. This motion is referred to the Programme Committee for assessment and guidance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

CGR.REC001

Implementation of Principle 10 by building comprehensive good governance systems

RECALLING Recommendation 1.43 (*Public Participation and Right to Know*) adopted by the 1st Session of the World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) that called on States to adopt and implement national legislation to secure public access to environmental information, to facilitate and encourage public participation, and consider the need to develop a global Convention on the right to information and participation;

WELCOMING the adoption of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) *Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters* at the fourth Ministerial Conference in the “Environment for

Europe” process on 25 June 1998, and its entry into force on 30 October 2001;

AWARE OF global reaffirmation of Principle 10 of the 1992 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*¹ in Paragraph 128 of the Johannesburg *Plan of Implementation* (2002);

RECOGNISING global initiatives, such as the *Access Initiative* and the *Partnership for Principle 10*, aimed at its implementation in law and practice;²

CONCERNED WITH the lack of implementation of access to information, public participation, and access to justice rights at the national level;

EMPHASISING THAT rights of public access to information and decision-making processes are meaningless when there is no access to justice when those rights are denied; and

FURTHER NOTING the lack of practical implementation of good governance principles in decisions that affect the environment by governments and international institutions;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS UPON civil society organizations to assess, using tested indicators such as the *Access Initiative* methodology, the status of implementation of Principle 10 at the national and sub-national levels to determine the gaps in access to information, public participation, and access to justice;
2. ENCOURAGES national governments to join the *Partnership for Principle 10* and make concrete, time bound, measurable and additional commitments to close the gaps in access rights, with particular attention to improving the legal, institutional and policy arenas related to access rights to better support poverty reduction and other development

¹ “Environmental issues are best handled with participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level. At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available. Effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy, shall be provided.”

² See <http://www.accessinitiative.org/> and <http://www.pp10.org/> respectively.

strategies so that they meet the needs of the poor, and building access to justice;

3. RECOMMENDS that countries build comprehensive access systems, recognising the importance of each access pillar, to ensure addressing environmental rights and recognising linkages among eradication of poverty, ensuring livelihoods, health, and sustainable development and invest in building the capacity of the government (in its different levels (local, regional and national)) to provide access, and to build the capacity on the part of the public to use access procedures that exist;
4. ASKS national governments to build public participation systems that integrate social and environmental concerns into economic decisions, thereby preventing the degradation of the environment; those systems should consider independent assessments of access conducted by civil society organizations in their preparation of National Profiles and strategies;
5. URGES international institutions to internalize good governance practices across all offices, missions, departments, and projects in decisions that affect the environment;
6. APPEALS to State Parties to the UN/ECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice to accept independent assessments of access conducted by civil society organizations in their preparation of National Profiles; and
7. HIGHLIGHTS the importance of the ongoing expert meetings and processes on public participation at international fora in developing guidelines and building up a global consciousness towards the urgent implementation of Principle 10 of the 1992 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*.

Sponsors:

World Resources Institute, USA
Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales,
Argentina
Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental, Mexico
Centro de Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente,
Argentina

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC002

The Extractive Industries Review

RECALLING Recommendation 2.82 (*Protection and conservation of biological diversity of protected areas from the negative impacts of mining and exploration*) adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), which calls on member states to prohibit by law any extractive industry activities in IUCN category I-IV protected areas, and Recommendation V.28 (*Protected Areas: Mining and Energy*) noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress reaffirming IUCN members' commitment to Recommendation 2.82;

NOTING that Result 4.6 of the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-2008 establishes IUCN's commitment to encouraging multi-national businesses to support biodiversity conservation;

NOTING furthermore that Result 5.5 of the draft Intersessional Programme 2005-2008 establishes IUCN's commitment to ensuring that governance structures take into account the rights, responsibilities, and interests of stakeholders and allow for their participation in decision making;

RECOGNISING that the World Bank has recently completed an independent review process of its investments in the Extractive Industries sectors and that the International Finance Corporation (IFC) has begun a process of reviewing its safeguard policies;

CONCERNED that the World Bank may fail to implement key recommendations in the *Extractive Industries Review* that are of strategic relevance to IUCN members and the IUCN programme; and

COMMENDING the World Bank for having undertaken a comprehensive review of its investments in the extractive industries sectors;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS upon the World Bank to implement the following *Extractive Industries Review* recommendations:
 - (a) establish IUCN I-IV protected areas as "no go" zones for extractive industry development, consistent with Recommendation 2.82 (*Protection and conservation of biological diversity of protected areas from the negative impacts of mining and exploration*);

- (b) revise the International Finance Corporation's Critical Natural Habitats Safeguard Policy to include IUCN IV protected areas as part of a minimum set of "no go" zones;
 - (c) pay special attention to ensure that the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources are respected when choosing and designing an off-set area;
 - (d) develop criteria and indicators for identifying additional "no go" zones through the Safeguard Policy Review process;
 - (e) agree to respect the right of free, prior, and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities affected by extractive industry development; and
 - (f) agree to a process for identifying governance criteria that addresses transparency, access to information, access to redress, and additional key conditions required to ensure that extractive industry development contributes to poverty alleviation in developing countries;
2. CALLS upon other international financial institutions, including Export Credit Agencies, to support and implement the *Extractive Industries Review* through adoption of these recommendations; and
 3. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to show support for these recommendations in a letter to the President of the World Bank.

Sponsors:

Environmental Defense, USA
 Sierra Club, USA
 Friends of the Earth International, Netherlands

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC003 Recognising the Earth Charter

RECALLING Recommendation 2.96 of the World Conservation Congress at its 2nd Session in Amman, Jordan, 4-11 October 2000, calling for

members at the 3rd Session to consider a response to the Earth Charter¹;

NOTING the strong ethical purpose that inspired the formation of IUCN in 1948 and continues today in the IUCN Vision of a "just world that values and conserves nature";

FURTHER NOTING the ethical leadership shown by IUCN over the past 50 years, highlighted by the World Charter for Nature, Caring for the Earth: A Strategy for Sustainable Living, and the Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development;

ACKNOWLEDGING the international community's commitment to the role of ethics in sustainable development made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Plan of Implementation, paragraph 5bis);

MINDFUL of the need for environmental programme and policy to reflect shared values inclusive of respect for cultural diversity and the greater community of life, ecological integrity, social and economic justice, democracy, non-violence and peace;

APPRECIATING the decade-long consultation process that generated the Earth Charter involving recommendations from communities and experts in all regions of the world and close collaboration with the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law;

ENCOURAGED by the decision of the UNESCO General Conference to recognise the Earth Charter as an important ethical framework for sustainable development and to utilize it as an educational instrument for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development; noting also the decision of the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication to use the Earth Charter in its future programs;

CONVINCED that promulgation of global ethics based on shared values is essential to create a sustainable and healthy future for "people and nature" in our "one world";

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. ENDORSES the Earth Charter as an inspirational expression of civil society's vision for building a just, sustainable and peaceful world;

¹ <http://www.earthcharter.org>

2. REGARDS the Earth Charter as an ethical guide for IUCN policy and will endeavour to implement its principles through the IUCN Programme;
3. RECOMMENDS that the Earth Charter be used by IUCN to help advance education and dialogue on global interdependence, shared values, and ethical principles for sustainable ways of living; and
4. ENCOURAGES member organizations and states to consider recognising the Earth Charter and determining the role the Earth Charter can play as a policy guide within their own spheres of responsibility.

Sponsor:

IUCN Council

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC004

Creation of commissions on cooperation to achieve Sustainable Development

RECOGNISING that natural, social and economic challenges must be met to achieve sustainable development that transcends national boundaries;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that achievement of sustainable development as called for under *Agenda 21*, the *World Conservation Strategy*, the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation*, and numerous other declarations of the world community cannot be achieved without cooperation among nations;

RECALLING that some countries have sought assistance to increase their capacity to both address the social, environmental and economic consequences and meet the opportunities of increased economic integration including trade and investment; and

CONCERNED that despite the many commendable initiatives launched to address the global challenges of sustainable development, the regional and global institutions of cooperation to achieve sustainable development remain weak or nonexistent, and have largely failed to assist countries to identify and meet their capacity building needs, which is especially important in the context of accelerated economic integration;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

CALLS on all states, working with appropriate international organizations, to establish in several regions of the world and at the global level, multilateral commissions on cooperation to achieve sustainable development that will have a broad mandate for cooperation and with the following priority mission, to:

- (a) evaluate systematically, on a demand driven basis, the needs of developing countries for assistance and capacity building to address the challenges of sustainable development, especially in the context of economic integration, and to improve the performance of governance for sustainability;
- (b) establish, through a consensus process, multilateral work plans with targets, timetables, benchmarks of progress, monitoring, and reporting together with funding and other resources and policy initiatives to address the needs identified; and
- (c) ensure the transparency of their deliberations and the participation of the public in their activities.

Sponsors:

National Wildlife Federation, USA
 Natural Resources Defense Council, USA
 Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental, Mexico
 Fundación Mexicana para la Educación Ambiental A.C., Mexico
 Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental, Mexico

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration. If adopted, this motion would convey IUCN's position as a Recommendation. While there is need for greater cooperation among nations it does not always require the creation of new institutions. Some of the activities envisaged might be addressed through existing bodies, such as the regional programmes of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. It is noted that the relationship of the proposed multilateral commissions called for is to existing governance arrangements and the public does not appear to have a role in the establishment of these commissions or in their deliberations as presented.

CGR.REC005

Humane trapping standards

ACKNOWLEDGING the important role of the IUCN and its members in protecting and conserving biodiversity and ecosystems globally;

BEARING IN MIND that conservation and sustainable use imply a sense of caring for the welfare of the wild animals which are killed or captured;

ACKNOWLEDGING that wild animals are trapped in almost every country, for a variety of reasons;

RECALLING Resolution 18.25 (*Methods for Capturing and/or Killing of Terrestrial or Semi-aquatic Wild Animals*) adopted by the General Assembly of the IUCN at its 18th Session in Perth, Australia, 28 November – 5 December, 1990, which urged that when a wild animal is captured and/or killed, that it be done in a humane way;

ALSO RECALLING that Resolution 18.25 noted the work of ISO, the International Organization for Standardization, in developing international, scientifically-based, humane trap standards, and urged the broadest practicable international participation in this work;

NOTING that Resolution 18.25 urged IUCN members to adopt regulations setting out specific humane trapping practices to ensure that the most humane and selective techniques available are employed in the capture and/or killing of wild animals; and

WELCOMING, with appreciation, the initiative taken by the Governments of Canada, the European Union, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America, which, using ISO's work as a basis, negotiated the "*Agreement on International Humane Trapping Standards*" (AIHTS), for the capture and/or killing, initially, of 19 wild species;¹

The World Conservation Congress, at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

URGES IUCN members, particularly governments, to study the AIHTS, especially the humane trap standards annexed to it, as well as the International Organization for Standardization trap testing standards, with a view to using them as models for the development of standards

appropriate for the trapping systems and practices used in their countries.

Sponsors:

Department of Indian and Northern Affairs
(Canada), Canada
Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Canada
The International Fur Trade Federation, United Kingdom
Union pour le développement durable, Canada
Fur Institute of Canada, Canada
Fédération des Associations de Chasse et Conservation de la Faune Sauvage de l'UE, Belgium
Canadian Association for Humane Trapping, Canada

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC006

Removal of perverse incentives for conservation and sustainable use

RECALLING that Decision V/24 (*Sustainable use as a cross-cutting issue*) of the 5th Conference of the Parties (COP 5) of the Convention on Biological Diversity urged Parties, Governments and organizations to develop or explore mechanisms to involve indigenous communities in initiatives on the sustainable use of biological diversity, and in mechanisms to ensure that indigenous communities benefit from such sustainable use;

FURTHER RECALLING that in response to Decision VI/13 (*Sustainable use*) of COP 6 of the Convention on Biological Diversity an open-ended workshop was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (6-8 May 2003), which produced the draft *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for Sustainable Use of Biodiversity*;

NOTING that the 9th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) recommended that the 7th Conference of the Parties adopt the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*;

FURTHER NOTING that these *Principles and Guidelines* were adopted by the Parties at COP 7 as a framework for advising governments, resource managers and other stakeholders, including indigenous communities about how they can ensure that their uses of biodiversity components

¹http://europa.eu.int/eurlex/pri/en/oj/dat/1998/l_042/l_0421_9980214en00430057.pdf

will not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity;

ACKNOWLEDGING in particular Principle 3 of those Guidelines: “International, national policies, laws and regulations that distort markets, which contribute to habitat degradation, or otherwise generate perverse incentives that undermine conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, should be identified and removed or mitigated”;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the rationale for this Principle states that: “some policies or practices induce unsustainable behaviours that reduce biodiversity, often as unanticipated side effects...(and)... some policies that encourage domestic over production often generate perverse incentives that undermine the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity”;

RECALLING the serious market distortion created by the European Community’s 1983 ban on some seal imports, an excellent example of a perverse incentive, which led to a dramatic reduction in the harvesting of an abundant renewable resource and local over production – a trebling of the harp seal population – thereby undermining and disrupting the local biodiversity;

NOTING that one of the three Operational Guidelines for Principle 3 calls for the removal of those systems leading to market distortions that result in unsustainable uses of biodiversity components;

RECALLING the enthusiastic interventions from several delegations at SBSTTA 9, particularly several Member States from the European Union, who called upon the Parties to immediately identify, and remove or mitigate all perverse incentives; and

NOTING, with concern, the proposed creation – not removal – of a new perverse incentive and market distortion by countries where draft legislation calls for a ban on the importation of all seal products;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November, 2004:

URGES IUCN state members who are Parties to the CBD, to revisit the commitments made at SBSTTA and COP 7 to apply the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for Sustainable Use of Biodiversity*, and especially Principle 3.

Sponsors:

Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Canada
International Fur Trade Federation, United Kingdom
Fur Institute of Canada, Canada

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to promote broader understanding of the issue.

CGR.REC007

Application of the IUCN Sustainable Use Policy to sustainable consumptive utilization of wildlife and recreational hunting in Southern Africa

RECALLING that the conservation of biological diversity is central to the mission of IUCN (*Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources*, Annex to Resolution 2.29 that was adopted at the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress in Amman, Jordan, 2000);

RECOGNISING that in South Africa the total area of communal and privately owned land, on which the sustainable consumptive use of wildlife through harvesting and recreational hunting takes place (16% of the land surface), exceeds that of all state-owned protected areas (5.6% of the land surface);

RECOGNISING that populations of game animals on many privately owned lands are higher than they have been at any time over the last 150 years and are still increasing;

UNDERSTANDING that areas where sustainable consumptive utilization of wildlife takes place make a contribution to the conservation of biodiversity through maintaining natural areas;

UNDERSTANDING that managed ethical recreational hunting enables many properties to remain economically viable thanks to the wildlife present;

CONCERNED that the increasing opposition towards sustainable utilization of wildlife and hunting, in particular from interest groups based in developed countries, places a pressure on some governments to prohibit sustainable wildlife utilization and hunting;

CONCERNED that all forms of “Canned Hunting” (where the hunted animals have little or no chance of escape) are contrary to the “Fair Chase” principles of hunting, but that confusion between

both forms of hunting further exacerbates the opposition to “Fair Chase” hunting as a form of sustainable use;

CONCERNED that pressure from anti-utilization lobbies could result in large areas of land presently managed under wildlife being converted to agriculture and their contribution to biodiversity conservation being lost;

CONCERNED that at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (2003), a body of opinion felt that the sustainable consumptive use of wildlife was under-represented which may already reflect a dominant anti-hunting view;

AFFIRMING that policies based on the opinions and norms of developed countries may not necessarily be the best solutions for the needs of the developing countries;

RECOGNISING that in much of Southern Africa, wildlife on communal and privately owned land is only accommodated because it provides an economically viable form of land use; and that where it is successfully implemented, well managed consumptive utilization, in particular ethically conducted recreational hunting, enables wildlife populations and natural ecosystems to be maintained on large areas of land that would otherwise be used for agriculture;

RECOGNISING FURTHER that the management of these populations and their habitats makes a major contribution to biodiversity conservation;

NOTING that European and North American lobbies opposed to consumptive utilization of wildlife are placing increasing pressure on governments and political leaders to prevent or limit sustainable utilization of wildlife; and

NOTING ALSO that in many instances these “Developed World” views do not serve the interests of the wildlife and their ecosystems, nor the people that live in association with them; The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. SUPPORTS the philosophy and practice that on state, communal and privately-owned land in Southern Africa, the sustainable and ethically managed consumptive use of wildlife makes a positive contribution to biodiversity conservation;
2. ACCEPTS that managed and ethically conducted recreational hunting has a role in

the managed sustainable consumptive use of wildlife populations;

3. CONDEMNS unethical hunting in any form and especially the killing of animals in enclosures or where they do not exist as free-ranging; and
4. RECOMMENDS that agencies responsible for:
 - (a) the control of wildlife utilization and hunting, implement measures to ensure that codes of high ethical conduct and standards are achieved and maintained;
 - (b) the control of hunting in Southern Africa prohibit unethical hunting in any form;
 - (c) biodiversity conservation take steps to increase public awareness and understanding of the role that the sustainable utilization of wildlife in natural ecosystems plays in biodiversity conservation outside state-owned protected areas; and
 - (d) the control of hunting, in recognition of the growing opposition to recreational hunting in general, take steps to increase the public awareness and acceptance of the role of hunting in sustaining wildlife populations and ecosystems.

Sponsors:

Game Rangers Association of Africa, South Africa
Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa
South African National Parks, South Africa

RWG COMMENT:

This motion amplifies an existing policy (Resolution 2.29: IUCN Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources) in the context of a use in Southern Africa. Because of the policy implications, this motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group for discussion.

CGR3.REC008 The Precautionary Principle in environmental governance

NOTING that the Precautionary Principle has been widely endorsed in international environmental agreements and declarations, and provides guidance for responding to uncertain environmental harm;

AWARE that implementation of the Precautionary Principle to anticipate and prevent potential environmental damage presents crucial challenges for environmental governance and management;

RECOGNISING the relevance of the Precautionary Principle to efforts to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity, and in particular to reduce habitat loss, control alien invasive species, prevent over-exploitation of wild species and biological resources, and avert and mitigate the impacts of climate change;

CONCERNED that increasing controversy over the Precautionary Principle is impeding its effective implementation, and hampering progress within major policy-making arenas, including the Convention on Biological Diversity;

MINDFUL of the need to ensure that implementation of the principle is consistent with and supports aspirations and initiatives for poverty alleviation and sustainable development;

AWARE that in the field of biodiversity conservation and natural resource management, little guidance and no shared understanding of the meaning or definition of the Principle exists to guide implementation;

RECALLING Resolution 1.45 (*The Precautionary Principle*) adopted by the 1st Session of the World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), and NOTING efforts made by IUCN and its members toward fulfilling Resolution 1.45; and

NOTING in particular the engagement of many IUCN members and others in a collaborative process of research, consultation and regional dialogue to develop guidance on the implementation of the Principle in biodiversity conservation and natural resource management;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS ON IUCN members, their representative bodies, e.g. Regional and National Committees, Commissions, and Secretariat to consider the following guidance when applying the Precautionary Principle in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of biological resources:

(a) the Principle should be applied as part of a proactive, solutions-oriented, adaptive management framework;

(b) application of the Precautionary Principle should emphasise transparency and the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in decision-making;

(c) application should be based on careful assessment, subject to available resources and capacity, of likely benefits and risks of alternative courses of action and inaction;

(d) such assessments should take into account conservation, livelihoods, food security and economic considerations, and should incorporate socio-economic understanding and indigenous and traditional knowledge, as well as formal environmental science;

2. URGES those applying the Precautionary Principle, subject to constraints of resources and capacity, to include efforts to seek further information and reduce uncertainties, and reassessment of the decision in the light of new information; and

3. CALLS ON IUCN members, their representative bodies, e.g., Regional and National Committees, Commissions, and Secretariat, to support and actively engage in efforts to further clarify the meaning and understanding of the Precautionary Principle, and develop tools for its implementation in a manner that supports both biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation goals.

Sponsors:

Fauna and Flora International, United Kingdom
Centro de Derecho Ambiental y de los Recursos Naturales, Costa Rica
ResourceAfrica, United Kingdom
Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa
Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines
Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Argentina
Fundación RIE - Red Informatica Ecologista, Argentina

RWG COMMENT:

This motion, which updates Resolution 1.45, Collaborative Management for Conservation, is referred to Plenary for consideration.

Explanatory memorandum:

Management of risk and uncertainty poses major challenges to environmental governance and management.

The Precautionary Principle provides guidance for action in the face of uncertainty about environmental harm. It provides for taking action to avert serious or irreversible environmental harm without requiring scientific certainty of the precise nature or causation of the harm. It has now been incorporated into many environmental legal, policy and management instruments at international, regional and national level.

However, a number of problems are becoming increasingly clear.

The ever-increasing scale of environmental threats, and the great scientific uncertainty related to many, require anticipatory and preventive action. While the Precautionary Principle is widely invoked, there is little evidence of its widespread application in practice, particularly where its application conflicts with powerful economic interests.

There is no shared understanding of the meaning of the principle or how it should be applied in biodiversity conservation and natural resource management, and little information on the practical impacts of its implementation. For many countries it remains a new principle whose implications are unclear.

The principle is highly contentious. Concerns have been expressed that the principle can be abused for purposes such as trade-protectionism. Such controversies have led to damaging disputes, and have hampered progress in policy development in important decision-making arenas including the Convention on Biological Diversity and at the World Summit on Sustainable Development. Precaution is also a highly contentious issue within the World Trade Organization (WTO) and with respect to the relationship between the WTO and multilateral environmental agreements.

Concerns have been expressed by some developing countries in particular that if inappropriately understood and applied, the Precautionary Principle could be inconsistent with urgent priorities of poverty alleviation and sustainable development, may be inappropriate where scientific and technical resources are limited, and could be used to oppose all sustainable utilization of biological resources.

There is a clear and urgent need to develop clarification and shared understanding of the meaning and implementation of this central environmental principle.

This motion builds on a broad consultative process of research, discussion and workshops, involving

many IUCN members and representatives from civil society, government and academia. It responds to the call, in Resolution 1.45 (*The Precautionary Principle*) of the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress, for the development of guidance for implementing the Precautionary Principle, and highlights and urges further engagement in efforts to support implementation of the Precautionary Principle in a manner which respects the priorities of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

CGR.REC009

Education for Sustainable Development

CONSIDERING that IUCN provided the first internationally recognised definition of environmental education in 1970 and in *Caring for the Earth*, (1992) IUCN, World Wide Fund For Nature (WWF), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), stated that “*environmental education is the fundamental basis guaranteeing the participation of communities in the process of conservation of natural resources and the improvement of the quality of life and the environment*”;

RECOGNISING that IUCN has supported *Agenda 21* recommendations calling for education to be reoriented towards sustainable development;

NOTING that the United Nations (UN) declared 2005-2014 the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development;

RECALLING that governments have made commitments to educate their public and move society towards sustainable development in the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the UN Convention to Combat Desertification, and in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development; and in their strategies to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals by 2015;

AWARE that education for and about sustainable development requires new approaches to education which assist people towards future thinking, adaptive management and systems thinking, requiring creativity, flexibility and critical reflection through lifelong learning;

CONVINCED that an expanded effort is required to engage society and assist individuals, social groups and organizations to make progress towards sustainable development at local, national, regional and international levels;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the IUCN Council welcomed the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development in 2003 as an initiative that supports its mission and raises the profile of this work; and

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING that IUCN has no policy on education for and about sustainable development;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November, 2004:

1. DECLARES its support for the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014;
2. INVITES all IUCN members to consider how to integrate and resource education for sustainable development in their work and to contribute to the Decade on Education for Sustainable Development;
3. ENCOURAGES IUCN members to support the integration of sustainable development education in basic education in pursuit of the Millennium Development Goals, and to foster education for sustainable development in higher education, zoos, museums, botanical gardens, tourism and in other forms of adult education; and
4. REQUESTS the Commission on Education and Communication and the Director General of IUCN to present to Council a draft policy on Education for Sustainable Development before the 4th World Conservation Congress.

Sponsors:

Corporación de Gestión Tecnológica y Científica
sobre el Ambiente, Corporación, Ecuador
Centro de Educación y Promoción Popular,
Ecuador
EcoCiencia, Fundación Ecuatorina de Estudios
Ecológicos, Ecuador
Lliga per a la Defensa del Patrimoni Natural, Spain

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC010

Coordination of sustainable development programmes for energy

NOTING that energy is essential to economic development, security and self-sufficiency, and that many of the forms of energy currently being used contribute significantly to pollution of the earth's air and water which is responsible for many thousands of annual deaths and illnesses, and to climate change that threatens the future of the earth's environment and of all of earth's species including humankind;

AWARE that *Agenda 21* of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development called upon all nations to promote sustainable development utilizing the precautionary principle, that the 9th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development called on all nations to promote clean energy policies, that the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation* adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development contained specific prescriptions for implementing those policies, and noting the outcomes of the 2004 Bonn *International Conference for Renewable Energies*;

NOTING that the 14th and 15th Sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2006-2007 will be devoted to energy policy issues;

CONCERNED that the absence of recommendations on energy in *Agenda 21*, and the general policy recommendations on energy in the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation* do not provide adequate direction for assuring that energy generation, distribution and use will promote sustainable development and be compatible with the conservation of nature and natural resources;

AWARE that the IUCN World Conservation Congress, at its 2nd Session (Amman, 2000) adopted Resolution 2.17 (*Climate and Energy*) recognising the importance of energy to IUCN's mission and specifically requesting the Director General "to request IUCN regional offices... to help educate government officials, civil society and the private sector [within their regions] about the *World Energy Assessment* and about cleaner, more affordable available energy options evaluated therein";

WELCOMING the work that the IUCN Environmental Law Programme, through the IUCN Environmental Law Centre and the Climate and Energy Specialist Group of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law, has done to promote the concept of energy law for sustainable development; and

RECOGNISING that many of the agencies of the United Nations, including the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the United Nations Development Programme, and the United Nations Environment Programme, as well as many of the United Nations specialized agencies, international financial institutions and other related organizations such as the International Energy Agency, have programmes for promoting renewable energy and efficient energy generation and use, but that there currently is no authority designated for coordinating and integrating these endeavours;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. RECOMMENDS its State members who are member states in the General Assembly of the United Nations, take action to implement the recommendations of the 9th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development by authorizing the Secretary General of the United Nations to designate a senior coordinator for energy, to promote the integration of the diverse energy programs in the United Nations system, clearly define the roles and responsibilities of each agency and programme, and encourage the pooling of information and financial support, in order to ensure their greatest possible effectiveness; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to convey this resolution to the State members of IUCN, the President of the United Nations General Assembly, and to the Chairman of the General Committee of the United Nations General Assembly with the request that they consider including an item on coordinating energy for sustainable development in the United Nations General Assembly's Agenda for the year 2005.

Sponsors:

Pace Center for Environmental Legal Studies,
USA
Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law,
Singapore
Macquarie University Centre for Environmental
Law, Australia

RWG COMMENT:

This motion calls on the Director General to convey the adopted recommendation to IUCN State members, the President of the United Nations General Assembly, and to the Chairman of the

General Committee of the United Nations General Assembly.

CGR.REC011

Support for Amendment to Basel Convention Restricting Transboundary Shipment of Hazardous Wastes

CONCERNED that the increase in exports of toxic post-consumer wastes, including electronic and computer waste, mobile phones, and end-of-life ships, from rich developed countries to developing countries for inappropriate and unsustainable recycling or dumping is causing irreparable occupational and environmental harm in developing countries;

RECOGNISING that such export facilitates externalization of the costs of waste disposal from strong to weaker economies, and thus discourages the development of upstream manufacturing processes that are needed to solve the long-term problem of toxic waste generation;

RECOGNISING ALSO that such exports disproportionately burden the world's poorest communities and workers with severe toxic exposure and therefore are contrary to basic principles of human rights and environmental justice;

RECALLING that the Basel Convention (Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal) calls on all countries to become self-sufficient in hazardous waste management and that the developed countries are best situated to achieve that obligation immediately;

RECALLING ALSO Resolution 19.31 (*International Trade in Toxic Wastes: Banning the Export of Hazardous Wastes from OECD to Non-OECD Countries*), which was adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, January 1994), and which called for the adoption of a legally binding decision to ban all hazardous waste shipments from OECD to non-OECD countries, including those destined for recycling operations;

AWARE that the Second Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention adopted by consensus, Decision II/12, calling for a ban on the export of all hazardous wastes for any reason from OECD to non-OECD countries, and the Third Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention likewise adopted by consensus, Decision III/1, amending the Basel Convention to ban hazardous waste

exports from OECD/EU/Liechtenstein countries to all other countries (“The Ban Amendment”);

AWARE ALSO that to date, despite the clear moral force of the aforementioned decisions and the 49 ratifications that have been received, the Ban Amendment has yet to attain the necessary number of ratifications for entry into legal force; and

CONCERNED that the conditions that drive international waste dumping, including the disparity in relative wealth of nations and peoples; steadily increasing volumes of hazardous waste generation, particularly in developed countries; and rising disposal costs in developed countries, have all become more acute and that the need for the legally binding ban on hazardous waste exports is now more pressing than ever;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS UPON all States that have not yet ratified the Basel Ban Amendment, which prohibits the export of hazardous wastes from OECD/EU/Liechtenstein to all other countries, to take immediate steps to ratify the amendment;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to forward this Recommendation to the Basel Convention Secretariat with the request that they distribute it at the next Basel Convention Conference of Parties in 2006 and that it be included in the Minutes of that meeting; and
3. CALLS UPON all IUCN members to approach appropriate parliamentarians and officials to have the matter of this ratification placed upon the political agenda of their respective countries as a matter of urgency.

Sponsors:

Sierra Club, USA
Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL), USA
Pace Center for Environmental Legal Studies (PACE), USA
Ecological Society of the Philippines, Philippines
Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association), Lebanon

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.REC012

Protected Areas in the Mediterranean

RECOGNISING that the Mediterranean region, due to its particular geomorphologic formation and its history, is one of the zones in the world with greatest biological and landscape diversity, harbouring unique endemism and ecosystems;

RECALLING that throughout the millennia, the Mediterranean basin has been the cradle of development for great civilizations representing some of the most extraordinary examples of human culture in our time;

OBSERVING that the Mediterranean region is an area of special importance for global biodiversity, characterised by a continual influence of agriculture, fishing and tourism, as well as its history, economy and landscape;

STRESSING the importance of maintaining the agrarian cultural landscape and breeds of domestic animals and horticultural varieties associated with traditional farming and livestock practices;

EMPHASISING that the cultural relations existing across the different coastal countries have given rise to the formation of a cultural substratum shared by all of the peoples and a strong sense of identity and solidarity with respect to a common sea;

CONSIDERING that the protected areas in the Mediterranean are often of relatively small dimensions with high interaction with local communities;

OBSERVING the existence of a growing number of protected areas in the Mediterranean region with significant development of innovative management models and solutions;

MINDFUL that most of the Mediterranean countries share common themes of conservation and economic development, despite the existence of significant differences among the coasts in terms of gross national product and percentage of national territory under protection;

RECALLING Resolution 1.10 (*IUCN's Work in the Mediterranean*) adopted at the first World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

RECOGNISING the work carried out by IUCN through the Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation to establish ties of cooperation and programme exchanges in the Mediterranean region;

RECALLING also the important role of Mediterranean ecosystems and culture in the achievement of objectives set for 2010 by the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the UN Millennium Development Goals; and

MINDFUL of the Naples Declaration adopted at the IUCN Mediterranean Members Meeting in June 2004;¹

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS all Mediterranean countries and IUCN to:

- (a) coordinate their actions with the aim of promoting strategic plans for conservation of the most significant environmental systems in the Mediterranean; and
- (b) increase cooperation among States and organizations for the purpose of establishing a protected areas system representative of marine and terrestrial ecosystems in the Mediterranean and an effective management, suitably mindful of the March, 2004 “Malibú Declaration” concerning Mediterranean-type ecosystems.²

Sponsors:

Lliga per a la Defensa del Patrimoni Natural, Spain
Servei de Parcs de la Diputació de Barcelona,
Spain

Legambiente Onlus, Italy

Loro Parque Foundation, Spain

NEREO - Preservador del Medi Ambient, Spain

Departament de Medi Ambient y Habitatge,

Generalitat de Catalunya, Spain

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC013

Nomination of large-scale multi-states serial World Heritage Routes

RECALLING Recommendation V.4 (*Building Comprehensive and Effective Protected Area Systems*) noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) to *ENCOURAGE the nomination of global physiographic, natural and cultural phenomena as large-scale multi-state*

serial World Heritage Routes to serve as frameworks for local and transboundary World Heritage sites and protected areas”;

RECOGNISING the significance of large scale physiographic phenomena (also referred to as “mega phenomena”) occurring throughout the world for the World’s Biodiversity and Natural and Cultural Heritage;

FURTHER RECOGNISING the contribution of such phenomena to the holistic approach of conservation, essential to maintain the interconnection between natural and cultural resources;

UNDERLINING the value of these phenomena for the formation of trans-boundary protected areas and corridors which are of extreme importance for biodiversity conservation;

EMPHASISING specifically the global significance of the Great Rift Valley (GRV) and the Inca Route (Ruta Inca) as Mega Phenomena which encompass many valuable resources;

SERIOUSLY CONCERNED by the loss of precious habitats and sites along these routes which threaten the very interconnection between the routes’ phenomena;

GREATLY VALUING the unique characteristic of the GRV as a mega physiographic phenomenon that crosses 22 countries in Africa and Asia from Mozambique in the south to Turkey in the north, created by a giant geological fault which has been active until the present, causing continental movement, forming valleys, mountains and seas, and has been serving as a most significant environment for creation, evolution and movement of fauna and flora;

FURTHER VALUING the major flyway of half a billion birds that migrate annually along the GRV from Europe to Africa and back; and

CHERISHING the GRV as the cradle of humanity as evidenced by enormous ancient prehistoric sites spread out from Turkey in the north to South Africa in the south and as a corridor connecting the rich human cultures that have emerged and evolved along the valley;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. ENDORSES Recommendation V.4 noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress to nominate global physiographic, natural and

¹http://www.iucn.org/places/medoffice/members%20meeting/Declaration_final_en.pdf

²<http://www.interenvironment.org/med-5/malibudeclaration.htm>

cultural phenomena as large-scale multi-states serial World Heritage Routes to serve as frameworks for local and trans-boundary World Heritage sites and protected areas;

2. INVITES the World Heritage Committee of UNESCO to:
 - (a) encourage and endorse the concept of the World Heritage Serial Nomination in the World Heritage Convention;
 - (b) take the necessary steps needed for considering the nomination of the GRV and the Inca Route as World Heritage Serial Nomination (WHSN) sites as part of a global strategy; and
 - (c) take the necessary steps to assist States Parties in preparing the relevant nominations;
3. CALLS UPON the States Parties along these routes to promote the allocation of protected areas and heritage sites that fit the WHSN concept and submit them for nomination as World Heritage Sites;
4. CALLS UPON local and international NGOs and foundations to provide support for the initiative of nomination and coordinated management of the appropriate protected areas and heritage sites along the GRV and the Inca Route; and
5. REQUESTS IUCN's Council and Director General
 - (a) to take the necessary actions in order to promote the nomination of appropriate Mega Phenomena including the GRV and the Ruta Inca as Serial World Heritage Routes, including further investigation of the appropriate routes, and supporting the nomination of these routes and sites at the World Heritage Committee;
 - (b) to encourage and provide support for regional experts' meetings to be held in order to promote the implementation of the initiative;
 - (c) to encourage local governments and local and international NGOs along the Serial World Heritage Routes to promote the nomination and management of appropriate heritage sites and protected areas in their own territories and as transboundary protected areas.

Sponsors:

Society for Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI),
Israel
California Institute of Public Affairs, USA
Game Rangers Association of Africa, South Africa
Endangered Wildlife Trust, South Africa
Delta Environmental Centre, South Africa

RWG COMMENT:

The inclusion of operant paragraph 5 with operant paragraph 2 places IUCN in conflict of interest as IUCN serves as the technical advisor to the World Heritage Convention. The conflict is resolved if the activities called for under operant paragraph 5 are included with the activities UNESCO is called on to undertake. This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to prepare revised text that resolves this conflict.

CGR3.REC014

Inclusion of the Mont Blanc massif in UNESCO's World Heritage List

RECOGNISING that the Mont Blanc Massif is an area of exceptional natural beauty in a geological and glacial landscape that occupies a unique place in the history of man;

AWARE of the threats to this prestigious site by poorly controlled development and the low level of protection afforded to the Massif;

REGRETTING that the Mont Blanc Transfrontier Conference, a tripartite body created in 1991 without legal personality, has not succeeded to date in implementing the common protection policy that is essential to achieve the conservation aim set by the three States concerned, being France, Italy and Switzerland;

RECALLING that IUCN's adoption of Recommendation 19.93 (*Conservation in the Mont Blanc region, France, Italy, Switzerland*) and Resolution 2.46 (*Protected areas of international importance in the Alps and the Mediterranean*) in favour of the conservation of the Mont Blanc, as well as the role the Union plays with UNESCO regarding the assessment of natural World Heritage sites;

PLEASED with the consensus demonstrated between the different parties active in the field of mountains, in the three countries, to promote the inclusion of the Mont Blanc Massif in UNESCO's World Heritage List;

NOTING the existence of a single natural site in the Alps to be classified as a World Heritage Site, that of the Jungfrau – Aletsch – Bietschhorn area in Switzerland, and the willingness of the World Heritage Committee to promote the inclusion of new sites in the Alpine range by encouraging joint proposals from States (for cross-border sites);

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. DECIDES that adoption of this motion does not prejudice IUCN's independent technical evaluation of the proposed World Heritage Site;
2. CALLS UPON France, Italy and Switzerland, the three founding countries of the Mont Blanc Transfrontier Conference to:
 - (a) resolutely undertake the process that should lead to the submission (coordinated by the three States) of an application for the inclusion of the Mont Blanc Massif in UNESCO's World Heritage List ;
 - (b) support the following actions in order to meet the criteria for inclusion of the site on the World Heritage list:
 - (i) Italy and Switzerland include the Mont Blanc Massif on their lists of sites suggested for World Heritage status;
 - (ii) define a coherent perimeter for the site to be listed, which should include the central nucleus of the Massif with its falls and peaks, excluding the valleys that border it on its three sides;
 - (iii) prepare a management plan for the site within the perimeter defined as above, in collaboration with the local population and their elected representatives, associations and experts, which will have to define the rules of tripartite governance, as well as protection measures common to the three governments, and including provisions for monitoring and assessment of implementation of the management plan;
 - (iv) endow the Mont Blanc area with legal status, creating an entity that shall demark the site to be listed, which in

turn shall be developed with reference to the principles of the Alpine Convention.

Sponsors:

Conservatoire de l'espace littoral et des rivages lacustres, France

Association des Amis de la Forêt de Fontainebleau, France

Association des Naturalistes de la Vallée du Loing (ANVL), France

Association Française des Ingénieurs Ecologues, France

Association pour la Sauvegarde de la Nature Néo-Calédonienne (ASNNC), France

Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), France

Club Alpin Français, France

Eurosite, France

Fédération des Parcs Naturels Régionaux de France, France

Fédération Française des Sociétés de Sciences Naturelles (FFSSN), France

Fondation Internationale pour la Sauvegarde de la Faune, France

Fondation Nicolas Hulot pour la Nature et l'Homme, France

Fondation Sansouire, France

France Nature Environnement (FNE), France

Ligue pour la préservation de la faune sauvage et la défense des non chasseurs, France

Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, France

Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, France

Office National des Forêts (ONF), France

Oiseaux Migrateurs du Paléarctique Occidental (OMPO), France

Réserves Naturelles de France, France

Société Européenne des Réalistes de l'Environnement (SERE), France

WWF France - Fonds Mondial pour la Nature, France

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

NOTE: IUCN is a technical adviser to the World Heritage Committee and therefore must avoid any perceived or actual conflict of interest. The RWG has added a sentence to that effect in operant paragraph 1.

CGR3.REC015

Conservation of the Wetlands Corridor in the Fluvial Littoral, Argentina

CONSIDERING that the three million hectares in the floodplains of the Paraguay and Parana Rivers in Argentina contain exceptional biological diversity, complexity and productivity that arise from the dynamics of flood patterns and which must be conserved;

ACKNOWLEDGING that in this system ecological characteristics converge from several biogeographical regions – Neotropical, Parana, Eastern Chaco, Espinal and others – explaining the existence of unique species, functions and attributes in South America;

EMPHASISING that in this wetlands corridor is also one of the world's largest freshwater reserves and an exceptional inland fishery, Fundación PROTEGER, an IUCN member, launched in 2003 with extensive national and international support the initiative for conservation and wise use of the *Wetlands Corridor of the Argentinean Fluvial Littoral*;

RECALLING Recommendation 2.85 (*Conservation of Middle and Lower Parana River*) adopted at the 2nd World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), expressly requesting the international community to “recognize and support the initiatives of the Rio de la Plata Basin countries to promote the conservation and sustainable development of the region”;

RECOGNISING that this Corridor, integrated as a unit of mosaics of fluvial wetlands, performs important functions in the control and prevention of floods and in the improvement of water quality, and provides special ecological services for the retention of sediments, filtration of water, absorption of pollutants and mitigation of climate change, while also contributing essential resources such as supply of freshwater, fishing, tourism and recreation, among others;

AWARE that significant human disturbances occurring in the Basin, such as expansion of the agricultural frontier and the use of inappropriate technologies, lead to the simplification, contamination and replacement of the ecosystems; that the loss of ground cover and wetlands facilitates erosion and sedimentation; that increase in run-off encourages the recurrence of disastrous swellings such as those associated with El Niño; that large infrastructure works generate negative impacts on fish populations, their habitats, reproduction areas and migration routes; and that

to all this is added the growing pressure of overfishing and exportation at unsustainable rates, fundamentally of the keystone species in the system, the Shad (*Prochilodus lineatus*);

RECALLING that the Argentinean fluvial littoral is connected to the country's most important hub of population; that poverty has risen severely in this region, where 68.5% of the inhabitants are under the poverty line; and that migration, *environmental refugees*, loss of food security and malnutrition are linked to this process of impoverishment;

LIKEWISE RECALLING that there is a close and indissoluble relation of dependency between the ecosystem's characteristics and its resources on the one hand, and the social, cultural and technological traits of the local communities on the other, and that the region's economies are deeply entwined with the use of resources of the river and its wetlands;

PURSUANT to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity: conservation of biodiversity, sustainable use of its components, and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits deriving from such use, objectives for which adequate access to resources, training, technology transfer and financing is crucial;

NOTING that the Ramsar Convention establishes that wetlands can be conserved through wise use (Article 3.1), and that “wise use” was defined by the 3rd Conference of the Parties as the “sustainable utilisation for the benefit of humankind in a way compatible with the maintenance of the natural properties of the ecosystem” (Annex to Ramsar COP3 Regina Recommendations) and that Ramsar also promotes the development of wetland resources and the sustainable trade of wetland products; and

AWARE of the need for coordinated work by all actors and sectors involved in the management of wetlands and their resources and the need for a strategy based on informed participation, social equity and fair trade, aimed at protecting biodiversity, alleviating poverty, preserving and promoting local work, improving in this way environmental quality and the quality of life of the riverine population of the *Wetlands Corridor of the Argentinean Fluvial Littoral*;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. RECOMMENDS to members of IUCN that they recognise and support the Initiative of the *Wetlands Corridor of the Argentinean*

Fluvial Littoral (alluvial plains of the Paraguay and Parana rivers), which promotes in a participatory manner the conservation of biodiversity, the wise use of wetlands and the development of their resources and services, with the aim of alleviating poverty and improving the quality of life of riverine populations;

2. URGES the Argentinean Government to give the highest priority to the implementation of conservation, wise use and sustainable management measures related to maintenance of socio-environmental conditions, allowing in this way the complete functioning of the ecological cycles in the entire Corridor;
3. ENCOURAGES all IUCN members to support the Argentinean Government and non-governmental organizations working on this task; and
4. RECOMMENDS to international organizations that they support the Argentinean Government and NGOs in the implementation of policies and programmes of conservation and sustainable development in the *Wetlands Corridor of the Fluvial Littoral, Argentina*.

Sponsors:

Fundación PROTEGER, Argentina
Asociación Ecológica del Oriente, Bolivia
Centro de Derechos Humanos y Medio Ambiente,
Argentina
Fundación RIE - Red Informática Ecologista,
Argentina

RWG COMMENT:

This motion substantially duplicates Recommendation 2.85, adopted at the 2nd World Conservation Congress, with some additions and updates. It is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.REC016

European policy and biodiversity in overseas territories

NOTING that the European overseas territories are home to biodiversity of worldwide importance, vastly superior to that of continental Europe as a whole;

RECALLING that European overseas territories are composed of seven Ultra-Peripheral Regions (UPRs) that are an integral part of the European Union, and of 21 Overseas Countries and

Territories (OCTs) that benefit from a system of close association;

FURTHER RECALLING that the European Union co-operates with 78 independent States known as the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States, often located in the same parts of the world as the UPRs and OCTs;

IDENTIFYING six priority areas of action for knowledge and sustainable management of biodiversity, namely: Macaronesia, the Caribbean, the Guyana Plateau, the Indian Ocean, the South Pacific and sub-Antarctic islands;

RECALLING that in June 2001, the European Summit in Gothenburg made a solemn pledge to curb the loss of biological diversity before 2010;

REGRETTING the absence of a European policy on biodiversity in four of the seven UPRs, in particular because the Birds and Habitats directives are not applied there, a situation which goes against the spirit of cohesion of the European Union;

REGRETTING FURTHER the poor consideration of biodiversity in overseas territories in the European Union's 6th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development;

REGRETTING ALSO that the development policies supported by the European Union in the European overseas territories do not make sufficient provision for the specific richness and fragility of those territories;

APPROVING the efforts made to improve regional co-operation between UPRs, OCTs and ACP countries in the same geographical area, through joint mobilisation of their respective financial systems;

DRAWING ON the common position of IUCN National Committees in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, France and Spain, established in Brussels on 19th May 2004, and on the results of the Conference on Biodiversity and the EU held in Malahide in May 2004;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. INVITES the European Union to:
 - (a) adopt a system or scheme for the protection and management of important biodiversity areas in the Ultra-Peripheral Regions (UPRs) not covered by the Birds

and Habitats directives, with sufficient financial support;

- (b) create a specific objective in the regulation and payment of structural funds for biodiversity in the UPRs, and specific lines in the European Development Fund (EDF) for biodiversity in the Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) ;
 - (c) improve consideration of biodiversity in overseas territories in European research and to strengthen the ability of the UPRs and OCTs to work together on this subject;
 - (d) apply strict environmental conditions and procedures, taking account of the specific fragility of the European overseas territories which are often islands with high levels of endemism; and
 - (e) encourage regional co-operation on biodiversity between the UPRs and OCTs, including neighbouring African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries whenever possible;
2. INVITES France, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and local authorities from UPR and OCT States and the governments of the ACP countries concerned to:
- (a) support and contribute to concrete implementation of the above proposals, for a coherent European Union goal for biodiversity conservation in overseas territories, with the necessary financial means;
 - (b) draft a common action strategy for biodiversity conservation in each of the six areas of priority action with the European Commission, encouraging the use of different European funds; and
 - (c) involve NGOs fully in the definition and implementation of these proposals, and to improve their access to European funds, namely by reducing administrative and financial management constraints; and
3. CALLS ON the Director General to support the work of the IUCN National Committees concerned, along with IUCN's capacity to submit the proposals to the European Commission and Member States.

Sponsors:

Conservatoire de l'espace littoral et des rivages lacustres, France
Association des Amis de la Forêt de Fontainebleau, France
Association des Naturalistes de la Vallée du Loing (ANVL), France
Association Française des Ingénieurs Ecologues, France
Association pour la Sauvegarde de la Nature Néo-Calédonienne (ASNNC), France
Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD), France
Club Alpin Français, France
Eurosite, France
Fédération des Parcs Naturels Régionaux de France, France
Fédération Française des Sociétés de Sciences Naturelles (FFSSN), France
Fondation Internationale pour la Sauvegarde de la Faune, France
Fondation Nicolas Hulot pour la Nature et l'Homme, France
Fondation Sansouire, France
France Nature Environnement (FNE), France
Ligue pour la préservation de la faune sauvage et la défense des non chasseurs, France
Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, France
Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, France
Office National des Forêts (ONF), France
Oiseaux Migrateurs du Paléarctique Occidental (OMPO), France
Réserves Naturelles de France, France
Société Européenne des Réalisateur de l'Environnement (SERE), France
WWF France - Fonds Mondial pour la Nature, France

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.REC017 Conservation and sustainable management of high seas biodiversity

RECALLING IUCN's commitment to the goal of implementing effective protection, restoration and sustainable use of biological diversity and productivity and ecosystem processes on the high seas (including the water column and seabed) and the establishment of a representative system of Marine Protected Areas at regional and global scales that includes the high seas (e.g. Resolution 2.20 (*Conservation of marine biodiversity*));

ALARMED that the rate of degradation of the high seas due to human activities is accelerating;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides the over-arching legal framework for high seas governance and recognises that the area of the sea bed and ocean floor and the subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, as well as its resources, are the common heritage of mankind; and

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) provides the over-arching legal framework for the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources; and

AWARE of the need for urgent action and RECALLING the *appeals* [*mandates*] for action to protect and maintain high seas biodiversity and biological productivity as expressed in the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) *Plan of Implementation* (2002); the UN General Assembly (UNGA) Resolutions in 2002 and 2003; the Vth World Parks Congress; the 7th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (2004); and the 5th United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea (UNICPOLOS) (2004);

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

CALLS upon States and relevant international organizations, both individually and collectively, to:

1. ***REQUEST the Secretary General of the United Nations to identify options to improve coordination and implementation of existing international laws and principles, in particular those affecting precautionary, integrated and ecosystem-based management of the high seas and to facilitate their adoption and application;***
2. ***BECOME party to, comply with and enforce measures associated with*** [*ACCEDE, ratify or sign, as well as fully implement obligations arising from*] UNCLOS, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the World Heritage Convention (WHC), the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (FSA), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) *and its agreements*, the FAO (Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations) Compliance

Agreement, IMO (International Maritime Organization) instruments as well as regional agreements that have complementary aims; and to implement non-binding instruments like the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fishing and International Plans of Action;

3. ***ESTABLISH an expert process to identify gaps and deficiencies in existing governance arrangements, and to recommend options for improved governance arrangements to overcome such gaps and deficiencies for the better conservation and management of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction;***
4. ***PROMOTE*** [*CONSIDER*] the development and adoption of ***a new international instrument and/or additional mechanisms***, tools and approaches for the effective governance, protection, restoration and sustainable *use* [*management*] of marine biological diversity and productivity in the high seas, ***including the establishment of representative networks of marine protected areas;***
5. ***ASSIST in the development of mechanisms under the WHC and other relevant instruments to enable the recognition and protection of sites of outstanding universal value in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction;***
6. ***TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION to eliminate illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing, including the prohibition of fishing activities that are conducted in a manner inconsistent with State responsibilities or obligations for the conservation of living marine resources and the protection of biodiversity under international law;***
[*TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and ensure that fishing activities are conducted in a manner consistent with State responsibilities for the conservation of living marine resources and the protection of biodiversity under international law;*]
7. ***AGREE to upgrade by 2006 regional fisheries management organizations to conform to the principles set forth in the UN FSA, the FAO Code of Conduct, and the CBD, notably that fisheries management takes into account and minimizes the impacts on and wellbeing of the entire ecosystem in a precautionary manner;***
[*AGREE to, where relevant, incorporate an ecosystem based and precautionary approach*

to fisheries management in regional fisheries management organizations, consistent with the principles set forth in the UN FSA, the FAO Code of Conduct, the FAO Compliance Agreement, the CBD, and Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration]

8. EXPLORE, formulate, consider and adopt mechanisms **by 2006** that ensure enforcement of internationally agreed rules and standards for ships where the flag state fails to control its **domestically** registered ships in accordance with its international legal obligations;
9. **COOPERATE to establish at least five high seas marine protected areas (MPAs) and to develop the scientific, technical and legal basis for establishing representative networks of MPAs in the high seas by 2008, with the aim of establishing representative networks by 2012;** and
[*COOPERATE to establish marine protected areas beyond national jurisdiction and to develop the scientific and legal basis for their establishment and contribution to a global representative network by 2012;*]
10. SUPPORT marine scientific research, particularly capacity-building collaborative research, to enhance understanding of high seas biological diversity and productivity and ecological processes and to ensure the sustainability of human activities.

Sponsors:

Department of the Environment and Heritage
Australia, Australia
Netherlands Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, Netherlands

Australian Department of the Environment and Heritage, Australia
BirdLife International, United Kingdom
Environment and Conservation Organizations of New Zealand, New Zealand
Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Argentina
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Australia
Natural Resources Defense Council, USA
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, New Zealand
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom
Wildlife Conservation Society, USA
World Wide Fund for Nature Australia (WWF Australia), Australia

RWG COMMENT:

Pursuant to paragraph 29 of the Regulations, the RWG provides a consolidated motion which reflects the intent of the sponsors of draft motions with the same title - Conservation and sustainable management of high seas biodiversity. All elements of both motions are included in the consolidated motion; exclusive Australian contributions are in italics; exclusive Dutch contributions are in bold italics.

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to resolve remaining differences in the contributing versions. It is to be considered with counterpart Resolution CGR3.RES057.

CGR.REC018

The protection of seamounts, deep sea corals and other vulnerable deep sea habitats from bottom trawl fishing on the high seas

RECOGNISING recent scientific investigations documenting previously undiscovered species, great species diversity, and very high endemism rates in deep sea ecosystems;

AWARE that deep sea bottom trawling represents the most serious and immediate threat to seamounts, deep sea coral, and other deep sea habitats;

RECOGNISING FURTHER that bottom trawl fishing is completely unregulated in extensive areas of the high seas, and few if any of the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations that have jurisdiction to control such fishing have done so to protect sensitive habitats;

RECALLING numerous resolutions and recommendations calling on states to end the use of destructive fishing gear and practices and curtail unsustainable international fisheries, beginning in 1972 (e.g., 11.16 (1972), 12.2 (1975), 14.7 (1978), 19.61 (1994); 1.16 (1996)); to apply the Precautionary Principle to the conservation and management of high seas fisheries (e.g., 12.8 (1975), 19.55 and 19.56 (1994)); and to ratify and implement international agreements designed to prevent, deter and eliminate unregulated fishing and apply ecosystem and precautionary approaches to fisheries conservation and management (1.17 and 1.76 (1996); 2.78 (2000));

RECALLING FURTHER Resolution 2.20 (*Conservation of marine biodiversity*) highlighting the need for conservation of marine biodiversity,

adopted by the World Conservation Congress in October 2000 at its 2nd Session in Amman, Jordan;

TAKING NOTE of growing international concern over threats to vulnerable deep sea ecosystems, notably at the 2003 Defying Ocean's End Conference, the 2003 Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, and the 2003 Deep Sea Fisheries Conference, as the protection of deep sea biodiversity is a matter of interest to all nations and peoples;

RECOGNISING the Consensus Statement issued in February 2004 by over 1000 marine scientists from around the world calling for swift action to protect imperiled deep sea coral and other ecosystems at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and urging an immediate moratorium on bottom trawling on the high seas;

ENCOURAGED by increasing recognition by governments of the urgent need to protect seamounts, deep sea corals and other vulnerable deep sea habitats, e.g., at the UN General Assembly in 2002 and 2003; the 2002, 2003 and 2004 meetings of the UN Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, and the 2003 Ministerial Meeting of the OSPAR Commission;

FURTHER ENCOURAGED by decision VII/5 (*Marine and coastal biological diversity*) of the 7th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (February 2004), which stressed the need for rapid action to address threats to the marine biodiversity of areas like seamounts, hydrothermal vents, cold water corals and other vulnerable marine ecosystems and features beyond national jurisdiction, and called upon the UN General Assembly and other relevant international and regional organizations to *"urgently take the necessary short-term, medium-term and long-term measures to eliminate/avoid destructive practices, consistent with international law, on a scientific basis, including the application of precaution,"* through, for example, on a case by case basis, the *"interim prohibition of destructive practices adversely impacting the marine biological diversity associated with [these] areas..."* and

NOTING the recommendations adopted by the 5th meeting of the Consultative Process urging states to consider, on a case-by-case basis, "the interim prohibition of destructive practices by vessels under their jurisdiction that have an adverse impact on vulnerable marine ecosystems," and encouraging regional fisheries management organizations to "urgently address the impact of

deep sea bottom trawling on vulnerable marine ecosystems;"

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES the United Nations General Assembly to adopt a resolution declaring an immediate moratorium on high seas bottom trawling pending the development and implementation of a legally binding regime(s) to protect deep sea biodiversity from high seas bottom trawling and to conserve and manage bottom fisheries of the high seas consistent with the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (1995), the FAO Compliance Agreement (1993), the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992) and the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (1995); and
2. CALLS on IUCN members, multilateral organizations and other relevant organizations, to promote the conservation and protection of deep sea biodiversity and its equitable and sustainable use, including through an immediate moratorium on high seas bottom trawling and the development of legally binding regimes.

Sponsors:

Natural Resources Defense Council, USA
Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda I.A.P. GESIAP, Mexico
Conservation International, USA
Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía MINAE, Costa Rica
Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico
Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña(UNES), El Salvador
Cent para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía Samaná y entorno (CEBSE), Dominican Republic
Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestre (APREFLOFAS), Costa Rica
Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, Argentina
Fundación Jatun Sacha, Ecuador
Environment and Conservation Organizations of New Zealand, New Zealand
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, New Zealand

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the policy implications, this motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group. It is to be considered with a counterpart Resolution CGR3.RES051.

Explanatory memorandum:

Scientists and states are increasingly concerned about the threats to vulnerable deep sea biodiversity hotspots, including seamounts and cold-water corals, posed by bottom trawl fishing conducted on the high seas. These deep sea features typically support slow-growing, long-lived species, which are particularly sensitive to disturbance. Urgent action is needed to protect seamounts, deep water corals and other vulnerable deep sea habitats that occur beyond the 200-mile limit from bottom trawl fishing and to prevent the serial depletion of populations of numerous commercially important species of deep sea fish associated with them.

Seamounts are submarine mountains and hills that rise 1000 meters or more above the ocean floor. They are distributed throughout the world's oceans. Less than 1% of seamounts have been biologically sampled, but recent research indicates that seamounts have large numbers of endemic species (species that are not found anywhere else). Along with cold water corals and other deep-sea ecosystems, seamounts represent a major reservoir of biodiversity in the oceans. There is great concern that many species are being lost to bottom trawling before they can even be identified, greatly reducing the opportunities for all states to benefit from deep sea species and biodiversity.

Bottom trawl fishing is completely unregulated in extensive areas of the high seas. This represents an important gap in the governance of the world's oceans. Only a handful of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations have authority to regulate deep sea bottom fishing, and few if any have restricted bottom trawling to protect sensitive ecosystems. In relation to other high seas fisheries, bottom trawling on the high seas is limited in terms of the number of vessels, the countries involved, and the amount and value of the catch.

The conservation and management of fisheries and the protection of biodiversity within the 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zones is largely a matter for coastal state responsibility. However the international community as a whole has a collective responsibility to ensure the conservation of biodiversity and fish stocks on the high seas. It is for this reason that the UN General Assembly, Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and other international fora have repeatedly called for urgent action to address the threats to deep sea ecosystems beyond national jurisdiction.

An immediate moratorium on high seas bottom trawling provides a means of temporarily

preserving deep sea biodiversity and fish stocks until an effective regulatory regime can be developed, agreed and applied. It should be accompanied by a time-limited international initiative coordinated under the auspices of the UN General Assembly that can ensure prompt scientific assessment and the negotiation and agreement of effective, equitable and sustainable regimes for high seas bottom fishing.

CGR.REC019

Reef fish spawning aggregations

RECALLING Resolution 2.21 (*IUCN Marine Component Programme*), adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

ACKNOWLEDGING the *Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries* of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Article 6.8 on the protection of spawning habitats, and text from the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development calling for time/area closures for the protection of spawning areas and periods, and from the *Convention on Biological Diversity* to promote adequate protection of areas important for reproduction such as spawning and nursery areas and restoration of such areas and other important habitats for marine living resources;

NOTING that whenever substantial exploitation of reef fish spawning aggregations¹ occurs, significant declines in associated reef fish stocks have often been observed;

AWARE that many exploited aggregations are declining and that some may have disappeared completely;

CONCERNED by the increase in exploitation of reef fish spawning aggregations in various parts of the world, and FURTHER CONCERNED by the dramatic ecological and socio-economic effects that such exploitation could lead to;

CONSIDERING that fish spawning aggregations support many reef fish species, and may be critical

¹ Spawning Aggregations are groupings or gatherings of reproductively active adults that form briefly for the sole purpose of reproduction (=spawning), often at highly predictable times and places each year and that are hence particularly vulnerable to heavy fishing pressure; for many species these aggregations are the only annual opportunities for spawning and hence are likely to be critically important for population persistence.

for the persistence of stocks of these species, the fisheries they support, and the human communities that depend on them;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that spawning aggregations are considered critical sources of fish larvae and their protection will build natural replenishment and resilience on a broader ecosystem scale; and

CONSCIOUS that many reef fish spawning aggregations need urgent protective measures to persist;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES Governments to establish sustainable management programmes for sustaining and protecting reef fish and their spawning aggregations, including a range of spatial and seasonal measures that can be adapted to local needs and circumstances; and
2. REQUESTS international and regional fisheries management organizations as well as NGOs to take action to promote and facilitate the conservation and management of fish spawning aggregations, including by raising awareness of the long-term ecological, economical and societal values of spawning aggregations.

Sponsors:

Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources -
Seychelles, Seychelles
The Nature Conservancy, USA
The Wildlife Conservation Society, USA
Environmental Defense, USA
The Ocean Conservancy, USA
World Wildlife Fund - US, USA

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC020 **Strengthening stakeholder participation** **in fisheries management**

RECALLING Resolution 2.21 (*IUCN Marine Component Programme*) adopted by the 2nd World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2004) and Recommendations V.1 (*Strengthening institutional and societal capacities for protected area management in the 21st century*), V.2

(*Strengthening individual and group capacities for protected area management in the 21st century*) and V.16 (*Good governance of protected areas*) noted by the Vth IUCN World Park Congress (Durban, 2003);

RECALLING that the UNCLOS aims to “promote the peaceful uses of the seas and oceans, the equitable and efficient utilization of their resources, the conservation of their living resources, and the study, protection and preservation of the marine environment”;

NOTING the importance of the work of the IUCN Marine Programme;

RECOGNISING the socio-economic importance of marine resources to the planet’s human population and especially coastal communities;

EMPHASISING the need for increasing coherence between existing programmes and conventions related to fisheries management and the marine environment;

EMPHASISING also the importance of taking into account the knowledge of fishers, and the understanding of environmental citizens’ organizations;

CONSIDERING that the fisheries sector is directly affected by the protection of the marine environment and fishers are dependent upon the health of that environment;

RECALLING that the Johannesburg Plan for Implementation states that “good governance is essential for sustainable development”;

TAKING NOTE of the global recognition of the need to improve stakeholder participation, particularly the existing European Union initiative to implement Regional Advisory Councils involving stakeholders;

CONSIDERING that the health of the environment must often be achieved through the regulation of fisheries; and

CONSIDERING that fisheries authorities and fishers will have to implement decisions and that enforcement and observance of regulations is a key to sustainable fisheries;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. REQUESTS the various components of IUCN to work more closely with fisheries authorities

(national and regional), with all stakeholders including fishers' organizations as well as international organisations and regional fisheries organizations at the early stages of any debates and/or actions related to fisheries and ocean management; and

2. REQUESTS IUCN to acknowledge and encourage research to improve the protection of marine environment, carried out jointly by fishers and marine scientists.

Sponsors:

European Bureau for Conservation and Development, Belgium
Miljøverndepartementet, Norway
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, Spain

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC021

Conservation of Canada's boreal forest

RECOGNISING that the world's boreal forest region encircles the northern part of the globe, storing more freshwater in wetlands and lakes and more carbon in its trees, soil and peat than any other terrestrial ecosystem;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that Canada's boreal forest region contains one-quarter of the world's remaining original forests and that as one of the largest intact forest ecosystems on earth, Canada's boreal region contains rare examples of large-scale ecological processes such as predator-prey, fire and hydrological cycles;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that Canada's boreal forest is home to a rich array of wildlife including bears, wolves and some of the world's largest caribou herds and also is the breeding grounds for migratory bird species from throughout the Americas, including 30 percent of North America's landbirds and more than 40 percent of North America's waterfowl;

CONSIDERING that Canada's boreal forest region is home to approximately 600 Aboriginal communities that hold deeply rooted spiritual and cultural relationships to its lands, waters, and creatures, and whose cultural, spiritual, and economic well-being and renewal are inextricably linked to the health of the boreal ecosystem;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that approximately 90 percent of the boreal forest region is publicly owned by the people of Canada;

NOTING that an alliance of conservation organizations, Aboriginal communities and natural resource companies has endorsed the *Boreal Forest Conservation Framework* that calls for at least half of the boreal region to be conserved in protected areas and for world-class sustainable use standards to be applied to lands under development;

RECALLING the *2001 UNEP Assessment of the Status of the World's Remaining Closed Forests* findings that the current strategy of integrating conservation and economic development has often been unsuccessful in conserving forests and wildlife and that as Canada contains much of the world's closed forests, it and other governments should protect remaining closed forest areas through the establishment of new protected areas and rigorous scrutiny of any new roads and dams;

FURTHER RECALLING IUCN's commitment to protect the boreal forest in its Temperate and Boreal Forest Programme of the IUCN Forest Conservation Programme, as established through Resolution 1.19 (*A global IUCN temperate, boreal and southern cold temperate forests programme*) adopted at the 1st Session of the World Conservation Congress (Montreal 1996);

AWARE that scientists are finding that preservation of large intact protected areas, as well as use of environmentally sustainable practices where industrial development does take place, is critical to maintain present ecological values and services in the boreal region; and

CONCERNED that Canada's boreal region is suffering from negative cumulative impacts of logging and pulp, paper and saw mill operations, agriculture, oil and gas exploration and development, mining and hydropower development, and that new industrial development in Canada's boreal forest is proceeding without adequate community-led, ecologically-based land use planning that would result in the designation of protected areas and sustainable use areas;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

URGES the federal and provincial governments of Canada to:

- (a) preserve and protect ecological processes that account for the overall health of the boreal forest, in at least today's level of intactness and ecosystem functions, and initiate restoration standards for those boreal regions that have been changed by industrial activity;

- (b) acknowledge and respect the leadership role of Aboriginal Peoples in achieving conservation goals on their traditional lands and ensure the inclusion of Aboriginal Peoples, through respect for their governance of the land and their traditional knowledge, in all conservation efforts in the boreal forest;
- (c) undertake community-led, ecologically-based land use planning, utilizing scientific knowledge, traditional knowledge, and local perspectives to achieve the conservation of natural and cultural values of the boreal region;
- (d) ensure the conservation of the entire Canadian boreal region by creating a network of new and expanded protected areas in which development and resource extraction are prohibited, and by enforcing environmentally sustainable land use practices in all areas under industrial tenure;
- (e) to ensure future conservation options, prohibit the allocation of new forestry, petroleum development, mineral development or hydroelectric development licenses until the successful completion of such land use planning processes; and
- (f) cooperate with and fund needed technical and community activity to assist in the nomination of Canadian Boreal Region World Heritage Sites, such as the Atikaki/Woodland Caribou/ Accord First Nations – Manitoba and Ontario, recently placed on Canada’s Tentative List for World Heritage Sites.

Sponsors:

Natural Resources Defense Council, USA
 The Wildlife Conservation Society, USA
 National Wildlife Federation, USA
 Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, Canada
 Defenders of Wildlife, USA
 World Wildlife Fund Canada, Canada
 The Nature Conservancy, USA

RWG COMMENT:

Because this motion is precedent setting, an ad hoc contact group will be scheduled to ensure all stakeholders are in agreement in the broad thrust of the motion, and in particular operant paragraph (a).

CGR.REC022
Conservation of Mediterranean-type ecosystems

CONSIDERING that the five regions of the world with Mediterranean-type climates characterized by mild, rainy winters and hot, dry summers are extraordinarily rich in biodiversity, covering only 2.25 percent of the earth’s land surface but, for example, containing 20 percent of its named vascular plant species;

RECOGNISING that the environments of these regions, found in parts of Australia, Chile, and South Africa; in the California floristic province of the United States and Mexico; and in and around the Mediterranean Basin, face greater immediate threats per unit of area than any other species-rich regions on earth;

NOTING that rampant urbanization is the main threat to biodiversity in these regions, and a major threat to the health and wellbeing of the people who live in them;

FURTHER NOTING that these regions share many problems related to their climate, including sensitivity to climate change and desertification, air pollution, overdrawing of groundwater, degradation of fresh water resources, marine pollution from urban runoff, and catastrophic fires along the urban-wildland interface;

RECOGNISING that public policies and education in these regions are often based on locations with very different climates and fail to take into account the limits of their natural systems;

AWARE that the *Malibu Declaration on Cities and Conservation in Mediterranean-type Ecosystems*,¹ adopted on 13 April 2004 following a workshop held in Malibu, California, by the Task Force on Cities and Conservation of the World Commission on Protected Areas, calls for increased attention to conservation of these regions;

AWARE that the *Malibu Declaration* was endorsed on 30 April 2004 by the International Society of Mediterranean Ecologists, a scientific body concerned with the world’s five Mediterranean-type regions, at its 10th MEDECOS Conference held in Rhodes, Greece;

ALSO AWARE that the *Malibu Declaration* was noted in the *Declaration of Naples* adopted on 22

¹ <http://www.interenvironment.org/med-5/malibudeclaration.htm>

June 2004 by the IUCN Mediterranean Members Meeting held in Naples, Italy; and

CONCERNED that the importance of, and threats to, Mediterranean-type ecosystems are inadequately recognised by governments, intergovernmental organizations, and the conservation community;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS ON political leaders, governments at all levels, citizens, and the private sector to:
 - (a) expand and improve systems of protected areas to safeguard and restore natural areas in Mediterranean-type regions in the face of urban sprawl and climate change;
 - (b) provide urban residents in Mediterranean-type regions with access to nature, and educate citizens who live in these regions about the distinctive character of their surroundings and the many benefits they derive from natural resources; and
 - (c) promote sustainable cities in these regions and adopt a comprehensive approach to decision-making that recognizes the interdependence of cities and larger environments;
2. ENDORSES increased international cooperation on conservation in Mediterranean-type ecosystems, including exchange of information and experience, training, and development of improved policies and tools for management and public education; and
3. URGES governments and appropriate intergovernmental organizations to proclaim a Decade of Action to focus attention on and protect these ecosystems.

Sponsors:

California Institute of Public Affairs, USA
Hrvatsko Prirodoslovno Društvo HPD, Croatia
World Wide Fund For Nature - Australia, Australia
The Nature Conservancy, USA
Sierra Club, USA
The Wilderness Society, Australia
Department of Conservation and Land Management, Western Australia, Australia
Department of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria, Australia, Australia

South Australian Department for Environment and Heritage, Australia
The Society for the Protection of Nature in Lebanon, Lebanon
Al-Khat Al Akhdar (Green Line Association), Lebanon
Liga para a Protecção da Natureza, Portugal
Mouvement écologique algérien, Algeria
National Wildlife Federation, USA
Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, Israel
The WILD Foundation, USA
Plantlife, United Kingdom
Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli, Italy
Atlantic Center for the Environment, USA

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC023 Implementation of the “European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species”

WELCOMING the adoption by the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention (Strasbourg, 4 December 2003) of the *European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species*, developed in cooperation with the IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group;

RECALLING that Recommendation 2.67 (*Invasive alien species*) on Invasive Alien Species adopted by the 2nd World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) expressed concern on the threats posed by invasive alien species;

RECALLING that Recommendation No. 99 on the European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species (2003) adopted by the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention (4 December 2003) recommends parties to draw and implement national strategies on invasive alien species taking into account the European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species;

RECALLING the recognition, at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, September 2003), that “Management of IAS is a priority issue and must be mainstreamed into all aspects of Protected Area (PA) management” (*Vth IUCN World Parks Congress Emerging Issues, No. 7*);

RECALLING that the *Plan of Implementation* of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) calls for countries to “Strengthen national, regional and international efforts to control invasive alien species, which are one of the main causes of biodiversity loss, and encourage the development of effective work programme on

invasive alien species at all levels” (Paragraph 44(i));

FURTHER RECALLING the recognition that the issue of Invasive Alien Species with a biodiversity impact has recently been received in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), International Maritime Organization (IMO), the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971), the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and other international instruments;

CONCERNED that Invasive Alien Species are one of the most serious threats to biodiversity and ecosystem integrity as well as a threat to sustainable development;

RECOGNISING that many nations have a growing awareness of the need to address Invasive Alien Species threats, but that their capacity to respond is often limited because of inadequate legal and institutional frameworks; and

NOTING that a coordinated implementation of the measures recommended by the “European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species” will help prevent new unwanted introductions in Europe and will mitigate the impacts caused by Invasive Alien Species in the region;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS ON countries of Europe to develop and implement national strategies or action plans based on the “European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species” and to increase cooperation in addressing the threats posed by Invasive Alien Species;
2. CALLS ON the European Union to support the implementation of the “European Strategy on Invasive Alien Species” at the regional level and to strengthen regional capacity and cooperation to deal with invasive alien species issues;
3. URGES all governments to foster increased cooperation on Invasive Alien Species issues between “environmental” and “agricultural” government agencies at the national and regional level, as well as foster increased cooperation and consultation between government agencies and all other relevant stakeholders on these matters;
4. URGES governments, institutions and civil society to increase their efforts to mainstream Invasive Alien Species management into

conservation as well as into sustainable development programmes and initiatives; and

5. URGES all stakeholders to maximize exchanges of information and expertise on Invasive Alien Species and to support national, regional and international initiatives that contribute to this.

Sponsors:

Istituto Nazionale per la Fauna Selvatica, Italy
Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli, Italy
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand, New Zealand
Environment and Conservation Organizations of New Zealand, New Zealand
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy
Dipartimento Interateneo Territorio Politecnico e Università di Torino, Italy

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC024

Financial institutions and the World Commission on Dams recommendations

RECALLING Resolutions 2.19 (*Responding to the Recommendations from the World Commission on Dams*) and 2.34 (*Multilateral and bilateral financial institutions and projects impacting on biodiversity and natural features*), adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

ALSO RECALLING Recommendations 18.56 (*Narmada Valley project, India*) adopted by the 18th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990), 19.44 (*Water regimes of rivers, floodplains and wetlands*) and 19.73 (*Paraguay-Paraná Waterway project*) adopted by the 19th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994), 1.98 (*Environmentally sustainable development of the Mekong River Basin*) adopted by the 1st Session of the World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), Recommendations 18.57 (*Tehri dam project, India*), adopted by the 18th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990), and 19.29 (*Dam construction, irrigation, and water diversions*) adopted by the 19th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);

ACKNOWLEDGING that large dams have had significant impacts on communities, riverine and wetland ecosystems, and biodiversity;

RECOGNISING the importance of the World Commission on Dams process, an initiative taken by the IUCN Director General in 1997, in collaboration with the World Bank, to bring together governments, the private sector, academia, and civil society stakeholders;

NOTING the Commission's achievement in undertaking a global review of large dams and developing consensus recommendations for future water and energy sector development projects;

WELCOMING the efforts of many governments and other institutions to work with the World Commission on Dams recommendations, including through national multi-stakeholder processes;

CONCERNED that the World Bank and other international financial institutions have not incorporated the Commission's recommendations into binding policy;

ALSO CONCERNED that the World Bank and other international financial institutions have announced plans to dramatically increase lending for large infrastructure projects without adopting the recommendations of the World Commission on Dams; and

NOTING that many IUCN members were actively involved in the World Commission on Dams process;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES all financial institutions and other developers of dam projects to explicitly evaluate all proposed large dam projects in the context of the seven strategic priorities of the World Commission on Dams;
2. URGES all financial institutions and other developers of dam projects not to fund any large dam projects in river basins including but not limited to the Amazon, Brahmaputra, Euphrates, Indus, La Plata, Mekong, Narmada, Nile, Tigris, and Yangtze unless it complies with the World Commission on Dams' strategic priorities; and
3. URGES all governments and IUCN members to promote the actions called for in the previous paragraphs.

Sponsors:

Environmental Defense, USA

World Wide Fund for Nature - U.K., United Kingdom

Sungi Development Foundation, Pakistan

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC025

Addressing the linkages between conservation, human and animal health, and security

NOTING that recent outbreaks of zoonotic diseases – pathogens that move from animals to people – including mad cow disease, Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), Ebola, West Nile virus and Avian Influenza – pose a serious threat to health and to economic development;

CONCERNED that the pandemic health threat posed by the millions of live animals passing through markets annually within the global wildlife trade has not yet been recognised, and that efforts to regulate this trade fall far short of the imperative for action;

ALARMED that some of the measures intended to control and reverse the spread of these diseases include unscientific mass eradication programs targeting wild species and livestock, with serious long term consequences for human health, food security and biodiversity, while failing to address the chain of transmission or the sources of vulnerability and exposure;

FURTHER ALARMED that the alteration of ecosystems and their normal processes through development can lead to changes in populations of vectors and potential hosts, to new types of host-pathogen interactions, and thus to new patterns of disease spread in ways which are often unforeseen, and with real individual and societal costs that remain unaccounted for, with potentially catastrophic effects;

MINDFUL of a number of key decisions on the role of IUCN in addressing the links between health and conservation, including:

- (a) The 14th Session of the IUCN General Assembly in 1978, which recognised that “proposals for blanket eradication of disease vectors over very large areas of African savanna... pose direct threats to the future of [certain] parks” and recommended that eradication be undertaken only “as part of an integrated development programme, planned in accord with recognised conservation

principles in precisely circumscribed areas...[with] the strictest measures... taken to ensure that the effects do not damage the characteristics of protected areas” (Resolution 5 *Eradication of disease-transmitting vectors*);

- (b) The 18th Session of the IUCN General Assembly in 1990, which encouraged IUCN members and the IUCN Secretariat “to continue to take the lead in exploring and initiating actions on the relations between... natural resources management and human health, particularly the morbidity and mortality of infants and young children” (Recommendation 18.17 *Human population dynamics and resource demand*); and
- (c) The Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, 2003, which identified “Disease and Protected Area Management” as a key Emerging Issue: “...improvements in the health of domestic and wild animals and thus their productivity can lead to dramatic improvements in human livelihoods and thus the reduction of poverty. Alien invasive pathogens should be addressed with vigour equal to that devoted to addressing more ‘visible’ alien invasive species. The role of disease in protected areas and the land-use matrix within which they are embedded must be recognised and addressed within the context of protected area and landscape-level planning and management...”;

NOTING that wildlife health and conservation biology are areas of expertise that have heretofore been largely isolated from decision making on human public health and domestic animal health, and that these fields of expertise must be viewed as epidemiologic ‘parts of a greater whole’; and

AIMING to promote a healthier and more secure world;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. RECOMMENDS that the world’s leaders, civil society, and national and global health-related and other scientific institutions:
 - (a) establish formal communication channels among the global institutions responsible for human, domestic animal and wildlife health, and forge linkages to nongovernmental organizations with relevant expertise;
 - (b) draw upon the broader multidisciplinary expertise available from within the IUCN

network in policy development, decision making and planning related to human and animal diseases;

- (c) build capacity within national and global institutions responsible for public health to analyse and address issues at the nexus between human, domestic animal, and wildlife health;
- (d) support action to control global wildlife trade, an uncontrolled commerce that threatens not only biodiversity but also human health worldwide;
- (e) develop a global wildlife health surveillance network that can collect and exchange disease-related information with the public health and agricultural animal health communities in real time for ‘early warning’ of potential new and emerging disease threats to humans and animals;
- (f) limit the mass cull of free-ranging wildlife species for disease control to situations where there is a multidisciplinary, international scientific consensus that a wildlife population poses an urgent, significant threat to public health and safety;
- (g) recognise that land- and water-use decisions have real implications for global public health as well as biodiversity conservation, and integrate these health risks into project and programme impact assessment and management; and
- (h) invest in awareness-raising and education on the animal health-human health link, and in rational policy development within and among governments; and

2. REQUESTS that the IUCN Secretariat, Commissions and members strengthen their knowledge of the interactions between animal health and human health and ecosystem integrity, and identify areas where conservation objectives and public health objectives conflict and align.

Sponsors:

International Institute for Sustainable Development, Canada
Center for Environmental Legal Studies, USA
Asia - Pacific Centre for Environmental Law of the National University of Singapore, Singapore
The Wildlife Conservation Society, USA

RWG COMMENT:

Because of policy implications and the need for broader understanding of the issue, this motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group and then to plenary for consideration.

Explanatory memorandum:

The World Health Organization reports that in recent decades, new diseases have begun emerging at the unprecedented rate of one per year, a trend that is expected to continue. The links between the earnestness of humankind's environmental stewardship and our future health, indeed our very survival, have never been more clear. From mad cow to monkey pox, SARS to Ebola, from West Nile to Avian Influenza, it has become clear that there is only "one health."

As the unencumbered movement of exotic wildlife, their products, and people recently exposed to them expands, for example, the circulation of new and highly lethal emerging diseases threaten the health and well-being of society, the food supply and the existence of wildlife in their native habitats. At the same time, a wide range of other ecological disruptions related to habitat loss, resource extraction, pollution and other human activities threaten to unravel the very fabric of life on earth. The commercial benefits accrued by some from such activities often do not justify the global costs they generate in terms of environmental disruption, biodiversity loss, and stage-setting for epidemics of new and emerging pathogens: the 'hidden transaction costs' of this global industry can no longer be borne by the global community.

To be able to tackle the tremendous challenges that lie ahead – to prevent the next global pandemic, to prevent the extinction of entire species from disease or environmental perturbation, to mitigate against drastic shifts in vector and disease distribution related to global climate change, to ensure we are well equipped to address and ideally preclude emerging disease threats for generations to come – there are several key things the global community simply must do, some of which are elaborated in this motion to the World Conservation Congress.

It is clear that no one discipline has enough knowledge to prevent the emergence or re-emergence of diseases in the context of modern globalization. The dual challenges of saving the diversity of life and of securing public health must be met with novel approaches that are proactive rather than reactive, with solutions that are holistic and integrative. 'Bottom-up' and 'top-down' approaches to addressing the relationships between

wildlife health, domestic animal health, human health, and ecosystem health are essential for

sustained success in maintaining prospects for a healthier planet.

No one discipline can reverse the global patterns of habitat loss and extinction that are clearly evident. Only by breaking down the barriers among specialties and agencies – working together and listening to each other – can we have any hope of preventing the next health and/or ecological catastrophe. We are in an era of "one world, one health," and our national and global institutional arrangements and behaviour urgently need to recognise and work within this reality.

CGR.REC026

The Biosphere Reserve of the Chaco and indigenous peoples

AWARE of the importance that the Gran Chaco of South America, its cultures and its ecosystems have for the conservation of biological and cultural diversity on the planet;

CONSIDERING that the northern part of the Paraguayan Chaco is historically part of the territory of diverse indigenous peoples, and that the historic rights of these peoples are recognised through the *Constitution of Paraguay*, articles 62 to 67 and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention (169) concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries;¹

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the Northern Chaco is inhabited by indigenous communities who have no contact with the surrounding societies, and that these communities, through their pattern of life in balance with nature, sustain the integrity of their ecosystems and also are a fundamental part of the cultural diversity of humankind;

GREETING with approval the Paraguayan Government's political will and initiative to establish, with the Man and Biosphere Committee and in cooperation with a coalition of civil society organizations, a Reserve of the Biosphere in the Paraguayan Chaco and to promote its recognition by UNESCO;

CONSIDERING Articles 8.j and 10.c of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and decision VII/28 of the 7th meeting of its

¹ <http://www.unhchr.ch/html/menu3/b/62.htm>

Conference of the Parties, adopting the work programme on protected areas;

ALSO CONSIDERING the Akwe:Kon Voluntary Guidelines for action, adopted by decision VII/16 of the 7th Conference of the Parties to the CBD;

ACKNOWLEDGING Workshop Recommendations V.24 (Indigenous peoples and protected areas), 5.25 (Co-management of protected areas), V.26 (Community conserved areas) and V.27 (Mobile indigenous peoples and conservation) noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress ; Resolutions 12.5 (Protection of traditional ways of life) adopted at IUCN's 12th General Assembly (Kinshasa, 1975), 18.16 (Recognition of the role of indigenous communities) adopted at IUCN's 18th General Assembly (Perth, 1990), and 19.21 (Indigenous People and the sustainable use of natural resources), 19.22 (Indigenous people), and 19.23 (The Importance of Community-based Approaches) adopted at IUCN's 19th General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994); and Resolutions 1.49 (Indigenous peoples and IUCN), 1.50 (Indigenous peoples, intellectual property rights and biological diversity), 1.53 (Indigenous peoples and protected areas) and 1.55 (Indigenous peoples and forests) which were adopted at the 1st Session of the World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) ; and

REMEMBERING the *Principles and Directives on Indigenous and Traditional Peoples and Protected Areas* adopted by IUCN;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. EXPRESSES its support to the initiative of the Government of Paraguay, the Man and Biosphere Committee of UNESCO and environmental organizations, towards the declaration of part of the Northern Paraguayan Chaco as a Biosphere Reserve, and calls for the relevant actors in Bolivia, Argentina and Brazil to cooperate in the establishment of a Trans Border Biosphere Reserve in the region, considering its natural and cultural relevance;
2. CALLS on all governments and stakeholders involved in the Chaco to respect the rights of the indigenous peoples to their ancestral territories; and
3. REQUESTS the government and stakeholders involved in the Chaco to assure the effective and complete participation of indigenous peoples in the process of establishment of the Biosphere Reserve in the Gran Chaco, to

promote the implementation of public policies that respect indigenous communities with or without contact with the surrounding societies, to assure the protection of their lands, the sustainable use of their natural heritage and the full participation of indigenous communities in the management of public and private protected areas.

Sponsors:

SOBREVIVENCIA, Friends of the Earth
Paraguay, Paraguay
International Indian Treaty Council, USA
Fundación Moises Bertoni, Paraguay
Cenesta, Iran
Friends of the Earth International, Netherlands

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.REC027

Consolidation of a national system of protected areas in the Dominican Republic

CONSIDERING that the establishment of a national system of protected areas in the Dominican Republic has been a process of national interest evolving until it now accounts for almost 19% terrestrial and 11% marine protected areas;

CONSIDERING that in the process of developing the national system of protected areas the Dominican Republic has received the support and technical assistance of IUCN through different experts from the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA);

CONCERNED by recent events in the Dominican Republic concerning the drafting and approval of a Sectoral Law on Protected Areas that alters the objectives of these areas and places the stability of the entire system in jeopardy;

CONCERNED by this sectoral law's clear intent to reduce protection for marine areas of national, regional and international importance for the reproduction and conservation of endangered species of commercial interest, such as the Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*), Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus* and *P. guttatus*), Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) and Manatee (*Trichechus manatus*);

CONCERNED ALSO by the clear intent of the aforementioned sectoral law to reduce protection

of terrestrial areas of national, regional and international importance for the conservation of biodiversity, culture and water reserves in the Dominican Republic; and

CONSIDERING that among the areas most affected are the Jaragua National Park, core area of the Dominican Republic's only Biosphere Reserve, established in 2002, as well as the East National Park, proposed as a World Heritage Site for its extraordinary natural and archeological wealth;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

URGES pertinent authorities in the Dominican Republic to:

1. ensure the protection and conservation of terrestrial and coastal and marine ecosystems of national, regional and international importance, within the framework of a consolidated national system of protected areas;
2. develop and strengthen a national system of protected areas with the integration of local communities, as a strategy for combating poverty;
3. develop and implement management plans for the protected areas to ensure that their potential for the country's development is realized; and
4. ensure that the environmental, economic and cultural services provided by the protected areas are accessible and available for the good of humanity.

Sponsors:

Centro para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía de Samaná y su Entorno, Dominican Republic

Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico

Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña (UNES), El Salvador

Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestres (APREFLOFAS), Costa Rica
Natural Resources Defense Council, USA

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.REC028

Conservation of the Cantábrico-Burgalesa mountain range

RECOGNISING the outstanding natural and ecological value of the Cantábrico-Burgalesa mountain range and the great biodiversity it is home to; that it contains various habitats and species which are listed in Annex I of Directive 92/43/EEC relating to the conservation of natural habitats and wild flora and fauna, such as temperate Atlantic wet heaths, endemic or-Mediterranean heaths, European dry heaths and Atlantic acidophilous beech forests, degraded raised bogs capable of natural regeneration, and caves not exploited for tourism, etc.; and the presence of various additional species of flora such as the Iberian endemism *Gentiana boryi* Boiss;

RECOGNISING LIKEWISE that these mountains are noted for being home to certain species of fauna which are explicitly protected by said Directive, such as the Pyrenean desman (*Galemys pyrenaicus*) – classified as “endangered” by IUCN in 2001 –, the wild cat (*Felis silvestris*), the salmon (*Salmo salar*) or the European smooth snake (*Coronella austriaca*), as well as other species of fauna such as the wolf (*canis lupus*), the polecat (*Mustela putorius*), the otter (*Lutra lutra*) or the Cantabrian chamois (*Rupicapra pyrenaica parva*); and also birds listed in Annex I of Directive 79/409/EEC relating to the conservation of wild birds, such as the Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), the golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) and the eagle owl (*Bubo bubo*), among others;

CONSIDERING that these mountains are spread across several Natural Protected Spaces, both by European classification (the Sites of Community Importance of Montes de Valnera, Montaña Oriental, the rivers Asón and Gándara, the rivers Miera and Pas) and by regional classification within Spain (the Nature Park of los Collados del Asón and the Natural Monument of Ojo Guareña); and

ADDING to this outstanding natural heritage certain unquestionable scenic, cultural and ethnographic qualities, illustrated by the “pasiego” people, characterized by its lifestyle, architecture and its unique relationship with the environment which has remained unchanged over the centuries, giving shape to a human community without parallel in Western Europe;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

URGES the governments of the autonomous regions of Castilla-León and Cantabria, belonging to the Kingdom of Spain, to declare the whole of the Cantábrico-Burgalesa mountain range a Joint Protected Space, to ensure maximum conservation of its biodiversity and ethnographic heritage, recognising explicitly the unique character, both natural and cultural, of this space.

Sponsors:

Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre, Spain
NEREO - Preservador del Medi Ambient, Spain
Fondo para la Protección de los Animales
Salvajes, Spain
MEDITERRANIA - Centre d'Iniciatives
Ecologiques, Spain
Loro Parque Foundation, Spain

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC029

Establishing a marine protected area for Blue Whales (*Balaenoptera musculus*) in the gulf of Corcovado, Chile

WHEREAS recent investigations carried out by Chilean scientists have identified an area with a high concentration of Blue Whales (*Balaenoptera musculus*) engaged in feeding and nursing activities in the Gulf of Corcovado, western coast of Chiloé Island in Chile (the Blue Whale, the largest mammal in the world, is a species under recovery after populations were severely depleted and almost totally extinct over 40 years ago; current population estimates amount to no more than 1400 individuals in the Southern Hemisphere);

WHEREAS one of the main reasons that restrain the proliferation of marine mammals is the lack of safe feeding, reproduction and socialization areas for such species;

CONSIDERING that fjord and archipelago ecosystems are poorly represented at a world level, and that fjords and channels are protected environments with mixed saline conditions that occur naturally in very specific places of the planet, and that Chile is privileged in that sense;

CONSIDERING that the Gulf of Corcovado houses not only Blue Whales, but also highly relevant species such as Humpback Whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), Killer Whales or Orca (*Orcinus orca*), Chilean or Black Dolphins

(*Cephalorhynchus eutropia*), Peale's Dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus australis*), South American Sea Lions (*Otaria flavescens*) and South American Fur Seals (*Arctocephalus australis*), among others;

CONSIDERING that the United Nations has made an overall request to world governments to preserve marine life through the establishment of marine protected areas; that today, less than 0.5% of the planet's marine habitats are under protection; and that this figure, compared to the protection of land areas which amounts to 11.5%, confirms the level of exposure of marine resources at a world level;

CONSIDERING that The World Conservation Union (IUCN) recommended the following definition of protected marine areas: "Any area of intertidal or subtidal terrain, together with its overlying waters and associated flora, fauna, historical and cultural features, which has been reserved by legislation to protect part or all of the enclosed environment" (Resolution 17.38 (*Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment*)) adopted by the 17th IUCN General Assembly (San Jose, 1988); and

CONSIDERING that following the World Summit on Sustainable Development held in 2002 (the Johannesburg Summit), the WSSD *Plan of Implementation* involves an assessment of the global marine environment by 2004 and the establishment and development of a network of protected marine areas by 2012; and that likewise, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Jakarta Mandate includes a Ministerial Statement that acknowledges the urgent need to address conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biological diversity, as well as a multi-annual work program on coastal and marine biological diversity;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

ENCOURAGES the relevant authorities of the Republic of Chile to:

1. ensure the protection of the Blue Whale habitat recently discovered in the Gulf of Corcovado, through the establishment of a marine protected area; and
2. develop and implement a management plan for this marine protected area, aimed at ensuring the survival of the Blue Whale by preserving the ecosystem relationships that facilitate its conservation, with the active participation of local communities.

Sponsors:

Comité Nacional pro Defensa de la Fauna y Flora,
Chile
The Ocean Conservancy, USA
Natural Resources Defense Council, USA

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR.REC030

Conservation needs of the Tiger (*Panthera tigris/ Panthera pantheris*)

RECALLING Recommendation 2.69 (*Tiger (Panthera tigris) conservation*) adopted by the 2nd World Conservation Congress (Amman, October 2000), related to the negative impacts of human activity on the Tiger (*Panthera tigris/Panthera pantheris*) and its habitat throughout the world;

BEARING IN MIND the *Plan of Implementation* of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) (Johannesburg, 2002) and the 2010 biodiversity target of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

RECOGNISING the existence of the WSSD Type II Partnership process that accompanies the WSSD Plan of Implementation and is managed by the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (UN CSD);

CONSIDERATE of the UN *Decade of Education for Sustainable Development 2005-2014* as a global framework in which to promote sound conservation values in the process of sustainable development;

BEARING IN MIND the Olympic Games, to be held in Beijing, China in 2008, and their prestigious profile among nation states and their citizens throughout the world;

UNDERSTANDING the global significance of the severely endangered Tiger as a unifying flagship species for worldwide conservation efforts; and BEING AWARE of the European Union (EU)-China Environmental Cooperation Programme and in particular its *Local Agenda 21 Municipal Development Programme* that has identified the conservation of the Amur Tiger as a central component of a successful sustainable regional development strategy within China;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

REQUESTS IUCN to support the development of a UN CSD registered Type II WSSD partnership for implementing a model conservation-led integrated sustainable development programme for the Amur Tiger, centred upon the Hengdoh Tiger Breeding Centre in North East China.

Sponsors:

Instituto Portugues de Ecologia, Portugal
EUROPARC Federation, Germany
World Association of Zoos and Aquariums,
Switzerland

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group, which in view of the broad partnership foreseen, should consider if it is advisable to single out one particular partner.

Explanatory memorandum:

The partnership will explore the economic, environmental and social opportunities to develop a model sustainable development programme for one of the world's flagship threatened species. In order to realize this programme it will call upon a global coalition of expertise and resource providers committed to the above processes.

The development of a UN Type II Partnership would facilitate coherent governance of the tiger habitat and its administrative regions. This would enable a positive synergy to be developed between the tourism, energy, and agro-forestry sectors, and create local-to-global capacity-building links that are currently lacking at this phase of the conservation efforts.

The motion asks IUCN to take a leading role in the formulation and organization of such a partnership that will be used by members to mainstream a conservation-based value system that will highlight the conservation efforts for the Tiger to underpin global, sub-global, national, regional and local biodiversity efforts in the build up to the 2010 deadline.

CGR.REC031

Conservation of Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*)

NOTING that the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica tatarica*) is one of the key species of fragile steppe

ecosystems in the Northern Palearctic occurring in the Russian Federation and Central Asia;

RECALLING that the Saiga Antelope (*Saiga tatarica*) was listed in Annex II of the Convention of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1995 and was included in 2002 in the IUCN Red List as a critically endangered species;

RECOGNISING that the Saiga Antelope is one of the most seriously endangered mammal species in this region today, and that its number has dramatically declined from about 1 million animals in 1990 to less than 5 percent of this figure today, primarily due to poaching for its horn and meat;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the root causes of poaching lie in poverty, resulting from major changes in the rural economies of the main range states, Kazakhstan, the Republic of Kalmykia of the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Mongolia;

CONCERNED that stocks from horns of Saiga Antelope are still being used for Chinese medicine, and are the subject of a high value trade in oriental markets;

ALARMED by the continuing poaching for horns for the Chinese medicinal trade on the Saiga population, and its huge negative effect on breeding success and the contribution to sharp decline in the populations of this species;

FURTHER ALARMED that organized large-scale illegal hunting of Saiga Antelope and smuggling of its products continue in spite of the rigorous measures taken by the governments of its range countries to prevent this illegal activity;

RECOGNISING that this illegal trade has contributed to the sharp decline in the populations of Saiga Antelope, and that, if these activities continue, the Saiga Antelope will become extinct;

STRESSING that unless current conservation measures are dramatically strengthened, poaching will continue and rapidly lead to extinction or near-extinction of the remaining populations, especially Betpak-Dala population in Kazakhstan;

EMPHASISING that the key to saving the Saiga Antelope depends upon the cessation of trade in horns and other derivatives, as well as on *in situ* species conservation measures;

NOTING that the livelihoods of rural people in the range states of the Saiga are under great pressure

and that this is the main incentive for the continuance of poaching; and

FURTHER NOTING the very substantial increases in human and financial resources for anti-poaching enforcement activities and public awareness made by the Republic of Kalmykia and Kazakhstan governments under their 'Restoration of the Saiga' strategies;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES all States to enforce existing legislation to conserve the Saiga Antelope and to place a strict ban on all trade in products from this species;
2. ENCOURAGES States, within their respective laws and regulations, to make inventories of existing commercial stocks of Saiga Antelope products and to apply a registration system to these stocks;
3. CALLS on all States concerned to take the strictest measures to end all processing of, and trade in, products made from the Saiga Antelope;
4. ENCOURAGES close coordination between all countries concerned to recommend enhanced cooperation between the range states in conservation and awareness raising efforts, above all in seeking funding from international institutions and other donors.
5. CALLS on all parties concerned to take measures for the signature or ratification of international and trans-boundary agreements such as the *Memorandum of Understanding on Saiga Conservation, Restoration and Sustainable Use* drawn up by the Convention on Migratory Species;
6. RECOMMENDS urgent initiatives to improve the incomes of rural people in the Saiga Antelope range countries and to support alternative livelihood activities;
7. URGES CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) to work with the Chinese authorities to ensure that illegal international trade is totally eliminated; and
8. CALLS for further increases in international support for conservation measures.

Sponsors:

Uzbekistan Zoological Society, Uzbekistan
Biodiversity Conservation Centre, Russian
Federation
Environmental Education Centre “Zapovedniks”,
Russian Federation
Pricaspiyskiy Institut Biologicheskikh Resoursov,
Russia

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration; however, if the Parties to CITES take a decision at their forthcoming Conference of the Parties that enhances the level of protection afforded the Saiga Antelope (fide operant paragraph 1), that decision will have to be reflected in the text. Further, it would be helpful if operant paragraph 7 were revised to read: “URGE CITES parties to ensure that the illegal international trade ...”,

CGR.REC032

Conservation of Dugong (*Dugong dugon*), Okinawa Woodpecker (*Sapheopipo noguchii*), and Okinawa Rail (*Gallirallus okinawae*) in Japan

RECOGNISING that only as a small, isolated population of Dugongs are present in Japan that inhabit exclusively a limited habitat around Okinawa Island, and that the Okinawa Woodpecker and Okinawa Rail are endemic land birds with small populations confined to the Yambaru woodland of Okinawa Island;

RECOGNISING ALSO that all three species are classified as endangered by Japanese authorities: Dugong – CR D1; Mammalogical Society of Japan, 1997; Okinawa Woodpecker – CR, Okinawa Rail – EN, both Ministry of Environment, Japan, 2002;

CONCERNED that growing threats may accelerate the extinction of these three species – for the Dugong, plans for constructing a joint United States military/Japanese civilian airport on landfill in the middle of their habitat together with entanglement in fishing nets; for the Okinawa Woodpecker and Okinawa Rail, plans for constructing seven United States military helipads and connecting roads in their habitat area together with predation by introduced mongoose and feral cats;

RECALLING Recommendation 2.72 “*Conservation of Dugong (*Dugong dugon*), Okinawa Woodpecker (*Sapheopipo noguchii*) and Okinawa*

*Rail (*Gallirallus okinawae*)” adopted at the 2nd World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), which urged completion of an environmental impact assessment of construction of the United States Marine Corps facility and of military exercises, and implementation of appropriate measures to ensure the survival of these three species; and*

NOTING the warning in the report “*Dugong Status Report and Action Plans for Countries and Territories*” (2002) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) that “Unless measures are undertaken to protect dugongs in the Okinawan region they will soon be extinct in Japanese waters;”

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES the Government of Japan to:

- (a) in conducting the environmental impact assessment for the joint military/civilian airport planned in dugong habitat, consider several alternatives including a zero option, and also include pre-construction activities such as underwater drilling and seismic reflection surveys as items to be assessed;
- (b) undertake an environmental impact assessment that considers several alternatives including a zero option for the construction of United States military helipads and roads in the habitat of the Okinawa Woodpecker and Okinawa Rail;
- (c) immediately establish protected areas and draw up action plans for the conservation of the dugong, the Okinawa Woodpecker and the Okinawa Rail; and

2. URGES the Government of the United States of America to:

- a) confer with the Government of Japan with a view to protecting the environment and conserving species in relation to the construction of United States military facilities in the habitat of endangered species in Okinawa, based on US military environmental management standards; and
- b) cooperate in the environmental impact assessments carried out by the Government of Japan for military base site construction by dispatching experts in the natural sciences.

Sponsors:

WWF Japan, Japan
Nature Conservation Society of Japan, Japan
Okinawa Daigaku Chiiki Kenkyusyo (Okidai
Chiikiken), Japan

RWG COMMENT:

While Recommendation 2.72, covering the same species, was adopted in Amman, this motion is accepted because it is noted that very little progress has been achieved since. It is referred to Plenary for consideration.

Explanatory memorandum:

The 2nd World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) recommended that the Governments of Japan and the United States conserve the Dugong, Okinawa Woodpecker and Okinawa Rail (Recommendation 2.72), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) published a dugong status report (February 2002) urging Japan to take conservation measures.

Unfortunately, Japan ignored these recommendations, and in July 2002 published a plan that calls for landfilling a 2,500m long, 730m wide area in dugong habitat for constructing an airport for use by both the US Marines and civilian aircraft. This is much larger than the original 1,500m by 600m US Marine heliport plan published in November, 1997. Also, excluded from the environmental impact assessment (EIA) are large-scale surveys, such as underwater drilling and seismic reflection, which will have major impacts on the coral reef, seagrass beds and dugong.

Making the status after these surveys the EIA's baseline could render it unscientific. Because Japan's Defense Facilities Administration Agency (JDFAA) is trying to force through underwater drilling surveys, local residents have since April 2004 continued a sit-in protest at the equipment depot, and underwater drilling has been suspended. In April 2004 the EIA Scoping Document was released for public comment, but necessary data such as aircraft types and flight frequency were absent, inviting much criticism. The Ministry of Environment added dugong to the Wildlife Protection Law's protected species list, and from 2001 performed a 3-year dugong survey. However, it has not produced a conservation action plan, nor is it actively seeking to establish a protected area. In 2002, the JDFAA re-started environmental surveys related to construction of seven US military helipads (75m dia. each) and unpaved roads connecting them in the Yambaru forest habitat of the Okinawa Woodpecker and Okinawa

Rail. However, these survey results have not been released, nor has any conservation plan been drawn up.

Because most measures called for by IUCN Recommendation 2.72 have not been implemented, these three flagship species are still threatened with extinction. More action is needed to conserve them and the other species and formations making up their habitats. To achieve a policy shift by both governments, and particularly Japan, a strong, repeated call to implement the IUCN recommendation will be exceedingly effective.

Note: Newspapers reported that, in line with a general military reorganization, the United States might consider returning Okinawan military bases without requiring substitute facilities, and that, when visiting Okinawa, the US Secretary of Defense criticized the present plan – unimplemented after eight years – and suggested re-assigning functions to solve the issue. Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs denied these reports, and the DFAA continues pushing for the Henoko airport plan. Thus, Japan appears enthusiastic about constructing the airport.

Action by international bodies like UNEP and IUCN greatly contributed to the fact that construction remains stalled. Soon after the Amman World Conservation Congress (2000), many Japanese National Diet members posed questions to the government about dugong conservation and military base construction on Recommendation 2.72, and supported its recommendations. Action by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) is expected to have a significant effect; many Japanese greatly respect IUCN.

CGR.REC033

Protection of the Great Indian Bustard (*Ardeotis nigriceps*)

RECOGNISING that the Great Indian Bustard *Ardeotis nigriceps* is perhaps the most endangered member of the bustard family in the world;

NOTING that historically, the Great Indian Bustard was widely distributed in arid and semi-arid grasslands of India and Pakistan;

FURTHER NOTING that presently the total number could be as low as 500 individuals;

RECALLING that if effective conservation measures are not taken urgently, the Great Indian Bustard will be extinct in another 5-10 years time;

FURTHER RECALLING that poaching and habitat deterioration are the two main causes for the drastic decline of the Great Indian Bustard;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Great Indian Bustard is legally protected in India and Pakistan;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that BirdLife International has included the Great Indian Bustard in the “Endangered” category in its Red Data Book, mainly because of drastic and continuing decline in its population;

NOTING that the Government of India has taken some measures to protect Bustard habitat by establishing sanctuaries but these measures are not adequate;

FURTHER NOTING that the Great Indian Bustard lives at low density and depends on a wider landscape, with short-grass plains, low-intensity agriculture and traditional livestock grazing, hence it can not be conserved effectively in few small sanctuaries;

AWARE of the fact that movement patterns and ecology of the Great Indian Bustard are not fully known and unless movement patterns and landscape use are studied, planning effective long-term conservation measures is not possible; and

ALSO AWARE that, along with the Great Indian Bustard, the Lesser Florican (*Sypheotides indicus*) and the Bengal Florican (*Houbaropsis bengalensis*) are also endangered, and the migratory population of the Houbara Bustard (*Chlamydotis macqueeni*) is threatened by poaching and habitat destruction;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. CALLS on the Governments of India and Pakistan to take all measures necessary to protect the Great Indian Bustard, including establishment of large sanctuaries/ community conservation areas at the landscape level and effectively curtailing poaching;
2. REQUESTS the Government of India to start *Project Bustard*, following the pattern employed with *Project Tiger* and *Project Elephant*, to protect all species of Indian Bustards and their habitats;

3. URGES the Governments of India and Pakistan to give special attention to the protection and sustainable utilization of grasslands by curtailing conversion of grasslands for agricultural use and preventing over-grazing; and

4. PROPOSES that movement patterns and ecology of the Great Indian Bustard, and other Indian Bustards, should be studied urgently by using modern methods such as telemetry and radio tracking.

Sponsors:

Bombay Natural History Society, India
BirdLife International, United Kingdom
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, United Kingdom

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

CGR3.REC034 **Shark finning**

RECOGNISING the economic and cultural importance of sharks in many countries, their support to food security, their biological importance in the marine ecosystem, the vulnerability of some shark species to exploitation, and the need for measures promoting sustainable and long-term use of shark populations and fisheries developed from them;

CONCERNED that shark finning (slicing off the fin and discarding the rest of the body overboard) causes the death of tens of millions of sharks, threatens many shark populations and potentially the very survival of species considered rare and vulnerable, and endangers not only traditional sustainable fisheries but also other recreational fisheries of socio-economic importance;

CONCERNED ALSO that the elimination of large quantities of predators at the apex of the marine ecosystem could have dramatic and undesirable ecological impacts altering the balance of the marine ecosystems and could jeopardize the production of other species of commercial interest;

AWARE that information on trade and landings indicate that finning is practiced widely, and to a great extent without management or regulation, and that due to the biological characteristics of sharks, it also results in unsustainable levels of mortality;

CONCERNED MOREOVER that finning hinders the collection of specific scientific information on particular species, which is essential to monitor shark catch and landings and implement a sustainable management of these fisheries, as required under international agreements and statutes;

NOTING that finning is contrary to the principles of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of FAO (the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization) (Article 7.2.2 (g)) and to the principles, objectives and goals of the FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (UN FAO IPOA-Sharks); and

ALSO AWARE that at its 58th session, the United Nations General Assembly urged the States to develop and implement national and, where appropriate, regional plans of action to activate the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, to gather scientific information on shark catch, and to consider the adoption of conservation and management actions, “including by banning directed shark fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins” (paragraph 48 of Resolution A/RES/58/14);

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES States with fisheries that capture sharks, whether in directed fishing activities or as accidental bycatch in other fisheries, to implement the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, through the development of national and regional action plans incorporating the principles of the precautionary approach, that recognise the nutritional and socio-economic importance of sharks in some regions, that reduce to a minimum waste and discard from shark catch and that promote its entire use through, *inter alia*, the implementation of bans on finning;
2. URGES States with fisheries that capture sharks, whether in directed fishery activities or as accidental bycatch in other fisheries, or which facilitate the landing of shark products by international flag vessels, to require that shark bodies be landed with their fins adhered; in case this is not possible, the bodies should be landed along with the fins, at a proportion of fin to stalk weight (bodies without viscera, head and fins) not exceeding 5%, or 2% of live animal weight;

3. URGES States to support the adoption of a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly that bans finning and transfer of shark fins in international waters; and
4. VIGOROUSLY RECOMMENDS that States implement Resolution 12.6 (*Conservation and Management of Sharks*) and related decisions of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Sponsors:

Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestres (APREFLOFAS), Costa Rica
Asociación de organizaciones del Corredor Biológico Talamanca-Caribe (CBTC), Costa Rica
Asociación Salvadoreña Pro-Salud Rural (ASAPROSAR), El Salvador
Centro de Protección para Desastres (CEPRODE), El Salvador
SalvaNaturA, El Salvador
Sociedad Cubana para la Protección del Medio Ambiente (ProNaturaleza), Cuba
Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología y Medio Ambiente (CITMA), Cuba
Asociación de Voluntariado, Investigación y Desarrollo Ambiental (VIDA), Costa Rica
Asociación Ecológica de Paquera, Lepanto y Cubano (ASEPALECO), Costa Rica
Asociación Mesa Nacional Campesina (MNC), Costa Rica
Fundación Salvadoreña de Desarrollo y Humanismo Maquilishuatl (FUMA), El Salvador
Consejo de la Tierra, Costa Rica
Centro de Derecho Ambiental y de los Recursos Naturales (CEDARENA), Costa Rica
Belize Audubon Society (BAS), Belize
Fondo para la Biodiversidad (CONABIO), Mexico
Belize Zoo and Tropical Education Centre, Belize
The Ocean Conservancy, USA
Asociación Preservacionista de Flora y Fauna Silvestre, Costa Rica
Fundación Acceso (ACCESO), Costa Rica
Sociedad Audubon de Panamá (SAP), Panama
Instituto de Medio Ambiente y Comunidades Humanas, Universidad de Guadalajara (IMACH), Mexico
Grupo Ecológico Sierra Gorda I.A.P., Mexico
Fundación de Mujeres de San Miguelito (FUMSAMI), Nicaragua
Universidad del Norte de Nicaragua (UNN), Nicaragua
Asociación Club Jóvenes Ambientalistas (ACJA), Nicaragua
Sociedad de Historia Natural del Soconusco, Mexico

Asociación Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño (CEASPA), Panama
 Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA), Mexico
 Fundación Smithsonian de Panamá (FSP), Panama
 Centro de Estudios para el Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo (CEMAD), Panama
 Centro para la Conservación y Ecodesarrollo de la Bahía Samaná y Entorno (CEBSE), Dominican Republic
 Fundación para el Mejoramiento Humano (PROGRESSIO), Dominican Republic
 Instituto Mexicano de Recursos Naturales Renovables (IMERNAR), Mexico
 Fundación para la Cooperación y el Desarrollo Comunal del El Salvador (CORDES), El Salvador
 Asociación de Cooperación Rural en Africa y América Latina (ACRA), Nicaragua
 Asociación para la Recuperación y el Saneamiento Ambiental (ARMSA), Guatemala
 Unidad Ecológica Salvadoreña (UNES), El Salvador
 Fundación Solar, Guatemala
 Asociación Amigos del Bosque, Guatemala
 Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre (ARCAS), Guatemala
 Centro Mesoamericano de Estudios sobre Tecnología Apropriada (CEMAT), Guatemala
 Instituto para el Desarrollo Sustentable en Mesoamérica, AC. (IDESMAC), Mexico
 Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (FUNDAECO), Guatemala
 Fundación Mexicana para la Educación Ambiental (FUNDEA), Mexico
 Fundación de defensa del Medio Ambiente Baja Verapaz (FUNDEMABV), Guatemala
 Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (MARN), Guatemala
 Fundación “Vida”, Honduras
 Voluntarios para la Asistencia Técnica de Honduras (VITA), Honduras
 Agencia para el Desarrollo de la Mosquitia (MOPAWI), Honduras
 PG7 Consultores, SC Faunam A.C., Mexico
 Defensores de la Naturaleza, Guatemala
 Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, Spain
 Fundación Natura. FN, Colombia

RWG COMMENT:

Because of the policy implications, this motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to ensure that all stakeholders had the opportunity to engage in the debate.

Explanatory memorandum:

This recommendation calls for Conservation and Management of Sharks through adoption of bans

on shark finning and the transshipping of shark fins in international waters. States are also urged to adopt such bans in their national waters.

SHARK FINNING

Finning (cutting off fins and discarding carcasses at sea) threatens shark stocks, ocean ecosystems, sustainable traditional fisheries and food security in low-income countries.

- Finning is wasteful of protein and other potential products derived from sharks (utilizes only 2-5% of the shark).
- Finning causes the death of tens of millions of sharks which may have dramatic and undesirable ecological impacts, threaten yields of other commercial species and threaten the survival of rare and vulnerable species.
- Sharks are vulnerable to overexploitation due to their low reproductive capacity and long recovery time after depletion.
- Shark finning impedes the collection of species-specific data, and therefore impedes effective fisheries management.

SHARK POPULATION DECLINES

- Sharks and large predatory fish have declined 90% from their levels 50 years ago.
- 99% and 90% declines respectively for oceanic white tip and oceanic silky sharks in the Gulf of Mexico since 1950s.
- 89% and 79% declines respectively for hammerhead and great white sharks in the northwest Atlantic in less than two decades.

SHARKS ON IUCN RED LIST OF THREATENED SPECIES

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species includes 82 species of sharks and rays and by 2005 that number is likely to rise to 200 as more assessments are completed by the IUCN Shark Specialist Group’s Red List assessment programme.

FAO CODE OF CONDUCT FOR RESPONSIBLE FISHERIES

Within the framework of the Code, the FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA-Sharks) calls on States “**to minimize wastes and discards from sharks**”. **The practice of finning clearly goes against this requirement.** Banning shark finning and the transshipping of fins in international waters will greatly help all States implement the Code and the IPOA-Sharks.

SOCIO-ECONOMICS / FOOD SECURITY / BIODIVERSITY

Sustainable, artisanal shark fisheries undertaken by some coastal fishing com-

munities in low-income countries provide a vital source of protein for food-deficient regions. Many sharks are highly migratory and are therefore an internationally shared resource. Adoption of the recommended ban will allow *all* States to benefit from sharks as a commercial resource and from ocean biodiversity.

SHARK FINNING BANS

The simplest form of a shark finning ban requires that shark carcasses be landed with fins attached. This form is simple, enforceable and enables maximum extraction of scientific data from landings. It also maximises fin and carcass quality and value.

Another type of ban exists where fins may be landed unattached to shark carcasses if fin weight corresponds to a specific percentage of carcass weight. In this case, the IUCN Shark Specialist Group Finning Statement states, "All parts should be landed together at a ratio that should not exceed 5% of fin to dressed carcass weight." **This type of finning ban requires careful weighing of fins and carcasses and makes extremely difficult, if not impossible, the identification of species.**

SUPPORT FOR SHARK FINNING BAN

Given the economic and environmental importance of sharks, the existing biological data of shark vulnerability to overexploitation and data showing widespread, rapid and severe declines in shark populations, it is prudent and justified to take steps to conserve these species and halt shark finning, a practice which is clearly wasteful and unsustainable yet is occurring at an alarming rate in our world's oceans.

Text in this memorandum is based on that from the IUCN Shark Specialist Group Finning Statement.

CGR.REC035

Conservation of the Bandula Barb (*Puntius bandula*) in Sri Lanka

CONSCIOUS OF the fact that the freshwater streams in the southwestern region of Sri Lanka harbour several species of endemic freshwater fish, a majority of which are threatened;

NOTING that among these, the Bandula Barb is a critically endangered endemic species, found in only one location in the entire world (Galapitamada, Kegalle District, Kelani River Basin of the Wet zone of Sri Lanka);

FURTHER NOTING that the stream that the species currently inhabits is extremely threatened, as it is located outside a protected area; MINDFUL OF the fact that the species inhabits a small segment of a stream (about 400m), which is surrounded by rice fields that are subjected to over-use of pesticides and fertilizers, which causes a threat to the future survival of the Bandula Barb;

NOTING that the species used to be collected for the ornamental fish trade, but that this practice has now been greatly reduced due to public awareness and vigilance by the communities living in this area; and

FURTHER NOTING that recently, the Department of Wildlife Conservation, Sri Lanka, in collaboration with a local fish breeder/exporter re-introduced a small population of the species into a nearby habitat, but a monitoring programme by a local NGO has found that this attempt to boost the population of Bandula Barb has not been successful;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

INVITES all IUCN members to promote the conservation of the endemic and critically endangered Bandula Barb (*Puntius bandula*) beyond park boundaries in Sri Lanka, to ensure that the species is conserved.

Sponsors:

Environmental Foundation Ltd. (Sri Lanka), Sri Lanka
Forest Department Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka
Wildlife and Nature Protection Society of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka

RWG COMMENT:

This motion is referred to Plenary for consideration.

Explanatory memorandum:

1. INTRODUCTION

Bandula Barb (*Puntius bandula*, Family Cyprinidae) is a rare endemic freshwater fish in Sri Lanka. It is a small fish (size ranging between 30–40 mm), with a greenish brown colour dorsally and pale yellow brown laterally. This is an active small fish that can be observed in small shoals.

The species has been included in the Critically Endangered category of the 2003 Red List of IUCN.

2. DISTRIBUTION AND HABITAT

Puntius bandula is known only from a small stream flowing through Minimaru Kolaniya in Pallegama estate, which is a rubber plantation near Galapitamada in Kegalle District of Sri Lanka. This stream originates from small springs within the rubber plantation. *Puntius bandula* has only been recorded in a stretch of 500 m downstream of paddy fields.

Aquatic plants such as *Lagenendra* spp. and *Cryptocoryne* spp. also occur in shallow areas of the stream. The depth and width of the stream vary in the dry and wet seasons. Rubber trees on either side of the stream provide heavy shade for the stream. *Puntius bandula* is generally found under leaves and among immersed vegetation.

3. THREATS

The stream flows through paddy fields, rubber plantations, and human settlements with no natural forest cover in the vicinity. Agricultural effluents and other human wastes pollute the habitat, and adequate conservation measures have not been applied in this area. The small and beautiful fish is in high demand among aquarium fish exporters. Since it occurs outside a protected area, managing human activities that are harmful is difficult.

4. CONSERVATION INTERVENTIONS

a. Captive breeding

In 1999, a private fish exporter bred the Bandula Barb and informed Customs and the Department of Wildlife Conservation of his stock. Subsequently, the two government departments decided to release this fish to similar localities in the vicinity of its type locality.

b. Release program

In April 2001, the releasing program was implemented, with the assistance of members of the Young Zoologist's Association (an NGO voluntary organization). Four localities in two streams were selected to release the fish. A total of 250 breeding pairs, certified free of aquarium diseases with respect to required quarantine measures, were chosen and were introduced to the four selected sites. The Young Zoologists Association initiated a regular monitoring process for the introduced population. In a monitoring survey after three months, only about 30 individuals were recorded with some individuals 1 km away from their point of introduction. The number of individuals located was very small in comparison to the number released. After six

months, the total number was less than 20 individuals and at all sites numbers of females were drastically low (3 to 4). Heavy rains and subsequent flooding of streams before the survey may have been the reason. After 13 months, only 15 individuals were located, but two juvenile fishes were observed among the group.

c. Future Work

The most important factor in conserving this species is to enrich and conserve the habitat. All adverse human activities have to be minimized. The possibility of declaring the immediate habitat and tributary area of the stream as a protected area has to be investigated. Further studies should be conducted to determine the reason why the number of introduced fish has been reduced. Yet, the presence of juveniles in this locality proves that it is a suitable breeding site for this species. An extensive proper captive breeding program has to be initiated to ensure the survival of the species.

CGR.REC036

Continued prohibition of shahtoosh production and trade

RECALLING IUCN Recommendation 2.70 (*Conservation of Tibetan Antelope* (*Pantholops hodgsoni*)), adopted by the 2nd Session of the World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

FURTHER RECALLING that international trade in the wool of Tibetan antelope, or chiru, (shahtoosh) has been prohibited since 1975 under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);

NOTING that although the Government of India has prohibited shahtoosh production for four years, illegal shahtoosh manufacture and trade, centred in Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir) remains a threat to the persistence of Tibetan antelope;

NOTING WITH CONCERN, the India-administered state of Kashmir's recent announcement of its intention to challenge the Indian prohibition on shahtoosh weaving and trading;

WISHING to support the Indian and Chinese government attempts to curtail the illegal shahtoosh trade; and

COMMENDING the governments of India and China for their commitment to and enforcement of trade and hunting restrictions on Tibetan antelope and shahtoosh products;

The World Conservation Congress at its 3rd Session in Bangkok, Thailand, 17-25 November 2004:

1. URGES the maintenance of a strict ban on hunting of *Pantholops hodgsoni* and the sale of its fur, production of shahtoosh or other products made from the animal;
2. URGES the Supreme Court of India to keep in mind the orders passed by the Jammu and Kashmir High Court obligating the state of Jammu and Kashmir to enforce the ban on the shahtoosh trade; and
3. APPEALS to the Supreme Court of India to pass directions to the state of Jammu and Kashmir, and the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Union of India, to prepare a roadmap to protect the Tibetan antelope from complete extinction.

Sponsors:

Wildlife Conservation Society, USA
Fauna and Flora International, United Kingdom
Wildlife Protection Society of India, India
Conservation International, USA

RWG COMMENT:

According to IUCN's legal advisor the last operant paragraph is too prescriptive. This motion is referred to an ad hoc contact group to revise the final operant paragraph.

