



Resolutions and Recommendations

World Conservation Congress
Jeju, Republic of Korea
6–15 September 2012

nature+™



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- WCC-2012-Rec-163-EN Action to increase the protection and sustainable use of the American Gran Chaco
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- WCC-2012-Rec-165-EN Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) the Bahía Blanca estuary in Argentina
- WCC-2012-Rec-166-EN Responding to rapid expansion of the mining and gas industry in Australia
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WCC-2012-Rec-173-EN Offshore oil drilling in French Guiana, Suriname and Guyana

WCC-2012-Rec-174-EN Offshore oil drilling in the Mediterranean

WCC-2012-Rec-175-EN Strengthening the autonomy of Colombia's black communities for sustainable natural resource management in their areas, with special emphasis on mining

WCC-2012-Rec-176-EN Green jobs and private initiatives contributing to conservation in the NATURA 2000 Network

WCC-2012-Rec-177-EN Economic valuation and development of financial mechanisms for the payment for ecosystem services in areas of extreme poverty

WCC-2012-Rec-178-EN Reform of financial aid and expenditure harmful to biodiversity

WCC-2012-Rec-179-EN Respecting ecologically sustainable use of abundant biological resources

WCC-2012-Rec-180-EN IUCN's engagement in the implementation of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*

WCC-2012-Rec-181-EN Citizen participation in legislative procedures regarding the environment

WCC-2012-Rec-182-EN International cooperation towards the mitigation of adverse impacts of aeolian aerosols

WCC-2012-Rec-183-EN Dark skies and nature conservation

Annex 1 – Statement of the United States Government on the IUCN Motions Process250

Foreword

It is with pleasure that we forward to IUCN Members and interested parties the Resolutions and Recommendations adopted by the World Conservation Congress held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, from 6 to 15 September 2012. The Resolutions and Recommendations have been classified as such in accordance with paragraph 48 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress, which establishes that “Resolutions are directed to IUCN itself” and “Recommendations are directed to third parties, and may deal with any matter of importance to the objectives of IUCN”.

The Motions process is a central element of IUCN’s governance system and an important means by which Members can influence priorities in the conservation community and seek international support in conservation issues. These Resolutions and Recommendations, together with the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, constitute the foundation for the work of the Union and assist IUCN in achieving its Mission.

Resolutions and Recommendations have been clustered by themes (Human Well-being, Protected Areas, Species, Ecosystems, Marine, IUCN Governance, Environmental Governance, Environmental Law, Energy, Pollution and Climate Change) distributed as displayed in Figure 1 overleaf.

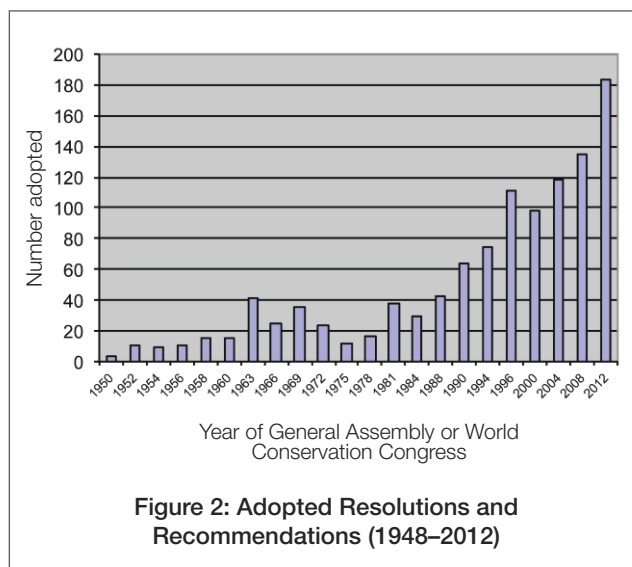
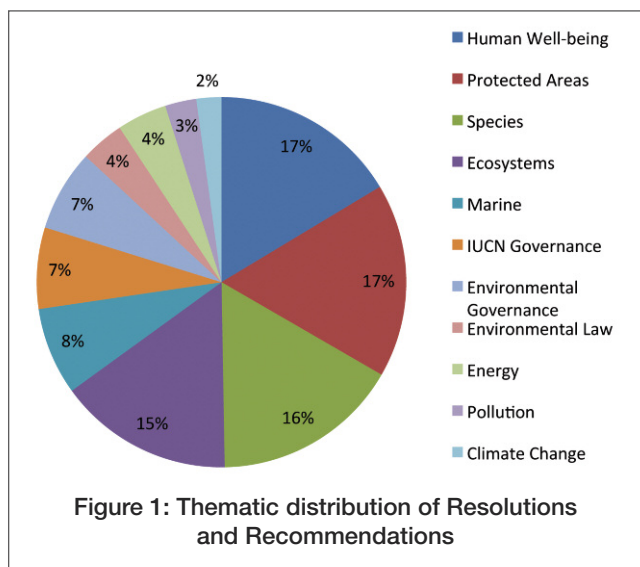
The table opposite provides a count of the number of motions submitted, considered and adopted.

The number of motions adopted at the IUCN 2012 World Conservation Congress is higher than in previous Congresses, as shown in Figure 2 which highlights the number of motions adopted at each session.

The Governance Committee of Council (2008–2012) identified issues related to the motions process needing special attention. Among these issues, the most salient are: a) the increasing number of motions and limited time for their discussion and challenges in implementing them; b) the relationship between the motions process and the design and implementation of the IUCN Programme; and c) the duplication of motions with already adopted Resolutions. The results of the Jeju Congress evaluation confirm that these issues remain of concern for Members.

Motions submitted, considered and adopted at the IUCN 2012 World Conservation Congress	
Type/Action	No.
Motions submitted within the statutory deadline	209
Motions not accepted for lack of sufficient sponsors or other statutory requirements	-13
Motions contributing to consolidated/merged motions	-32
Total of motions resulting from consolidating/merging	12
Total motions forwarded to Congress	176
Motions reinstated as a result of an appeal	1
Motions resulting from demerging/separating motions in contact groups	3
Motions submitted and accepted during Congress	5
Motions merged into another motion by the Assembly	-1
Rejected motions by the Assembly	-1
Total Resolutions and Recommendations approved	183

Some measures not requiring statutory changes were already implemented for the World Conservation Congress held in Jeju. However, as the motions process needs further analysis, which may result in changes of statutes, Resolution WCC-2012-Res-001 *Strengthening the motions process and enhancing implementation of IUCN Resolutions* was adopted. In response to this Resolution an Advisory Group was set up during the Congress based on nominations presented by Members. It is expected that this



Advisory Group will present a package of measures to Council for further consultation with Members before the next World Conservation Congress.

Figure 3 illustrates the process followed during the Congress.

We wish to convey our gratitude to the Resolutions Committee members. The principles that guided the committee’s reviews and decisions were invaluable. We are grateful to the Secretariat for the overall management and support that they provided to the process which ensured an equal treatment of all motions before and during the Congress. We wish to thank all the facilitators and technical focal points that provided their support to the smooth development of the contact groups, the Secretariat’s tech-

nical experts that reviewed the motions submitted, and the motion managers for their commitment to the process and their hard work in their follow up at Congress. We wish also to thank the Programme and Governance Committees of Congress for their collaboration and support in making this process a collective success.

Finally, we would like to thank all IUCN Members for their support, good will and flexibility during such a complex process composed of the Plenary sessions, Programme Hearings and contact groups.

Zuleika Pinzon
Chair of the Resolutions Committee
IUCN World Conservation Congress
Jeju, Republic of Korea, 2012

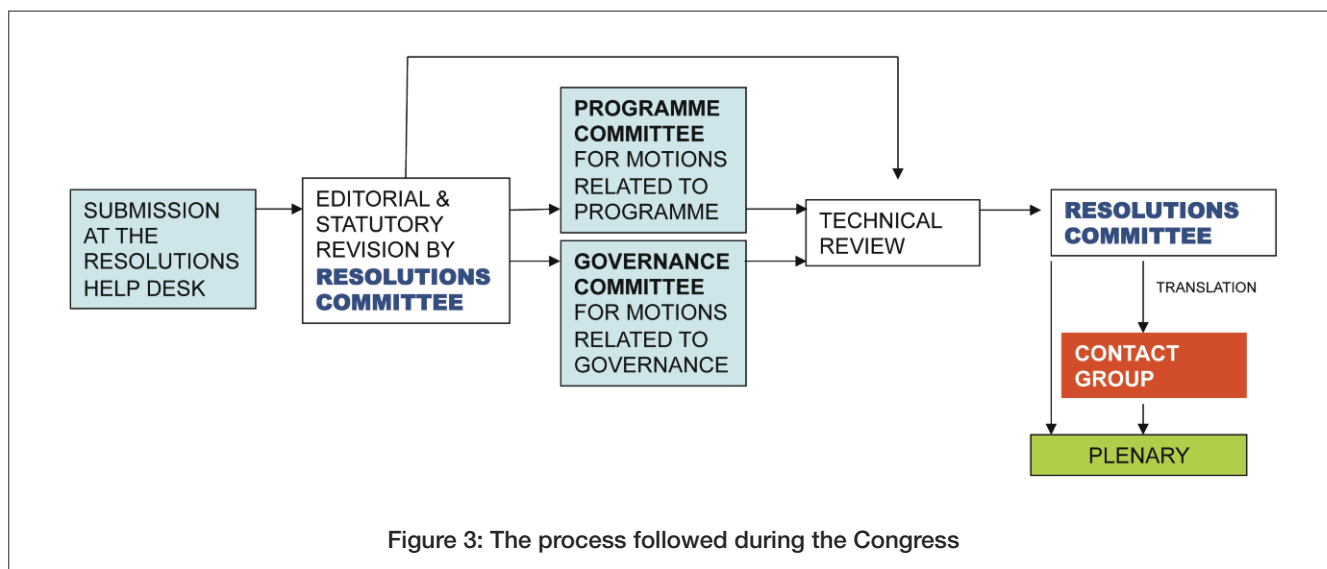


Figure 3: The process followed during the Congress

Acknowledgements

Jeju Congress Resolutions Committee

Zuleika Pinzón (Chair)
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Resolutions

WCC-2012-Res-001-EN Strengthening the motions process and enhancing implementation of IUCN Resolutions

CONSIDERING that the strength and commitment underpinning IUCN comes from its Members, and that this strength and commitment are expressed every four years, when Members convene at the World Conservation Congress to debate motions focused on addressing environmental issues worldwide;

RECOGNIZING that the motions process and the implementation of resulting Resolutions is an important contribution to IUCN's policies, intersessional objectives and Programme;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that Resolutions must be coherent and mutually reinforcing;

RECALLING Resolutions from previous IUCN World Conservation Congresses relevant to the motions process, including Resolutions 4.001, 4.002, 4.003, 4.009, 4.010, and 4.011 (listed in the Annex);

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that all Members have an interest in the form and function of Resolutions approved by the Congress, as well as how they are presented and applied;

AWARE of IUCN Members' right to propose motions and mindful of the need for effective implementation and attaining verifiable results;

CONCERNED that a lack of precise language in the operative paragraphs of motions can lead to delayed implementation and consume already limited resources;

NOTING the analysis undertaken by the Governance Committee of Council 2008–2012 to identify issues related to the motions process, those that need to be addressed and the purpose of improving implementation of Resolutions;

BEARING IN MIND the report by the Spanish National Committee of IUCN Members, "Diagnosis and

Assessment of the Status of Implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations of IUCN Approved in the 4th World Conservation Congress in Barcelona 2008" dated December 2011 in collaboration with Spanish and Latin American Members, the Secretariat and the IUCN Commissions;

ALSO NOTING that the Spanish report:

- a. highlights some weaknesses in the way that the Union works; and
- b. draws conclusions that substantial reform is needed, especially with regard to the motions system;

NOTING that the success of the implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations in Spain during the period between World Conservation Congresses (2008–2012) was limited for various reasons, including the lack of:

- a. an IUCN organization chart to facilitate contact regarding specific issues and improve the understanding of the internal organization;
- b. two-way cooperation between the Secretariat and the constituents;
- c. complementarity in the actions carried out by both parties in terms of the implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations;
- d. communication due to the absence of the appropriate, agreed channels;
- e. an action plan to accompany each motion and facilitate its launching and monitoring, as well as the actions that each party engages to carry out; and
- f. relevant information in the Members' Portal;

CONVINCED that all constituent parts of IUCN – Members, Commissions, National and Regional Committees and Secretariat – as one Union, have an investment in the implementation of IUCN Resolutions adopted by the World Conservation Congress;

RESOLVED that the success of Resolutions is dependent upon the participation of sponsors and/or supporters of motions in implementation, but;

RECOGNIZING that there is a lack of clarity on the financial implications of particular motions for the budget of IUCN;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the efficient allocation of resources enhances IUCN's effectiveness;

APPRECIATING the efforts made by the IUCN Secretariat to implement Resolution 4.011 *Development of an automated system to record members' actions on Resolutions and Recommendations to improve reporting at, and between, World Conservation Congresses* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which calls for the design and implementation of a monitoring system for motions, based on information sent by IUCN Members via an automated online system;

NOTING that these efforts by the IUCN Secretariat have increased the need to inform its Members about actions taken to implement approved motions; and

AWARE of the fact that the automated interactive system for the monitoring of motions is still underutilized and despite the implementation of Resolution 4.011, there is still limited systematized information on the implementation of Resolutions available at the interactive website;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to improve cooperation and communication, amongst all components, in the implementation of Resolutions through the appropriate and agreed channels;
2. URGES the Director General to:
 - a. promote the implementation role of the National and Regional Committees, where they are active; and
 - b. review and monitor the implementation of Resolutions to assist coordination of efforts to implement Resolutions and avoid duplication of effort;
3. ESTABLISHES the “Advisory Group on Motions and Implementation of Resolutions” (hereinafter,

“Advisory Group”), comprising a maximum of nine members to review current practices and formulate proposals to be presented to IUCN Members with a view to strengthening the motions process and enhancing implementation of IUCN Resolutions;

4. URGES the Director General to:
 - a. strengthen the automated interactive monitoring system to ensure more effective monitoring of the implementation of motions taking into account recommendations of the Advisory Group; and
 - b. inform Members annually about the actions taken to implement these motions through, among others, the Members' Portal presenting the results obtained in the process of the implementation of Resolutions;
5. MANDATES the Advisory Group to:
 - a. build on the existing body of analysis directed toward improving the motions process, including previous consultations with IUCN Members;
 - b. further analyze the issues of the motions process including, but not limited to:
 - i. how motions relate to the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* for the next intersessional period;
 - ii. whether proposed motions should be accompanied by suggested steps to be taken to implement the actions identified in the motion;
 - iii. the extent to which proponents should be required to estimate the potential costs of implementing the actions;
 - iv. whether proposed motions should express the role that sponsors, co-sponsors and other stakeholders will have to play in implementation;
 - v. the benefits and/or drawbacks of increasing the time period in which motions should be submitted to the Director General before the opening of the World Conservation Congress;

- vi. whether Paragraph 54 of the Rules of Procedures relating to repeating decisions of prior sessions of the World Conservation Congress should be revised;
 - vii. how Members can make best use of the motions process to support their work;
 - viii. whether the effective period of motions should be time-bound;
 - ix. whether there should be a word limit established for the Preamble;
 - x. whether motions, where possible, should be discussed in the Regional Conservation Fora with a view to coordinating the submission of motions at the regional level; and
 - xi. how to address the issue of the increasing number of motions;
- c. consider further measures to strengthen the implementation and monitoring of Resolutions adopted by the World Conservation Congress; and
- d. analyze the causes of non-implementation;
6. DIRECTS the President to call for nominations to the Advisory Group immediately upon adoption of this motion;
 7. REQUESTS Members to electronically submit nominations for the Advisory Group, not exceeding one page, to the President by the deadline of 12:00, 14 September 2012;
 8. REQUESTS the President, following receipt of nominations, to determine the composition of the Advisory Group taking into consideration experience with the modalities of IUCN, relevant knowledge, geographical representation, gender and generational balance;
 9. FURTHER REQUESTS the President to announce the composition of the Advisory Group at the last sitting of the 2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress;
 10. VESTS the President with oversight of the functioning of the Advisory Group;

11. WELCOMES all constituent parts of IUCN to actively provide their input, as they feel necessary, to the work of the Advisory Group;
12. CHARGES Council, with the assistance of the Director General, to ensure that the work of the Advisory Group is communicated to Members for comment and revised in the light of comments received; and
13. REQUIRES that each individual proposal be voted on by electronic ballot by the end of 2014 with the aim of ensuring that a revised motions process and enhanced implementation of Resolutions is applicable in time to be effective during the preparation of the 2016 World Conservation Congress.

ANNEX:

- Resolution 4.001 *Strengthening the links between IUCN members, Commissions and Secretariat*
- Resolution 4.002 *Coordination of the IUCN Programme*
- Resolution 4.003 *Strengthening IUCN's National and Regional Committees*
- Resolution 4.009 *Transparency of the IUCN Council*
- Resolution 4.010 *Implementation of Congress Resolutions*
- Resolution 4.011 *Development of an automated system to record members' actions on Resolutions and Recommendations to improve reporting at, and between, World Conservation Congresses*

WCC-2012-Res-002-EN Improved opportunity for Member participation in IUCN

RECALLING Resolutions 3.002 *Improving the transparency of the IUCN Council* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), Resolutions 4.009 *Transparency of the IUCN Council* and 4.011 *Development of an automated system to record members' actions on Resolutions and Recommendations to improve reporting at, and between, World Conservation Congresses*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

NOTING the improved access to Council agendas and timely posting of summaries of Council actions on a revised Members' Portal;

ALSO NOTING the additional information and opportunities provided to Members on the Members' Portal

including sections on “Information from Council”, “Information from the Secretariat”, “Resolutions and Recommendations system - the Online system for Members: follow up to World Conservation Congress” and “Opportunities for Members”;

CONCERNED that IUCN Members may not be aware of or taking advantage of this important information source;

ALSO CONCERNED that IUCN Commission members may not have access to the full set of information available on the Members’ Portal;

ALSO RECALLING Resolutions 4.001 *Strengthening the links between IUCN members, Commissions and Secretariat* and 4.002 *Coordination of the IUCN Programme*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

ACKNOWLEDGING the IUCN Director General’s efforts to coordinate the work of all components of IUCN to contribute to the implementation and greater effectiveness of IUCN’s Programme; and

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING the IUCN “One Programme” Charter – Working together to maximize Programme results for IUCN’s Members, Committees, Commissions, Council and Secretariat (endorsed by the IUCN Council during its 76th meeting, May 2011);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. EXPRESSES THANKS to the IUCN Council and Director General for increasing the transparency of the IUCN Council’s deliberation and actions;
2. ALSO EXPRESSES THANKS to the Director General and Council for efforts to integrate more completely the work of the Commissions and Members, as relevant, into the work of IUCN;
3. ENCOURAGES IUCN Members to take advantage of these improved opportunities for participation in IUCN; and
4. SUGGESTS that, in the spirit of the One Programme approach, portals and information-sharing tools designed for Commission members and IUCN Members are integrated and mutually accessible, as appropriate.

WCC-2012-Res-003-EN Prioritizing IUCN membership awareness and support

AWARE that IUCN is the oldest and largest environment and conservation network but that general awareness of its presence, familiarity with its name or logo and understanding of its resources and accessibility are insufficient;

ALSO AWARE that knowledge and use of IUCN knowledge products, capabilities and networks can enhance and empower the work of so many, especially communities and others who work in conservation with insufficient resources and support;

BELIEVING that the information, advice, services, publications, resolutions, training materials, modules and opportunities, workshops, databases, expertise, information systems, global reach, convening power and other resources of IUCN are underutilized considering their value and accessibility, particularly through Information Technology (IT);

RECALLING the ongoing work of the Union to raise awareness of its work and status in order to achieve its mission in negotiations, influencing and convening on many stages across the world;

AWARE that Members have to justify belonging to IUCN with their governments, staff or membership and argue the value of IUCN membership, and that Members in turn have many information products and activities that would be of interest to the Union broadly;

ACKNOWLEDGING that many units, staff of Members and members of Members, are unaware of their organizations’ membership in the Union or of the resources available to them from IUCN or because of IUCN’s work; and

BELIEVING that the materials for a focused programme to raise awareness of IUCN, its mission and its work, to empower and build capabilities of staff and membership of Members and Commissions are already to be found in IUCN, but not always in a form or with training that would promote their use;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with IUCN Commissions, IUCN Members and

other relevant partners, in line with the One Programme, to disseminate its resources through a programme focused on improving knowledge, understanding and application of IUCN's work and knowledge products among the membership and staff of Members and Commissions, as well as universities and other teaching institutions; and

2. ASKS that the progress of this Membership awareness and support programme be monitored and reported on to the next Congress.

WCC-2012-Res-004-EN

Establishment of the Ethics Mechanism

UNDERSTANDING that ethics and morality are an integral part of IUCN and will make its messages, policies and actions more credible to the world at large and more meaningful for conservationists everywhere;

NOTING Resolution 3.022 *Endorsement of the Earth Charter* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) that endorsed the Earth Charter as “the ethical guide for IUCN policy”;

ALSO 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’”;

AND NOTING Resolution 3.020 *Drafting a Code of Ethics for Biodiversity Conservation* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) that reaffirmed IUCN's “commitment to an ethical view of nature conservation, based on respect for the diversity of life, as well as the cultural diversity of peoples,” and led to the creation of the Biosphere Ethics Initiative (BEI): a soft law programme that highlights and shares continuously evolving local and global ethical principles of biodiversity conservation;

NOTING the importance of ethics to the IUCN membership as evidenced in other Resolutions, of note, Resolutions 4.098 *Intergenerational partnerships: fostering ethical leadership for a just, sustainable and peaceful world* and 4.099 *Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

ALSO NOTING the One Programme approach of IUCN, and that only when Commissions, Secretariat and

membership work towards a common goal “can IUCN deliver on its Mission, uniting conservation action under one Union to create a strong and unified voice with which to transform society”;

AND NOTING IUCN Council Decisions C/74/18 and C/75/16 (IUCN Council, 2010) on the *Biosphere Ethics Initiative* that recognized the cross-Commission and cross-sectoral nature of ethics in IUCN, inviting all Commission Chairs, Councillors and the Secretariat's Component Programmes “to work with the Biosphere Ethics Initiative to identify opportunities for integration and implementation of the BEI into their programme of work” as well as the need for ethical guidance when decision making, recommending “that an on-request ‘Ethics Advisor’ be appointed to the IUCN Council”;

THEREBY UNDERSTANDING that the membership, Secretariat and Commissions of IUCN have shown a general need and desire to take ethics explicitly into consideration in decision making, and should be provided with a practical and coordinated methodology to do so;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the promise of the BEI's work over the past eight years has been to provide such a practical and coordinated methodology, known as the Relato Methodology: where local, regional and international leaders, from governments and NGOs, and from across disciplines, come together to highlight and promote ethical principles of biodiversity conservation in order to advance the global Evolving Biosphere Ethic, and the particular Local Ethic of each region;

YET UNDERSTANDING that this is not the only methodology available, but one that has been made available to assist with ethical engagement and has shown success;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the recent publication of the IUCN Environmental Law Programme on ethics and the world conservation movement (“Reasons for Hope: The Ethical Promise of the World Conservation Movement”) offers the Relato Methodology as a local-to-global approach to practical ethical engagement, and strengthens and eases access to, and further development and implementation of the Relato Methodology;

AND ACKNOWLEDGING the leadership and investment of the Ethics Specialist Group of the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL), and Member States from around the world, in building the BEI;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING the work of the Urban Specialist Group and the Specialist Group on Cultural and Spiritual Values of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) in incorporating ethics into their respective programmes;

CONCERNED that the world faces urgent ethical questions regarding how to fairly and effectively meet the challenges of such issues as biodiversity loss, climate change, sustainable food and water supplies, growth in consumption and population, and the governance of international markets and corporations, and that the conservation policies and activities of IUCN and its member organizations can and should play a role in meeting those challenges; and

CONCERNED that, to date, the application of IUCN's many ethics-based resolutions and mandates has been scattered across IUCN, and that IUCN needs to find a practical and coordinated methodology to make operational its endorsement of the Earth Charter as a guide to policy and programme, the World Charter for Nature, as well as IUCN's many further commitments that endorse ethics as central to its entire programme;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions to:

- a. support the further development and implementation of the Biosphere Ethics Initiative and the Relato Methodology as a method for ethical engagement taking all means necessary to implement and integrate this initiative into the Secretariat's component programmes and the Commission programmes;
- b. identify opportunities for integration and implementation of the BEI within the Secretariat's component programmes and the Commission programmes;
- c. invite the Ethics Specialist Group of the IUCN WCEL to contribute to identifying effective ways to integrate the initiative, including specific recommendations on establishing an Ethics mechanism, into the programmes of the Secretariat and the Commissions and to serve as the Ethics focal point for reporting on such integration;

- d. recommend that implementation of the BEI, including establishment of an Ethics mechanism, reflects a One Programme approach to ethical engagement;
- e. encourage Members of IUCN to approach the Ethics Specialist Group of the IUCN WCEL with ethical concerns; and
- f. report to the IUCN Council annually on the implementation of this Resolution, as well as before the World Conservation Congress in 2016, through the Ethics Specialist Group of the IUCN WCEL.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-005-EN Strengthening of the IUCN National and Regional Committees and the use of the three official languages in documents for internal and external communication by IUCN and its Members

BEARING IN MIND Resolution 4.001 *Strengthening links between IUCN members, Commissions and Secretariat*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which reveals the results of the global survey of IUCN Members carried out in 2007, and which recognizes the value of National and Regional Committees;

RECALLING Resolution 4.003 *Strengthening IUCN's National and Regional Committees* also adopted at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which recognizes that committees are important instruments for involving Members in carrying out IUCN's mission;

BEARING IN MIND the report drawn up by the Spain National Committee of IUCN Members, "Diagnosis and Assessment of the Status of Implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations of IUCN Approved in the 4th World Conservation Congress in Barcelona 2008" prepared in December 2011 in collaboration with the Spanish and Latin American Members, the Secretariat and the IUCN Commissions;

STRESSING that the report underlines the important role National and Regional Committees play as a linchpin between the Secretariat and the Union's constituencies, as well as contributing to the efficient mapping of Members, thereby avoiding the overlapping of actions by Members and the Secretariat;

CONSIDERING that the National Committees receive no financial support from the IUCN Secretariat;

BEARING IN MIND the Members' great potential to make a significant impact in the field of conservation if cooperation with them is strengthened;

RECALLING Resolution 3.091 *Fulfilling the right to optional use of the official languages in the internal and external communication documents of IUCN and its members* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

RECALLING that *Part XVI – Official Languages* of the IUCN Statutes, Article 100, establishes that “The official languages of IUCN shall be English, French and Spanish”;

UNDERLINING that the abovementioned report conveys the feeling shared by the Members that, although attempts have been made to remedy this situation, there is still a lack of multilingual support by IUCN, and that French and Spanish continue to be considered of lesser importance; and

WARNING that communication between IUCN's various stakeholders is vital to ensure that the Union functions properly, and that this is currently reduced due to the existence of language barriers, a difficulty that can be overcome but which nevertheless slows down the process of the organization's organic operation;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES the Director General to develop appropriate mechanisms to support a more integrated and lasting participation by National and Regional Committees in the execution of the Union's Programme, to improve communication and relationships with the Secretariat, and jointly to develop a Strategy for National and Regional Committee Development within the next Union Development Plan for the delivery of the following:

- a. capacity building;
- b. improved opportunities for fundraising in cooperation with and between Members;
- c. fostering joint implementation of projects, led by Secretariat, with the National and Regional Committees implementing some components;
- d. working with the National and Regional Committees to ensure that fundraising efforts by Members, Committees, Commissions and the Secretariat are coordinated and complementary; and
- e. appropriate consultation, equitable participation in programme development (following an agreed staged pathway) implementation, and evaluation; and

2. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that a global meeting of National and Regional Committees is convened during each World Conservation Congress starting with the 2016 Congress.

WCC-2012-Res-006-EN Cooperation with local and regional government authorities in the implementation of the IUCN Programme 2013–2016

RECALLING the importance of local action in response to the global issues of biodiversity;

APPROVING the World Mayors' declarations reaffirming their concerns with regard to biodiversity loss and the urgent need to involve local authorities in the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), at the three “Cities and Biodiversity” conferences, held in Curitiba in March 2007, in Bonn in May 2008 and in Nagoya in October 2010;

WELCOMING the adoption at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Nagoya, Japan, between 18 and 29 October 2010, of Decision X/22, *Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity*;

COMMENDING the progress made by the Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity launched during the

4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which has resulted in fruitful collaboration between local and regional government authorities and the Secretariat of the CBD, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP – the “Urban Environment” Unit), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, and IUCN;

FURTHER COMMENDING the active collaborations undertaken between the IUCN network and local and regional government authorities throughout the world, the expertise of the Urban Specialist Group within the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), as well as the activity of their members to promote the urban aspects of nature conservation, the involvement of cities in the “Local Action for Biodiversity” project and actions carried out by the France National Committee of IUCN Members with local and regional government authorities, in particular with the four voluntary Regional Councils (Burgundy, Aquitaine, Centre, Ile-de-France);

RECALLING the achievements of the Countdown 2010 initiative;

NOTING the decisive role played by local and regional government authorities across the globe with regard to land planning and management, their contributions to limiting the pressure on biodiversity and their commitments through protection, restoration and enhancement initiatives;

NOTING the growing involvement of infra-national governments, cities and other local authorities in favour of biodiversity, notably through the creation and implementation of territorial strategies for biodiversity and local action plans;

RECALLING Resolutions 3.003 *Engagement by IUCN with local and regional government authorities*, and 3.063 *Cities and conservation*, adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and Resolution 4.008 *Including local and regional government authorities in the structure of the Union*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008); and

CONSIDERING that IUCN will not be able to carry out its mission successfully unless it involves local and regional government authorities more fully in its actions;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON IUCN Members and experts, in particular through the National Committees, to:
 - a. collaborate actively with the local and regional government authorities and their networks to involve them in the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*;
 - b. support or even accompany the local and regional government authorities in the creation and implementation of strategies for biodiversity and action plans to meet the goals of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*; and
 - c. invite the local and regional government authorities committed to protecting biodiversity to collaborate with IUCN in accordance with the methods set out in its Statutes; and
2. CALLS ON the Director General to:
 - a. strengthen the collaboration of the Secretariat with:
 - i. international networks of local and regional government authorities; and
 - ii. the Secretariat of the CBD for the application of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the action plan for infra-national governments, cities and the other local authorities for biodiversity, adopted at Nagoya;
 - b. mobilize the Regional Offices to develop and strengthen their cooperation with local and regional government authorities; and
 - c. organize a platform of exchanges between the IUCN constituents and the local and regional government authorities, building, among others, on the Countdown 2010 experience.

WCC-2012-Res-007-EN Establishing an Indigenous Peoples’ Organization (IPO) membership and voting category in IUCN

NOTING the deep links of indigenous peoples with conservation of nature;

RECOGNIZING that conservation processes should integrate both natural and cultural heritage;

MINDFUL that pressures affecting the integrity of ecosystems frequently also affect the survival of indigenous peoples and their cultures;

CONCERNED by the current trend towards the disappearance of indigenous and tribal peoples of the world due to the loss of their habitats and livelihoods;

RECOGNIZING that under Articles 4 and 5 of the IUCN Statutes, the IUCN membership comprises membership categories and subcategories as follows: Category A – (a) States and Government Agencies, (b) political and/or economic integration organizations; Category B – (c) national non-governmental organizations, (d) international non-governmental organizations; and, Category C – (e) affiliates;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that Article 12 of the IUCN Statutes confers certain rights and obligations to its Members who qualify under Categories A, B or C, and in particular, provides exclusive rights for Category A and B Members to nominate candidates, submit motions, and vote at sessions of the IUCN World Congress;

OBSERVING, in particular, that there is a distinction between Category A and Category B with respect to government/political Members in the former, and non-government Members in the latter;

NOTING that the current IUCN Members that are indigenous organizations representing their respective indigenous constituent populations, regions and communities are listed entirely under membership Category B as either (c) a national non-governmental organization or (d) an international non-governmental organization;

ACKNOWLEDGING that there are a number of non-indigenous IUCN Member organizations under Category

B who are either national or international non-governmental organizations that work with or in support of indigenous peoples and their rights and issues within IUCN;

RECALLING that as early as 1975, and up to the present, IUCN has adopted a number of policy decisions and positions supporting and recognizing indigenous peoples’ rights, knowledge, stewardship and interests in relation to, but not limited to, environmental and wildlife conservation, sustainable and wise use of natural resources, protected areas, traditional practices, livelihoods, trade, and the spiritual and cultural connections that exist between indigenous peoples and the natural world;

RECALLING FURTHER that the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress held in Barcelona in 2008 adopted Resolution 4.052 *Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)*, by which the Union endorsed UNDRIP and more specifically requested, “that the Director General make indigenous peoples’ role in conserving biological diversity a main concern of IUCN and future World Conservation Congresses...”;

AWARE that there are many indigenous and tribal peoples’ organizations whose organizational structures do not correspond to the categories of non-governmental organizations and government agencies that are recognized by the Statutes of IUCN;

RECOGNIZING that IUCN needs to modernize its structures to meet the new challenges posed by the conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage;

CONSIDERING and WELCOMING the IUCN Council’s decision at its 76th meeting and its current efforts to strengthen IUCN’s work on indigenous peoples’ issues with respect to: encouraging more indigenous peoples’ organizations to apply for membership; seeking further opportunities and possibilities for strengthening involvement of indigenous peoples’ in IUCN; and reviewing current membership categories in order to build a stronger IUCN membership base; and

ACKNOWLEDGING and SUPPORTING the use of the term Indigenous Peoples’ Organization (IPO), within the business, decisions and policies of IUCN, as one that appropriately describes those organizations that: (a) have been established by indigenous and tribal peoples and are mandated to represent them; (b) are distinct from other

IUCN Member organizations due to the complex and unique nature of their rights, interests and representation; (c) have representative constituencies which may be non-governmental or governmental in nature, or a mixture of both; (d) have representative constituencies which may be located in more than one country; and (e) have representative constituencies which may be composed of an association or network of indigenous groups within a given geographical region;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. RECOGNIZES the important role that indigenous and tribal peoples around the world play in valuing and conserving nature and in the effective and equitable governance of nature's use;
2. REQUESTS the IUCN Council to contribute positively toward the strengthening of indigenous peoples' roles and involvement within the Union, recognizing their own forms of organization, representation and governance; and providing a catalyst for appropriate streaming and leadership on indigenous related policies and positions within and for the Union;
3. RECOGNIZES the need for due process, including support to allow other IPOs to be involved and governments, NGOs and Commissions to be consulted, and analysis of options and implications to be undertaken; and
4. REQUESTS the IUCN Council to:
 - a. establish an intersessional Council working group including IUCN Members which are indigenous and tribal peoples' organizations and technical staff appointed by the Director General, to establish options on how IPOs could be better represented within the structure of IUCN, including the option of the establishment of a fourth membership and voting category; and
 - b. consult with the IUCN membership well in advance of the Congress on such options with a view to preparing a recommendation for the next IUCN World Conservation Congress.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-008-EN

Increasing youth engagement and intergenerational partnership across and through the Union

RECALLING Resolution 4.098 *Intergenerational partnerships: fostering ethical leadership for a just, sustainable and peaceful world* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which requests the Director General to engage in and foster intergenerational partnerships for sustainability and to engage in capacity-building activities for young people in the spirit of IUCN's *Future of Sustainability* report and Young Professionals Programme;

RECALLING that Resolution 3.029 *Capacity Building of Young Professionals* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) requested the Director General to "establish a Young Professionals Programme within IUCN";

RECALLING that Outcome 6 of the *Durban Action Plan*, Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban 2003), called on the Council to establish an "inter-Commission task force on intergenerational integration within IUCN" to develop "a comprehensive programme of work to encourage institutions and organizations to engage younger generations (as well as older people) in decision-making" and "monitor the participation of younger people";

RECALLING that Resolution 8 of the 9th World Wilderness Conference (Mexico, 2009) recognized "the importance of engaging Young Professionals in international conservation work";

RECALLING Resolutions 3.026 *Establishment of World Conservation Learning Network* and 3.025 *Education and Communication in the IUCN Programme*, adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

RECALLING the closing statement at the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development, written and delivered by the Major Group for Children and Youth on behalf of all Major Groups, which embraced intergenerational cooperation, innovation, creativity and sustainability values as essential for bringing about the future we want;

RECALLING Resolution 3.022 *Endorsement of the Earth Charter* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation

Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which said that the *Earth Charter* should be used “... to help advance education and dialogue on global interdependence, shared values, and ethical principles for sustainable ways of living...”;

ACKNOWLEDGING that IUCN’s vision and mission require the hands-on participation of all generations and that issues pertaining to sustainability need the direct involvement of young people with a deep personal stake in the future of our shared planet;

APPRECIATING that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* calls for a just world that “must guarantee equitable rights of access to biodiversity and nature’s benefits across generations, gender, and economic, social and geopolitical lines”;

APPRECIATING that the Secretariat, IUCN Commissions and many Member organizations have engaged young professionals in conservation work through internships, employment, leadership committees and programmes;

AFFIRMING that many young persons have well-informed, insightful and innovative contributions to make to sustainability research and decision-making processes, strategic planning and policy making, and effective action projects and programmes;

AFFIRMING that many senior professionals, and especially indigenous elders and retired conservation leaders, have a great deal to offer IUCN in terms of traditional knowledge, expertise and time; and

YET CONCERNED that the Union has not yet fully undertaken actions or made strong commitments in the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* for the constructive engagement of youth and establishment of intergenerational partnerships that help to share knowledge and experience, and inspire effective conservation action;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the IUCN Council to formalize the ad hoc Task Force on Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability as an inclusive, Council-level mechanism with the mandate to increase youth engagement and intergenerational partnership across and through the Union in service of the IUCN vision;

2. CALLS ON the Director General, IUCN Council, Commissions and Member organizations to:

- a. design and implement a strategy to ensure that IUCN improves its outreach to young people and intergenerational partnerships become a day-to-day reality in the work of the Union, the IUCN Council, the Commissions, Secretariat and all existing and new Members;
- b. ensure the meaningful integration and participation of a diversity of generations – with a special emphasis on young professionals and elders – in governance structures and processes, in the implementation of resolutions, staff positions, programmes, projects, papers and other collaborative efforts across the Union; and
- c. ensure that, through either election or appointment, qualified people from a diversity of generations with special emphasis on young professionals and elders are on this and all future Councils, and on each and all future Commission Steering Committees; and

3. RECOMMENDS that IUCN Members, Commissions and Secretariat include the following projects in the implementation of the youth engagement and intergenerational partnership strategy:

- a. building on existing Commission young professionals networks, establishment of a global network of young people committed to conservation work from the field to the global level, contributing to the realization of the IUCN Programme and supported by a Secretariat staff network coordinator;
- b. building on the Intergenerational Wikispace, establishment of an online forum to facilitate communication, connection and cooperation among this global network in addition to allowing for debate between men and women of all ages, both professionals and non-professionals;
- c. establishment of a broad-based mechanism to identify opportunities for conservation and governance capacity building and action, particularly focused on establishing intergenerational partnerships of youth, educators, community leaders and conservation professionals to take meaningful part in such action;

- d. establishment of an Intergenerational Fund to support innovative on-the-ground projects that emphasize youth leadership and collaboration across generations to achieve just and equitable conservation outcomes;
- e. establishment of an IUCN Young Champions Award leading up to the 2016 World Conservation Congress and for each Congress thereafter focused on recognizing emerging leaders taking innovative approaches toward achieving the IUCN vision; and
- f. consideration of the possibility of allowing members of organizations of young, indigenous professionals whose work in the community constitutes progress in the conservation of nature at local and community levels, and who are recognized by environmental or traditional authorities, a discount of up to 100% on membership fees.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-009-EN Encouraging cooperation with faith-based organizations and networks

RECALLING the joint IUCN, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) strategy from 1991 *Caring for the Earth: A Strategy for Sustainable Living*;

RECOGNIZING that faith-based groups have become important and visible participants in environmental issues globally, and that through their engagement with grassroots communities they can be valuable allies in conservation, equitable use of resources, and in responding to climate change, notably as one of the custodians of sacred natural sites;

CONSIDERING the importance of social movements and faith-based teaching in influencing human behaviour and value systems;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the importance of valuing life and engaging in conservation founded in the ethical principles of sustainability and social justice;

ALSO CONSIDERING the importance of partnerships in conservation, land-use management and appropriate responses to the threats of climate change and biodiversity loss;

RECOGNIZING that religion is one of the broadest systems of human organization, founded in ethics, value systems and relations between people and with other life forms; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that religion responds to humankind's innate aspirations and needs for spiritual fulfilment, sense of purpose and relation with the cosmos;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

REQUESTS the Director General to encourage cooperation with faith-based organizations and networks that share IUCN's spirit and objectives in order to establish partnerships in conservation, sustainability, equitable sharing and use of resources and appropriate responses to climate change threats.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-010-EN Establishment of a strengthened programmatic presence of IUCN in Asia

ACKNOWLEDGING that Asia is home to over half of the world population with unique geographical, ecological and biological diversity characteristics;

NOTING that the biological diversity of Asia is threatened by socio-economic activities, causing coastal pollution, yellow sandstorms, desertification, radioactive contamination, climate change, nutrient overloading, land-use change, introduction of invasive species and over-exploitation;

ALSO NOTING that conservation of biological diversity in Asia presents unique challenges;

AWARE of the great strength of IUCN's governmental, non-governmental and Commission membership in Asia and their active participation in regional members' meetings, National Committees and networks;

RECALLING that IUCN's unique opportunities include provision of site- and/or region-specific and science-based knowledge and lessons which illustrate how food security and overall human welfare issues are supported by the conservation of biological diversity and ecosystem management; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the geographical, ecological and biological diversity of the Asia region requires special efforts to strengthen the programmatic presence of IUCN in all sub-regions, as well as regional management capacity, along with refinement of regional thematic expertise;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- a. undertake a full assessment, in consultation with IUCN Members, of the need and mechanisms to strengthen IUCN's programmatic presence in Asia;
- b. strengthen sub-regional programmes to improve IUCN's effectiveness in Asia; and
- c. promote the unity, integration, synergy and continuity of the Asia Region under the Asia Regional Office particularly with regard to harmony between the statutory and programme dimensions so as to facilitate the achievement of the aims of the One Programme.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-011-EN Consolidating IUCN's institutional presence in South America

MINDFUL of Resolution 19.1 *The Strategy of IUCN – The World Conservation Union* approved by the 19th General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994); Resolution 2.52 *Consolidation of IUCN's Component Programme for South America* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), which emphasizes the importance of strengthening the IUCN's regionalization process; and Resolution 4.004 *Strengthening IUCN's institutional presence in South America* adopted by the 4th IUCN

World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) and which was efficiently implemented;

RECOGNIZING that the vast geographical area of the South American sub-continent, along with its extraordinary biological, cultural and institutional diversity, makes it essential that IUCN's offices cover this region as fully as possible;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that for the most efficient and effective implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, locations matching the objectives set for the region and for the One Programme need to be clearly defined;

UNDERSTANDING that the work of cooperation, advice, engagement and follow-up of regional, sub-regional and national policy initiatives, essential for the implementation of IUCN's One Programme, requires an interdependence of work between the different constituent parts, in line with their roles and functions;

NOTING the need to strategically and adequately strengthen and consolidate the encouraging progress made by IUCN through its Regional Office for South America (IUCN-SUR) in order to give effect to and facilitate a permanent institutional presence in the region; and

FURTHER NOTING that the South America region is facing an economic development process that will require technical assistance in terms of its vision of issues such as the green economy and sustainable development processes, and given the urgency of conserving one of the greatest areas of biodiversity on the planet, including its cultural legacy;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

REQUESTS the Director General to continue strengthening IUCN's regionalization process in South America by means of the following actions:

- a. supporting and promoting an institutional presence that is appropriate to the strategic nature of the South America region;
- b. promoting the implementation of an institutional presence in the Southern Cone of South America; and

- c. promoting harmonization among its constituent parts around common issues that are affecting the region, through the One Programme.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-012-EN Strengthening IUCN in the Insular Caribbean

CLARIFYING that for the by-laws of the Caribbean Regional Committee of IUCN Members, and the IUCN Caribbean Initiative, the term Insular Caribbean geographically focuses on the islands of the Caribbean, including all independent countries¹ as well as the departments of France², Caribbean autonomous countries and special municipalities within the Kingdom of the Netherlands³, the dependent territories of the United Kingdom⁴ and the associated commonwealth and territory of the United States⁵;

NOTING the Caribbean's rich biological diversity which is essential for human well-being and has intrinsic value;

RECOGNIZING the accumulated vulnerability of Insular Caribbean ecosystems to threats of both extreme events and gradual changes caused by climate change;

ALSO RECOGNIZING the impacts on Insular Caribbean ecosystems due to human activities including overexploitation, pollution, introduction of invasive species, and habitat degradation and destruction;

BEING CONCERNED ABOUT these impacts on ecosystem services, livelihoods and economies through loss of natural capital;

NOTING the progress made in implementation of Resolution 3.033 *Implementation of an IUCN programme for the Insular Caribbean* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) by national, regional and international stakeholders;

NOTING the Launch of the Caribbean Initiative at the Barcelona World Congress in 2008 and the advancement of the work of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* in the Insular Caribbean;

RECOGNIZING the work of the IUCN Secretariat, Commissions and Members and the establishment of the IUCN Caribbean Regional Committee, the Dominican Republic National Committee and a 100% increase in membership to promote the objectives of IUCN in the region;

RECOGNIZING the need to continue strengthening IUCN's presence in the region through a Caribbean Programme of Work; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the increasing capacity and commitment of Caribbean institutions and IUCN Member organizations to contribute to implementation of the IUCN Programme and Caribbean Initiative;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- a. consolidate IUCN's presence in the Insular Caribbean, through enhanced regional implementation of the relevant components of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, including the possibility of the establishment of a Caribbean IUCN office located in the Insular Caribbean;

¹ Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Commonwealth of Dominica, Dominican Republic, Cuba, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

² There are four French territories or departments: Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saint-Barthélemy and Saint Martin.

³ Aruba, Curaçao, and Saint Maarten are autonomous countries within the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Bonaire, Saint Eustatius (also known as Statia) and Saba (the BES islands) are special municipalities with closer ties to the central government.

⁴ There are six Caribbean UKOTs: Anguilla, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos, and the British Virgin Islands (which consists of the main islands of Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Anegada and Jost Van Dyke, along with over fifty other smaller islands and cays).

⁵ Puerto Rico is a self-governing commonwealth in association with the United States. The United States Virgin Islands (St. Croix, St. John and St. Thomas) is a territory of the United States.

- b. facilitate a process with Caribbean IUCN Members, Caribbean IUCN Commission members, the IUCN Secretariat, and other key stakeholders in the area to develop an appropriate mechanism to coordinate, support and facilitate implementation of IUCN's activities in the Caribbean;
- c. enable participation of the Insular Caribbean in existing and new IUCN activities, such as the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) project, the IUCN Island Initiative (Resolution 4.067 *Advancing island conservation and sustainable livelihoods* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008)) and other global initiatives (e.g. the IUCN programme on EU Outermost Regions & Overseas Countries & Territories – Resolution 4.079 *The European Union and its overseas entities faced with climate change and biodiversity loss* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008)); and
- d. continue to support the Regional Office for MesoAmerica (ORMA) to implement the Caribbean Initiative, and to support reestablishment of contact and strengthening of relationships, as far as possible, between Caribbean Members and IUCN offices in North America, concerning relevant activities of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-013-EN **IUCN's name**

RECALLING Resolution 4.006 *IUCN's name* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

RECALLING IUCN Council decision C/73/18 requesting “the Director General to implement the procedure (set forth in Annex 8 of doc. C.73/Nov 2009/10.1/1) in respect of the translation of IUCN's name in any language other than IUCN's three official languages”;

APPRECIATIVE to the Council and Director General for starting a procedure to enable translation of the short version of IUCN's legal name in cases where a given

language does not provide for a formulation to correctly reflect the objectives of the IUCN Statutes and to ensure conformity when translated into other languages;

MINDFUL of section 4.3 of the “Logo Rules for IUCN Members” and section 5.3 of the “Logo and Visual Identity Rules for IUCN Commissions”;

NOTING that a list is held by the IUCN Global Communications Unit providing details on eight approved translations, three awaiting approval and four requiring additional research;

CONCERNED that the abovementioned procedures have not eliminated misleading translations of IUCN's name in the public domain especially with regard to the word “conservation” in some languages, such as German; and

RESOLVED that translations into the languages of the world, correctly reflecting the objectives of the IUCN Statutes, will greatly enrich IUCN's identification, impact and future;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. COMMENDS the Director General on the extent of implementation of the previous Resolution bearing this title; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General to promote the languages of the world and the objectives of the IUCN Statutes by:
 - a. announcing the officially approved translations of IUCN's name;
 - b. allowing free public use of the approved translations;
 - c. providing an easily accessible list of the translations on the IUCN homepage;
 - d. utilizing this opportunity to appeal for further translations; and
 - e. emphasizing and building upon IUCN's unique attributes dealing with environmentally sustainable development and use of natural resources.

WCC-2012-Res-014-EN **Implementing Aichi Target 12 of the** ***Strategic Plan for Biodiversity*** **2011–2020**

RECALLING that Aichi Target 12 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* states: “By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained”;

GREATLY ENCOURAGED that this is by far the strongest commitment ever made by the world’s governments to combat the escalating extinction crisis;

ALARMED that the evidence from the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* indicates that, due to human impacts, the current rate of extinction is at least 1,000 times higher than the natural rate;

NOTING that the most common causes of extinction are habitat loss and fragmentation, over-harvesting, invasive alien species, disease, and increasingly the effects of climate change;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that an increasing number of threats, such as ocean acidification, ocean warming, and emerging infectious diseases (including the fungal disease chytridiomycosis that is affecting many amphibians) cannot yet be controlled in the wild on a time-scale necessary to prevent extinctions;

AWARE that the drivers of extinction come from economic sectors such as energy, trade and finance as well as from natural resource sectors such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries;

EMPHASIZING that the extinction crisis will only be addressed through a strong cross-sectoral commitment in each country, ensuring that all relevant major decisions, for example on infrastructure development, are taken in a manner that takes threatened species into account, and ensures that measures are taken so that such species are not driven towards extinction;

FURTHER EMPHASIZING that species provide huge benefits to people economically, socially, aesthetically, culturally and spiritually, and that their loss results in an impoverishment for all humankind;

ASSERTING that despite these huge benefits, species must not be required to demonstrate their value to people in order to have a right to exist;

ENCOURAGED that, although evidence clearly indicates that the global 2010 Biodiversity Target was not attained, the observed rate of deterioration in vertebrate species would have been around 20% higher in the absence of successful conservation interventions;

CONCERNED that unlike most other negative environmental trends, extinction is inherently irreversible, and the loss of every species forecloses future options;

AWARE that in many instances extinctions can be prevented through broader conservation measures such as the safeguarding of sites of importance for biodiversity, and integrated programmes that simultaneously address poverty and biodiversity, and so single-species conservation is not necessarily the best way to save species;

ASSERTING, nevertheless, that in some cases single-species conservation is the only way to prevent extinctions;

NOTING that in many instances, the funding needed to prevent the extinction of particular species is not large, but needs to be long term;

CONCERNED that many donors do not fund species-related conservation, and those that do often only support project cycles of a few years, making it hard to achieve long-lasting conservation success;

GRATEFUL for the recent establishment of two new species-related funding mechanisms – the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund by His Highness Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and the Save Our Species Fund by the World Bank, Global Environment Facility and IUCN – both of which complement some important existing species-related funding mechanisms;

NOTING that species are the component of biodiversity that most readily captures the public imagination in virtually all cultures; and

AWARE of IUCN’s particular strengths and expertise in species conservation through the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), the Secretariat and many of the Members;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON all countries to:
 - a. identify globally and nationally threatened species during the development of their respective National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and include strong provisions for their conservation and recovery addressing their threats and drivers;
 - b. support their NBSAPs through well-developed processes for preparing national Red Lists and for identification, appropriate protection and management of sites of global importance for biodiversity bearing in mind the new standard that IUCN is developing for identifying such sites, and building on existing networks of such sites already identified worldwide;
 - c. develop multi-stakeholder plans for the recovery of threatened species, drawing as needed from the guidelines *Strategic Planning for Species Conservation* developed by IUCN's SSC;
 - d. develop innovative approaches to preventing extinctions that provide benefits to local human communities and build support for conservation, including through sustainable use where relevant and appropriate;
 - e. ensure that all major development projects, such as the building of dams and the conversion of natural habitats, take the needs of threatened species fully into account, and are only implemented if they include measures to conserve threatened species, prevent extinctions and bring about species' recovery;
 - f. ensure that all programmes involving the harvesting of wild species, including in the fisheries and forestry sector, are managed so that the harvest levels are sustainable, including for non-target species, and where possible generate incentives for conservation; and
 - g. build the capacity of national nature conservation agencies to implement species recovery programmes;
2. REQUESTS the SSC and the Director General to:
 - a. enhance the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* so that it reaches its potential, as outlined in the draft IUCN Red List Strategic Plan 2012–2020, thus providing the essential background for monitoring the achievement of Aichi Target 12 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*; and
 - b. provide technical support to countries and other stakeholders as needed to achieve Aichi Target 12, including on:
 - i. training in *Red List* assessments;
 - ii. identifying of sites of global importance for biodiversity;
 - iii. implementing species conservation planning;
 - iv. managing invasive alien species and preventing their introduction;
 - v. implementing reintroduction programmes;
 - vi. managing *ex situ* conservation programmes;
 - vii. carrying out assessment of disease risk, including the determination of key biodiversity and ecological processes critical to preventing and reducing the rate of emergence of new infectious pathogens; and
 - viii. implementing sustainable use projects to ensure that they are truly sustainable and contribute to the conservation of the harvested species and others potentially affected;
3. CALLS ON the scientific community to conduct research on threats that cannot currently be controlled in the wild, such as amphibian chytridiomycosis and ocean acidification, to develop practical management options to mitigate their impact on threatened species, to enable them to survive in viable populations while the long-term drivers of loss (such as rising CO₂ levels) are brought under control; and
4. CALLS ON all funding agencies, including the public and private sectors and civil society, to give increased support to prevent extinctions and to continue recognizing the importance of long-term funding and investment for species conservation.

WCC-2012-Res-015-EN **Saving the world's most threatened species**

NOTING that humans are currently causing the greatest mass extinction of species since the extinction of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago, and that if present trends continue one-half of all living species on Earth will be extinct within 100 years, as a result of habitat destruction, pollution, invasive species and climate change;

FURTHER NOTING that the *Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE)* engages 75 non-governmental biodiversity conservation organizations working to prevent species extinctions by identifying and safeguarding the places where species evaluated to be Endangered or Critically Endangered under *IUCN Red List* criteria are restricted to single remaining sites;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that AZE has so far identified 920 globally highly threatened species confined to some 587 single sites, and that loss of any of these sites, to habitat degradation or other threats, would precipitate final extinction events, at least in the wild;

CONCERNED that just one-third of the sites are known to have legal protection, and most are surrounded by human population densities that are approximately three times the global average;

AWARE that status of AZE sites was recognized by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as a sub-indicator for Aichi Targets 11 and 12 in the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, and that nations should account for their progress in protecting AZE sites and species in their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans; and

CONSCIOUS that in 2010 the Global Environment Facility (GEF) proposed an initiative to help developing country Parties to the CBD scale up their investments in protection of AZE sites, adding a new line of defence for highly threatened biodiversity worldwide;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. RECOGNIZES the important contribution to biodiversity conservation that would be made by protecting single site species, including for example the sites identified by the *Alliance for Zero Extinction*;

2. INVITES the world's governments to give priority to protecting sites for single-site restricted Endangered and Critically Endangered species, as a contribution to meeting their commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity, particularly Aichi Targets 11 and 12 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*;
3. REQUESTS the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), and the Director General to:
 - a. encourage countries party to CBD and all IUCN Members to support, as appropriate, national, regional and global initiatives directed towards the better protection of such sites; and
 - b. draw to the attention of developing countries that are party to the CBD, the opportunities for and benefits of including activities focused on improved single-site species protection in their project portfolios for potential GEF funding; and
4. REQUESTS the Director General to mobilize the IUCN Regional Offices to recognize and give support to national strategies and activities aimed at protecting such sites.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-016-EN **Framework for setting priorities for the conservation of threatened species**

ACKNOWLEDGING major recent growth in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, which currently reports on the global conservation status of ~62,000 species of animals and plants, 32% of which are considered threatened;

NOTING that more than 100 countries have developed national *Red Lists* for at least one taxonomic group, providing objective assessments of the status of species that live within their national boundaries;

RECOGNIZING the policy impact of the data summarized in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* and national

Red Lists in global conservation efforts, such as the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets, the Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), and the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs), as well as in national efforts, such as the development of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs);

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the valuable efforts of existing grant-making mechanisms for species conservation, as well as the diversity of approaches that they have developed for setting funding priorities;

ANTICIPATING the continuing rapid rate of growth of species assessments, especially in response to the need to calculate the indicators used to assess progress towards the achievement of the commitments set forth by conservation policies such as those mentioned above, and that the growing number of documented threatened species may not be matched by an equivalent increase in financial or human resources;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the wealth of information generated by species assessments will need to be synthesized to inform decision making and provide streamlined knowledge products to conservation policy-makers, practitioners and other key stakeholders;

CONCERNED that no unified, widely accepted framework currently exists for identifying and implementing conservation priorities for species, and that the urgency of the extinction crisis may result in the adoption of *ad hoc* resource allocation procedures that are neither scientific, systematic, nor efficient;

FURTHER CONCERNED that there is limited time, as well as human and financial resources, to address the conservation needs of all threatened species, either *in situ* or *ex situ*;

EMPHASIZING that the systematic identification of conservation priorities allows for an improved allocation of financial and human resources and thus greater conservation impacts;

FURTHER EMPHASIZING that the information on extinction risk provided by *Red Lists* is one component necessary for setting species conservation priorities and by itself is insufficient; and

UNDERSCORING that such efforts do not aim to prioritize among species *per se* (implying that some species

may be intrinsically more important than others), but rather prioritize among species (or groups of species) for planning efforts, and then prioritize among conservation actions to most effectively conserve these;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

CALLS ON the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) to undertake the development of a conceptual framework for setting priorities for the conservation of threatened species, which is flexible, adaptable and useful to a broad range of stakeholders (e.g. local communities, donor agencies, governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, and zoos and aquaria), and yet leads to choices that are systematic, transparent and repeatable, and can be monitored and evaluated providing a defensible framework to justify resource allocation among large groups of nationally and globally threatened species.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-017-EN Enhancing the usefulness of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

WELCOMING the growing influence of the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* (hereafter *IUCN Red List*) through its open-access provision of high-quality data on the status of species;

RECOGNIZING that species are the component of biodiversity with globally accepted standards for systematic extinction risk assessment, making the *IUCN Red List* useful to governments, international agencies, scholars, conservation organizations, civil society, the business sector and multilateral conventions (such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar), the World Heritage Convention, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC));

APPRECIATING that the *IUCN Red List* has greatly expanded its coverage to over 60,000 species, including full coverage of mammals, birds, amphibians, sharks, conifers and cycads, and a growing number of reptiles, fish, plants, invertebrates and fungi;

ALARMED that accelerating climate change, increasing consumption of natural resources, continuing uncontrolled spread of invasive alien species through expanding global trade, loss of natural habitats and continuing degradation of ecosystem services (as reported by the latest edition of the CBD's *Global Biodiversity Outlook*) will further undermine the status of species in all parts of the world, an alarm that underlines the importance of providing the highest quality of information on the status of species;

THANKING the IUCN Red List Partner organizations for their continuing support of the *IUCN Red List* and the Red List Committee of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC);

NOTING the significant efforts being made by many governments to prepare national or regional Red Lists and to support conservation of species;

CONCERNED that despite this effort, the *IUCN Red List* still covers only a small, non-representative, percentage of the world's species, and that the IUCN Red List Index indicates that the status of species is continuing to decline;

WELCOMING the development of the "Guidelines on the Implementation of the IUCN Policy Statement on Research Involving Species at Risk of Extinction, with special reference to Scientific Collecting of Threatened Species," as called for in Resolutions 3.013 *The uses of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) and 4.015 *Guidelines regarding research and scientific collecting of threatened species* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), to encourage governments and research institutions to facilitate research on globally threatened species by competent scientists to enhance understanding of the natural history and conservation needs of these species;

RECOGNIZING the socio-economic importance of use and trade in some species and the incentives such use can provide for conservation and restoration, but that over-exploitation can also pose a serious threat to the survival of populations and species; and

SUPPORTING the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* and its recognition of the importance of species to the vision and goals of IUCN;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN SSC and the Director General to complete the preparation of the Red List Strategic Plan that would clarify agreed strategic priorities for the *IUCN Red List* to the year 2020, to make its timing consistent with the Aichi Targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* adopted by governments at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the CBD, held in Nagoya, Japan, in 2010;
2. RECOMMENDS that the Red List Strategic Plan include, among others, clear strategic results by 2020 for:
 - a. expanding the taxonomic and geographic coverage of the *IUCN Red List*, thus enabling it to become a representative Barometer of Life;
 - b. encouraging repeat assessments of taxonomic groups completely assessed, to further develop the IUCN Red List Index as an effective biodiversity indicator (including sampled approaches for large groups);
 - c. developing appropriate mechanisms to maintain and enhance the rigour of the *IUCN Red List*, and to ensure that future *IUCN Red List* species accounts are of the highest scientific standards and are recognized as formal and permanently citeable publications;
 - d. continuing support for the preparation of national and, where appropriate, regional Red Lists (especially those that follow the *Guidelines for the Application of Red List Criteria at Regional and National Levels, Version 3.1*), and the incorporation of information thus generated into the global *IUCN Red List*;
 - e. building capacity for preparing *IUCN Red Lists* worldwide and building a team of *IUCN Red List* trainers;
 - f. further enhancing the *IUCN Red List* database software (the Species Information Service) and

- the *IUCN Red List* website, so that these tools are easily and freely accessible;
- g. increasing the use of the *IUCN Red List* to support policy development and conservation action with reference to the “Guidelines for Appropriate Uses of IUCN Red List Data: Incorporating the Guidelines for Reporting on Proportion Threatened and the Guidelines on Scientific Collecting of Threatened Species”;
 - h. enhancing the brand of the *IUCN Red List*;
 - i. developing new mechanisms to build financial sustainability for the *IUCN Red List*; and
 - j. providing clear strategic oversight to the *IUCN Red List*, including through renewal and expansion of the Red List Partnership;
3. ENCOURAGES governments, within the context of the *IUCN Red List*, to support the collection and free sharing of scientific information about species found within their borders, as called for under articles 7 and 17 of the Convention on Biological Diversity;
 4. REQUESTS SSC, the Director General and IUCN Members working in this field to continue to improve the *IUCN Red List* to address topics such as:
 - a. the response of species to changing climate (as called for in Resolution 4.016 *Development of climate change guidelines for IUCN Red List assessments* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), with an SSC Task Force now working on the topic);
 - b. the consistent listing of species as Extinct and Critically Endangered (Possibly Extinct);
 - c. development of guidance on collection and harvest of threatened species as an annex to the “Guidelines for Appropriate Uses of IUCN Red List Data”, in order to help ensure that *Red List* data are used appropriately to guide regulation and management decisions;
 - d. the definition of “wild” populations (including reintroduced populations), and the implications for the consistent listing of species, for example, of species living within fenced areas within their natural ranges, of natural populations dependent on management interventions, and of populations resulting from “benign introductions” (as defined in the IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines) of threatened species outside their original ranges;
 - e. improvement of the “Guidelines for using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria” to foster application of the *IUCN Red List* Categories and Criteria to island States and insular species; and
 - f. means to reconcile the expected taxonomic coverage of the *IUCN Red List* with the need to maintain the highest scientific standards; and
5. CALLS ON the Director General, SSC and IUCN Members to encourage funding agencies, international organizations, multilateral conventions, and others to support the further development of the *IUCN Red List* in order to maintain it as the global standard for assessing species, and thereby inform policy and action at all levels throughout the world.

WCC-2012-Res-018-EN Support for the development and implementation of national and regional red lists

RECOGNIZING the usefulness of IUCN’s Red List Categories and Criteria for assessing the extinction risk of species and risk of collapse of ecosystems at global and national levels;

HIGHLIGHTING that national red lists provide readily available baseline biodiversity information to governments, civil society, the private sector and others responsible for planning, priority setting and conservation action;

CONSIDERING that national red lists provide essential data in support of national-level reporting required by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (Decision II/17), and that such data will also be crucial for assessing the status of the natural capital of nations;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that national red lists, conducted at regular intervals, can be used to assess progress towards the achievement of environment and development targets such as the Aichi Targets of the

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011–2020 of the CBD, and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

NOTING that national red lists have been produced by less than half of the world's nations, and specifically recognizing those countries which have undertaken comprehensive assessment of national extinction risk for taxonomic groups (such as fishes, plants, fungi and some invertebrate groups) not yet comprehensively assessed by the global *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*;

CONCERNED, however, that a large variety of different red list criteria and categories are applied for national red lists, which prevents harmonization and international comparison of red lists;

FURTHER CONCERNED that many countries that have not yet produced a national red list are located in biodiversity-rich regions, yet lack sufficient financial and human resources to adequately protect and sustainably manage their natural wealth;

WELCOMING the efforts of IUCN and partners to support the preparation of national red lists, especially for taxonomic groups (such as fishes, plants, fungi and some invertebrate groups) not yet comprehensively assessed by the global *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, and to provide technical and financial support where needed; and

AWARE that providing assistance to the many countries seeking support for assessing and monitoring the status of their natural capital will require substantial effort;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. APPLAUDS the efforts of countries that have produced national red lists, and have carried out or are planning assessments;
2. CALLS UPON IUCN to continue supporting these initiatives through the production of tools, software and training materials, as well as training local experts to lead national red list assessments, data management and analysis;
3. URGES Members to utilize the *Guidelines for the Application of Red List Criteria at Regional and National*

Levels, Version 3.1 to promote more harmonization of red list criteria and categories used for national red lists for the sake of achieving comparable standards and results of national red list assessments;

4. CALLS UPON countries to establish national mechanisms for regularly updating national red lists and connecting them with national biodiversity conservation-related legislation, strategy, planning and actions;
5. ENCOURAGES countries to calculate national red list indices based on repeated national red list assessments, following the *Guidelines for the Application of Red List Criteria at Regional and National Levels, Version 3.1*, and to use such indices to track biodiversity trends, alongside complementary indicators;
6. CALLS UPON IUCN and countries developing or updating national red lists to work more closely together to ensure that data are exchanged and assessments of endemic species are harmonized as far as possible at the global and national scales;
7. REQUESTS the Director General to provide policy support to these national red-listing initiatives, in consultation with the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), in conjunction with their Secretariat focal points and the IUCN membership;
8. CALLS UPON the Global Environment Facility and other national and international funding mechanisms to provide specific funds that developing countries can access to support the production of national red lists, especially for taxonomic groups (such as fishes, plants, fungi and some invertebrate groups) not yet comprehensively assessed by the global *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, as part of broader funding support for national-scale biodiversity monitoring; and
9. REQUESTS the Director General to bring the importance of performing periodic national red list assessments to the attention of the CBD and other relevant conventions, as well as to potential sources of financial support for these assessments.

WCC-2012-Res-019-EN **Halting the loss of evolutionarily distinct lineages**

ALARMED that current extinction rates are 100 to 1,000 times higher than that shown by the fossil record and that 20% of vertebrates, 22% of plants, and most likely a comparable percentage of invertebrates, are threatened with extinction;

RECALLING that among mammals alone, at least 14 genera and four *entire families* have gone *extinct* since AD 1500;

RECOGNIZING that extinction does not occur randomly, but is clustered in families that contain only a small number of species, resulting in a much greater loss of evolutionary history than random extinction scenarios;

RECOGNIZING that distinct branches of the Tree of Life have often evolved traits and genes that are found in no other organisms and are therefore irreplaceable;

CONCERNED that the loss of these branches will result in an extremely reduced subset of genetic, evolutionary and ecological diversity;

ACKNOWLEDGING that resources currently available for conservation are insufficient to prevent the loss of large amounts of biodiversity and that conservation planners are forced to prioritize which species should receive the most conservation attention;

CONCERNED that many monotypic genera, families and even orders are overlooked by existing conservation prioritization schemes, putting at risk entire branches of the Tree of Life;

HIGHLIGHTING the recent probable extinction of the Yangtze River dolphin (*Lipotes vexillifer*), which represented over twenty million years of unique evolutionary history and was the sole representative of an entire mammal family (the Lipotidae);

ALARMED that every single member of a further 15 mammal families, two amphibian families and six bird families are threatened with extinction, along with both representatives of the Order Coelacanthiformes (Coelacanth); and that all seven species of sawfish are classified as Critically Endangered; and

CONCERNED that over 20 vertebrate families are represented by a single surviving species which is itself threatened with extinction;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. APPLAUDS the efforts of initiatives such as IUCN's Save Our Species Fund, the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, the Zoological Society of London's Evolutionary Distinct and Globally Endangered (EDGE) of Existence programme, the Amphibian Survival Alliance, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Global 200, US Fish and Wildlife Service's Endangered Species Grants and others to ensure that evolutionarily important lineages are targeted by in-country conservation efforts;
2. APPLAUDS the establishment of conservation strategies for evolutionarily important species such as the publication of *Conservation Strategy for the Pygmy Hippopotamus and Dugong: Status Report and Action Plans for Countries and Territories* and the re-launching of the Pangolin Specialist Group within the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC);
3. WELCOMES landscape-based and ecosystem-based approaches to the conservation of nature and natural resources but maintains that there is a need for complementary conservation initiatives that target species, especially those of high evolutionary significance;
4. REQUESTS that the Director General, SSC and all IUCN Members prioritize the conservation of threatened genera and families, by:
 - a. developing science-based tools and techniques;
 - b. undertaking further scientific exploration of species radiation/genetic variability and species distinctiveness, in order to refine objectives for species and evolutionarily distinct lineage protection; and
 - c. putting special emphasis on supporting capacity building efforts to reverse the decline of the important groups, while establishing clear priorities in light of climate change;
5. ENCOURAGES SSC and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), supported as

needed by the Director General, to ensure that action plans are in place and being implemented for all targeted species and regions;

6. REQUESTS that the Director General brings the importance of conserving evolutionarily important lineages to the attention of major conventions (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), Ramsar Convention, Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)) and governments to target evolutionarily distinct species and regions that contain high concentrations of these lineages;
7. REQUESTS that the international conservation community increases resource allocation to at-risk lineages and develops programmes of work around families and genera at risk of extinction in the near future; and
8. CALLS UPON all IUCN SSC Specialist Groups to assist in the formation of an objective indicator system to measure conservation success for these species by providing data for annual assessments of conservation need, action and effectiveness.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-020-EN **Further steps to combat the amphibian crisis**

RECALLING Resolution 4.017 *Stopping the amphibian crisis* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

AWARE that the concerns that gave rise to Resolution 4.017, and which are explained in its preamble, remain just as valid, if not more valid, today, and that the global status of amphibians is continuing to deteriorate rapidly;

APPRECIATING the steps taken by the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and key IUCN Members and partners to address the amphibian crisis, most notably through the formation of the inter-institutional Amphibian Survival Alliance (ASA) in 2011, which is providing strategic direction and coordination to the amphibian conservation work being carried out by the

SSC Amphibian Specialist Group (ASG), by Amphibian Ark (an *ex situ* programme under the umbrella of SSC and the World Association of Zoos and Aquaria), and by a number of other institutions;

CONCERNED that despite this progress, the funding for amphibian conservation in general, and the ASA in particular, remains woefully inadequate and outside the priorities of many donors and institutions that otherwise support biodiversity conservation;

CONVINCED that unless greater priority is given to amphibian conservation, many species will become extinct in the coming decades;

ENCOURAGED, nevertheless, that despite the meagre resources available, concerted efforts by the amphibian conservation community over the last five years have resulted in over 22,000 hectares of vital habitat being secured to provide for the survival of 55 Threatened amphibian species, as well as nearly 100 globally Threatened species now being maintained in captive breeding programmes;

AWARE that despite these welcome gains, progress is very small in relation to the huge dimensions of the crisis;

ALSO AWARE that the ASA has recently identified the sites which, if securely protected, would safeguard the largest number of Threatened amphibian species, noting that conserving the top 25 sites, all of which have also been identified by the *Alliance for Zero Extinction*, would benefit over 500 globally threatened species, 150 of which are listed as Critically Endangered on the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*; and

CONCERNED that the majority of amphibian species on the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* were last assessed in 2004, making their reassessment a matter of urgency in order to understand the change in status of amphibians, and the success of conservation efforts;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON governments, non-governmental conservation organizations, and donors to:
 - a. increase the priority given to preventing amphibian extinctions and bringing about their recovery, in particular through the conservation of

the top priority sites that are being identified by the Amphibian Survival Alliance (ASA);

- b. develop, support and maintain adequate captive breeding programmes in biosecure facilities for those species that are declining rapidly and which may go extinct before the threats in the wild (in particular imminent habitat loss and the fungal pandemic chytridiomycosis and its associated synergies) can be combated successfully;
 - c. promote the regulation and monitoring of trade in live and dead amphibians and their parts and derivatives, including efforts to enable and facilitate monitoring of international commercial transactions through established mechanisms like the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the World Customs Organization; and
 - d. provide sustainable support to the operations of the ASA to enable it to provide its essential role of coordination and leadership to amphibian conservation efforts worldwide;
2. URGES the scientific community, as a matter of urgency, to carry out the research necessary in order to make it possible to develop practical and realistic measures to combat the deadly effects of the chytrid fungus *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* in the wild; and
 3. REQUESTS the Director General and SSC to take the necessary steps to ensure that all amphibians last assessed for the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* in 2004 during the Global Amphibian Assessment be updated by 2014, and calls on donors to provide the necessary funding to make this possible.

WCC-2012-Res-021-EN **Implementing the provisions on** **invasive alien species of the *Strategic*** ***Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020***

RECALLING that Aichi Target 9 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* states: “By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment”;

FURTHER RECALLING that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) *Programme of Work on Islands* highlights the vulnerability of islands’ biodiversity to invasive alien species, coupled with weak capacity to respond to this threat;

NOTING that, in regard to the role of biological invasions as a key driver of biodiversity loss, invasive alien species management in protected areas is highlighted by Decision X/31 of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD as an issue that needs greater attention;

ALARMED that biological invasions are constantly increasing among all taxonomic groups, and in all environments, from marine to freshwater and terrestrial, causing growing impacts on world biodiversity, affecting a high proportion of threatened species;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that many invasive alien species are pathogens, pests or weeds, costing the global economy many hundreds of billions of dollars each year;

EMPHASIZING that vast segments of the world’s population, especially in developing nations, suffer from vector-borne diseases, such as malaria, dengue, West Nile virus and others, many of which are spread by invasive vectors such as mosquitoes;

FURTHER EMPHASIZING that invasive alien species also affect world food security, as they can severely impact activities such as fisheries, and inflict huge pre- and post-harvest yield losses;

RECALLING that much of the growth in the number of invasive alien species is caused by human activities such as trade, tourism and travel, and that it is therefore crucial to involve all relevant societal sectors in the prevention and control of invasive alien species;

NOTING that climate change is likely to further increase the magnitude of the problem and reduce the management options available to combat invasive alien species;

FURTHER NOTING that the Joint Work Programme to strengthen information services on invasive alien species, presented at the 15th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the CBD and welcomed by the participants to the meeting, will indeed provide crucial information to improve the efficacy of prevention measures of invasions and the efforts aimed at mitigating the impacts caused by invasive alien species;

AWARE that through the IUCN Commissions, the Secretariat and many of its Members, IUCN has particular strengths and expertise in species conservation, in the involvement of societal sectors in conservation issues, and engagement with decision makers; and

ALSO RECALLING that Recommendation 2.67 *Invasive alien species* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) requested the Director General to take an active role to ensure that international trade and financial agreements, codes of practice, treaties and conventions took into account the threats posed by invasive alien species;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON all countries to:

- a. identify invasive alien species present in their territories for priority control intervention, and to identify potential and actual pathways of invasive alien species introduction for priority prevention measures;
- b. enforce stringent regulatory measures to prevent the import and intentional or accidental release of invasive or potentially invasive alien species, ensuring full consistency with the provisions of the World Trade Organization (WTO) *Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures*, and without hampering important conservation activities, such as *ex situ* breeding programmes conducted by zoos, botanic gardens and other institutions;
- c. encourage voluntary measures to prevent the spread of invasive or potentially invasive alien species, such as the voluntary code of conduct for zoos under development by the Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG), the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA), and the Bern Convention;
- d. ensure that policies and measures in other fields – such as ecosystem restoration and climate change – take account of the risk of causing further invasions (e.g. biofuel species promotion, assisted colonization, use of potentially invasive alien species in habitat restoration programmes, etc.), balancing the short-term benefits with the long-term costs of invasions;

- e. work at removing legal, financial and human resources constraints to rapid responses to address new incursions of invasive alien species, especially in developing countries;
- f. promote eradication campaigns for priority invasive alien species, taking into account their potential or actual impact on biodiversity as well as on food security and human well-being, and giving priority to key areas such as islands, protected areas, and key points of entry, such as ports and airports; and
- g. incorporate invasive alien species and biosecurity policy imperatives in water and land-use planning at all scales from local to global, including islands, protected areas, river and lake basins, production landscapes and seascapes;

2. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions to:

- a. strengthen cooperation with the Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species established by the CBD with the aim of improving international, national and regional trade regulatory processes for minimizing the spread of invasive alien species, and composed of IUCN and international standard-setting organizations such as WTO, the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);
- b. identify potential gaps in IUCN's policy and programmatic coverage of invasive alien species, and propose specific actions to fill the gaps in consultation with Council;
- c. improve interoperability between IUCN knowledge products with particular reference to the Global Invasive Species Database, the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems and the World Database on Protected Areas for supporting the identification of priority invasive alien species, and enhancing early warning systems and rapid responses to new invasions;
- d. support collaboration between the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and IUCN World

Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) to promote the compilation and dissemination of best practice guidelines on invasive alien species management in protected areas, promote appropriate training to address this threat and enhance more effective management in protected areas; and

- e. strengthen support through the IUCN Secretariat and regional programmes to promote action and capacity building to address invasive alien species issues, especially through the protected areas, water, forests and drylands programmes;
3. CALLS ON the global scientific community worldwide to initiate and promote research on effective and novel methods to control invasive alien species, such as rapid taxonomic identification, improved border surveillance, biological control, chemical control, mechanical methods, as well as on restoration indicators, risk assessment and bio-economics, and social and cultural engagement; and
 4. CALLS ON funding agencies, including in the public and private sectors and civil society to:
 - a. provide greatly increased support to capacity building and public awareness of key issues, involvement of local communities, and the establishment of appropriate frameworks to enable early detection and management of new incursions, especially on islands and in developing countries;
 - b. support the Joint Work Programme to strengthen information services on invasive alien species, presented at SBSTTA 15 and aimed at contributing to achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9; and
 - c. support prevention, eradication and control campaigns, especially on islands and in key biodiversity areas, protected areas and ecosystems threatened by invasive alien species.

WCC-2012-Res-022-EN

Supporting regional initiatives to conserve mammal diversity in West and Central Africa

RECOGNIZING the mission of IUCN in promoting the conservation of biological diversity since its inception;

ALARMED at the increasing loss of forest and savannah habitats in West and Central Africa;

AWARE that large mammal populations in protected areas in West and Central Africa have declined by 85% between 1970 and 2005, a decline which appears overall greater than in Eastern and Southern Africa;

DISMAYED that the Western Black Rhinoceros (*Diceros bicornis longipes*) has recently been categorized as Extinct on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and that Miss Waldron's Red Colobus (*Procolobus badius waldroni*) has not been observed for over 25 years despite surveys;

ALARMED that large carnivores like the African Wild Dog (*Lycyaon pictus*), the Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*) and the Lion (*Panthera leo*) are now extirpated from many former range states in West and Central Africa, with evidence for only a few reproducing populations in the region;

AWARE ALSO that many other species, including Jentink's Duiker (*Cephalophus jentinki*) and Niger River Red Colobus (*Procolobus pennantii epieni*), are now severely threatened due to illegal killing and continuing loss of habitat;

CONCERNED that the illegal killing of African Elephants (*Loxodonta africana*) has become a widespread threat across the African continent more than ever, with the highest level in West and Central Africa as evidenced by the recent massacre of hundreds of elephants in Bouba Ndjida National Park in Cameroon and the confirmed population crash in Northern Central African Republic;

FURTHER AWARE that the decline of the mammalian prey base is having a detrimental impact on other species and being implicated as one of the drivers of the severe declines observed in large vultures in West and Central Africa, with some species having declined by 98% in the region;

NOTING studies that have revealed that populations of a number of large mammal species occurring in the region, including Lion, Roan Antelope (*Hippotragus equinus*) and Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*), are genetically distinct from those occurring elsewhere in Africa, making this region very important for conserving the maximum diversity present within a species;

RECALLING that most countries in the region have adopted the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and

the Aichi Targets, including Target 12, which requires that “By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained”; and

WELCOMING the existing initiatives for a Central African Elephant Conservation Strategy and the programme for Monitoring Illegal Killing of Elephants (MIKE), the Conservation Plan for the Pygmy Hippopotamus, the Regional Great Ape Action Plan, the Regional Conservation Strategy for Chimpanzees in West Africa, the Regional Action Plan for Antelopes in West and Central Africa, and recent initiatives for the development of Regional Conservation Strategies for large carnivores and their prey, including the Regional Conservation Strategy for Lions in West and Central Africa, the Regional Conservation Strategy for Cheetah and Wild Dog for North, West and Central Africa, the Central Africa Wildlife Trade Law Enforcement Action Plan recently approved by the COMIFAC Council of Ministers, and the launching of the Large Carnivore Initiative in West and Central Africa in 2011 with the involvement of several IUCN Members and IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Specialist Groups;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. APPLAUDS the establishment of regional conservation initiatives in West and Central Africa, as mentioned above;
2. CALLS UPON all IUCN Members worldwide to support these initiatives;
3. CALLS UPON range States in the region to develop national action plans for Lion, Cheetah and African Wild Dog and their prey as part of a strategy for long-term conservation and to invest in implementation of these national action plans;
4. CALLS UPON all stakeholders to encourage and launch new initiatives in West and Central Africa for halting and reversing the declining trends of mammals, and biodiversity in general, in the region; and
5. REQUESTS the Director General, SSC and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), to provide policy support to these new initiatives and to

bring them to the attention of range States and international donors, like the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the African Development Bank, the World Bank and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

WCC-2012-Res-023-EN
Support for national and regional initiatives for the conservation of large mammals in the Sahara

RECOGNIZING IUCN’s mission, since its creation, to promote the conservation of biodiversity;

AWARE that desert ecosystems and their biodiversity are particularly vulnerable to natural and anthropogenic climate change;

RECOGNIZING that the Sahara is very rich in biodiversity, which is often underestimated and is potentially important in the provision of ecosystem services and genetic resources;

RECOGNIZING that the populations of large mammals have declined dramatically in desert ecosystems, and in the Sahara in particular;

ALARMED that all eight species of Saharan ungulates as well as their subspecies are either threatened with extinction or already extinct, the Bubal Hartebeest (*Alcelaphus buselaphus buselaphus*) is classified as Extinct, the Scimitar-horned Oryx (*Oryx dammah*) is Extinct in the Wild and six others are classified as Endangered or Critically Endangered;

RECOGNIZING that the African Lion (*Panthera leo* spp. *leo*) and the African Wild Dog (*Lycan pictus*) have been exterminated from the Sahara and that the Northwest African cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus hecki*) is classified as Critically Endangered;

AWARE that three of the large mammal species living in the desert require vast ranges in order to survive;

NOTING that desert ecosystems have attracted very little interest or support from the global conservation community, despite covering over 17% of the world’s biomass and containing a high level of biodiversity, including 25% of the world’s terrestrial vertebrates;

ALARMED at the lack of attention paid by the world, including donors, to large desert mammals, despite their current status, the continuous degradation of their habitat (complicated by climate change), and the growing prevalence of extractive industries and armed conflict; and

WELCOMING the initiatives carried out by the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) / French Global Environment Facility (FGEF) “Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes” Project, by the Sahara Conservation Fund and by the Sahelo-Saharan Interest Group (SSIG) as well as the recent Regional Conservation Strategy initiative for the Cheetah and the African Wild Dog in Northern, Western and Central Africa carried out in 2012 by the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Cat and Canid Specialist Groups;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. WELCOMES the implementation of regional conservation strategies such as the Regional Conservation Strategy for the Cheetah and African Wild Dog in Northern, Western and Central Africa;
2. ALSO WELCOMES the new initiatives in Chad aimed at reintroducing the Scimitar-horned Oryx, the efforts made by Morocco and Tunisia to reintroduce the Scimitar-horned Oryx, the Addax (*Addax nasomaculatus*) and the Dama Gazelle (*Nanger dama*) and the work carried out by Niger that has led to the establishment of the Termit Tin Toumma National Nature Reserve covering 100,000 km² and aimed at protecting important Saharan species of flora and fauna, including the Addax, the Dama Gazelle and the Cheetah;
3. INVITES all IUCN Members around the world to support these initiatives and their local and regional implementation;
4. INVITES States in the region to support the development of red lists and the implementation of national action plans to conserve all the endangered mammals in the great Sahara Desert, within the framework of a long-term conservation strategy and to invest in the implementation of these national action plans;
5. CALLS ON States in the region to examine the possibilities of collaborating in the protection and restoration of populations of large mammals that inhabit the desert and roam over cross-border zones;
6. CALLS ON States within the geographic range, if necessary, in liaison with the private sector, to ensure that the development of the extractive industry is planned carefully in order to avoid any negative impact on threatened large animal species or their habitats;
7. URGES the Director General to provide political and technical support for these initiatives, in consultation with the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM);
8. CALLS ON IUCN, in collaboration with its Members, to work with States within the region to strengthen the current network of protected areas in the desert by focusing on the reinforcement of skills and on the identification and implementation of conservation tools and appropriate techniques; and
9. RECOMMENDS that the Director General brings the urgent need to conserve the large mammals of the Sahara Desert to the attention of States in the region as well as of international donors such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the African Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank (WB), the World Environment Fund (WEF) and the European Commission.

**WCC-2012-Res-024-EN
Enhancing anti-poaching and wildlife resource protection efforts, using rhino and elephant as indicators**

NOTING with concern the dramatic and unsustainable escalation of rhinoceros poaching in southern Africa and the continued elephant poaching in East Africa;

CONSIDERING these species as indicators of an escalation of illegal poaching of all species;

NOTING that Parties are obliged to ensure that wildlife resources are protected by sound legal and management strategies;

RECALLING Resolution 2.37 *Support for environmental defenders* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) that called upon the Director General to “speak out publicly and forcefully” when environmental advocates are threatened and “to discourage harassment or persecution of environmental advocates using all appropriate means”, and Recommendation 4.119 *Protection of rangers within and in areas adjacent to protected areas* “noting that Article 8 of the Convention on Biological Diversity regards Protected Areas as important ‘*in situ*’ conservation areas that conserve biological diversity and that Contracting Parties are required to ensure that these areas are protected by sound legal and management strategies”;

ACCEPTING the value of wildlife within protected areas (including private and community areas devoted to wildlife protection under natural conditions), which are of extreme importance for biodiversity conservation, tourism and the gross domestic product of tourist destinations;

UNDERSTANDING the term anti-poaching to refer to paramilitary defence and protection by rangers of protected areas and private land where environmental conservation is practiced;

CONCERNED that all wildlife resources face an escalating threat, as illustrated by the escalation of rhino and elephant poaching;

UNDERSTANDING that the threat to rhinoceros, elephants and other wildlife resources emanates from many quarters, stemming from criminally motivated armed poaching and commercial exploitation by international organized criminal syndicates;

RECOGNIZING the essential and significant contribution of rangers to protection, maintenance and defence of the integrity of protected areas and private and community wildlife areas and the wildlife resources therein, without which protection of the integrity and survival of such protected areas may become precarious and unpredictable;

ACKNOWLEDGING the fact that without adequate protection the continued status of wildlife resources would be seriously compromised;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the support of rangers and wildlife protection agencies can be improved, and many of the threats facing wildlife resources

prevented, reduced or eliminated by improved staffing and training, increased resources and support, and increased awareness; and

SERIOUSLY CONCERNED by these continuing threats, and the continued inadequate support for the function of protecting the integrity of wildlife resources, protected areas and biodiversity;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the Director General and the IUCN Commissions to encourage Member States, governments, civil society, and local and international NGOs and foundations to provide support for the initiative of improved wildlife resource protection by:
 - a. reviewing previous commitments to this issue and ensuring that they have been met;
 - b. ensuring that protected area managers, rangers and custodians of wildlife resources are afforded adequate funding, leadership, support, training and equipment, and appropriate remuneration to enable the professional execution of their protective functions;
 - c. adopting and promoting enforcement or enactment of legislation specifically providing for protection of all wildlife resources and enabling vigorous pursuit and prosecution of those contravening such legislation; and
 - d. adopting and promoting threat assessments to enable swift development and implementation of appropriate types and levels of protection; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions to:
 - a. encourage the adoption and enforcement of adequate legislation and operational capability to enable greater and more effective wildlife resource protection, and protection of rangers who are defending the integrity of the protected environments (including private and community wildlife areas) within which these resources occur;
 - b. encourage and provide support for Member States, governments and civil society, and local

and international NGOs and foundations, to enhance anti-poaching and wildlife resource protection efforts;

- c. promote adequate funding, leadership, training and equipment for custodians of wildlife resources, and appropriate remuneration to enable the professional execution of their protective functions; and
- d. report to the IUCN Council annually and to the next World Conservation Congress on the progress made under this initiative.

WCC-2012-Res-025-EN

Conservation of African Elephants

ACKNOWLEDGING that the African Elephant is a keystone species, providing a charismatic focal point for conservation action in Africa;

APPRECIATING that conservation efforts have resulted in population increases in some range States over the last two decades, while populations have decreased in other range States;

RECOGNIZING that African Elephants can provide significant benefits to national economies, as well as to local communities;

NOTING that the measures taken by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to bring the illegal trade in elephant products under control still require significant commitments from elephant range States, transit countries, and from all ivory-consuming States;

ALSO NOTING that a high-level meeting convened by the IUCN Secretariat and the African Elephant Specialist Group (AfESG) of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) working with the Secretariats of CITES and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), Interpol, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Bank, the Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN), the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment

Programme (UNEP) will take place before the 16th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the African Elephant range States adopted the *African Elephant Action Plan* that addresses actions to be taken to effectively conserve and manage elephants across their range in Africa;

APPRECIATING the establishment of the African Elephant Fund to support the implementation of the *African Elephant Action Plan*, and the contributions made by donors;

RECOGNIZING the serious and increasing levels of threat currently facing elephants, including illegal international and domestic trade in ivory, human elephant conflict, habitat loss and fragmentation, illegal killing for ivory and meat, lack of institutional and enforcement capacity and local overabundance;

CONCERNED that poaching pressure is now increasing across all sub-regions in Africa, as shown by the 2011 analysis of data from the MIKE (Monitoring of Illegal Killing of Elephants) programme and that large-scale poaching by organized criminals transnationally is rising steadily and is having serious impacts on elephant populations;

CONCERNED that illegal ivory trade is increasing, in particular, large-scale shipments of illegal ivory, as shown by the 2011 analysis of data from the Elephant Trade Information System (ETIS);

APPRECIATING the awareness-raising activities undertaken by range States, consumer States, international organizations, partnerships and non-governmental organizations concerning the illegal ivory trade;

CONCERNED that current levels of poaching may not be sustainable and could result in unacceptable losses of biodiversity, leading to elephant population declines and corresponding declines in economic opportunities for range States to benefit from their heritage;

CONCERNED that the loss of elephants from ecosystems has a negative impact on many other species; and

RECOGNIZING IUCN's role over many years in providing sound technical and scientific analyses as well as convening and supporting policy processes to facilitate dialogue on African Elephant conservation;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON all African Elephant range States to prioritize the protection and conservation of elephant populations and to ensure that appropriate incentives for conservation, adequate legislation and deterrent penalties are in place and implemented to achieve this goal; and calls on African Elephant range States to ensure that local communities reap benefits as well as bearing the costs of living with elephants;
2. CALLS ON all ivory-consuming States to ensure that adequate policy, legislation, law-enforcement and deterrent penalties are in place and implemented to control domestic ivory markets;
3. REQUESTS the Director General and the AfESG to work with the Secretariats of CITES and CMS, Interpol, UNODC, the World Bank, LATF, ASEAN-WEN, ICCWC, FAO, UNDP and UNEP to convene a high-level meeting as soon as possible, and in advance of the 16th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES if possible, but in any case no later than June 2013, with the aim of recommending urgent measures needed by African Elephant range States and consumer States to address the concerns relating to the conservation of the African Elephant, and to carry these recommendations forward to range States and consumer States, and to the Chair of the Standing Committee of CITES;
4. FURTHER REQUESTS TRAFFIC and the AfESG to work with the CITES Secretariat and the African Elephant Fund Steering Committee to present to the high-level meeting the latest results of research on the status of the African elephant and the ivory trade, in particular from the African and Asian Elephant Database, the two CITES elephant monitoring systems, MIKE and ETIS, and the status of implementation of the *African Elephant Action Plan*;
5. CALLS ON African Elephant range States, especially those with declining populations of elephants to prioritize the allocation of funds to address elephant conservation and management, with a specific focus on increasing levels of law enforcement;
6. FURTHER CALLS on the global community to contribute to the African Elephant Fund to support the implementation of the *African Elephant Action Plan*; and

7. REQUESTS the Director General to report back on progress to the next IUCN World Conservation Congress.

WCC-2012-Res-026-EN
International cooperation for waterbird monitoring to support sound management

RECOGNIZING Aichi Target 12 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* that aims to prevent extinction of known threatened species and to improve their conservation status;

NOTING that birds have been used to assess and monitor the environment throughout history and that birds are one of the best and, in some cases, the only indicators of environmental change;

RECOGNIZING that the status of waterbird populations is least favorable in Asia where about 60% of known populations are decreasing or extinct and only 10% are increasing, as well as in other parts of the world, including Africa and South America;

CONCERNED that basic threats – such as habitat fragmentation, loss of wetlands and transformation of natural landscapes – to migratory and resident waterbirds have been increasing;

RECOGNIZING that reliable and up-to-date data on waterbirds is necessary to inform improved management of wetlands to maintain and support ecosystem services provided by wetlands;

NOTING that the International Waterbird Census and related schemes could provide the best global basis for estimating population size and trends of waterbird populations, provided that the coverage of these schemes is improved;

RECOGNIZING the role of civil society, governments and other stakeholders in broad-scale environmental data collection and synthesis; and

ALSO RECOGNIZING that the goal of the IUCN Species Survival Commission's (SSC) Strategic Plan is a shared responsibility, resulting in action to reduce this loss of diversity within species, among species, and of ecosystems;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. ENCOURAGES the IUCN membership and others to ensure that waterbird populations worldwide are covered by international monitoring schemes that are appropriate both in their scope and methods to produce reliable international population size and trend estimates;
2. REQUESTS IUCN Members and others to provide a global platform to strengthen development and implementation of appropriate regional flyway schemes/structures to secure the necessary resources required to implement coordinated waterbird monitoring programmes;
3. SUPPORTS the enhancement of national and regional networks' capacities to undertake field monitoring of waterbirds on an on-going and long-term basis;
4. ENCOURAGES the strengthening of existing mechanisms for enhanced and timely reporting on the status of waterbird populations to support conservation measures, including management of wetlands;
5. ENCOURAGES IUCN Members to provide financial resources for waterbird monitoring and to participate in the monitoring programmes within their flyways;
6. INVITES relevant global and regional organizations including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), Ramsar Convention, the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership, Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds and Western Hemisphere Migratory Species Initiative to support strengthening of existing schemes within their flyways; and
7. REQUESTS the Director General, within available resources, to provide technical assistance to support national and regional activities, and to report on progress in this regard to the next IUCN World Conservation Congress.

**WCC-2012-Res-027-EN
Conservation of tropical Asia's
threatened species**

NOTING that tropical South and Southeast Asia covers less than 13% of the earth's land mass, yet contains a disproportionately high number of species at high risk of extinction; for some taxa, half or more of all globally threatened species fall within this region;

ALARMED that especially the largest species of many faunal taxa are experiencing dramatic population declines and losses; that all large deer and wild cattle, rhinoceroses, and tapir and Asian Elephants in Southeast Asia are globally threatened; that a high proportion of large birds such as cranes, bustards, eagles and hornbills in South and Southeast Asia are globally threatened; that 82% of the world's Critically Endangered tortoise and freshwater turtle species occur in South and Southeast Asia; and that wild populations of some such species total less than one hundred individuals;

CONCERNED that, in spite of notable conservation efforts by many governments and other agencies in the region leading to some local conservation success stories, the overall situation for species across the region continues to deteriorate rapidly;

NOTING that many of the threatened species, notably the large-bodied mammals, birds, reptiles and fish, are of great cultural and economic importance, and vital for their roles in maintaining ecosystem functions and services;

RECALLING that all of the countries in this region (with the exception of Timor-Leste) are Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and have adopted the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets, including Target 12: "The extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained";

AWARE that key drivers of the observed declines are the combination of loss of habitat, especially for large-scale industrial agriculture, and hunting for commercial trade as pets, for meat, and for traditional medicines; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED that unless actions are taken quickly to address these threats as they pertain to threatened species, many such species from many taxonomic

groups across the region face further dramatic declines, ranges losses and extinctions;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the Director General and IUCN Commissions, especially the Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), to provide technical and scientific support to governments and other agencies working in the region to address the threats to many species in South and Southeast Asia that are increasing the probability of their imminent extinction;
2. ENCOURAGES the governments of South and Southeast Asian countries to take all steps possible to prevent the extinctions in the wild of any threatened species within their jurisdictions;
3. URGES all governments to take all necessary measures to ensure that import of endangered species originating from South and Southeast Asia is legal and sustainable in accordance with CITES;
4. URGES multilateral, bilateral and private donors to expand their efforts to conserve in the wild the species in South and Southeast Asia at imminent risk of extinction, and thus necessarily the habitats critical to their survival; and
5. FURTHER requests the Director General and IUCN Commissions to report to the next IUCN World Conservation Congress on progress achieved.

**WCC-2012-Res-028-EN
Conservation of the East Asian-
Australasian Flyway and its threatened
waterbirds, with particular reference to
the Yellow Sea**

NOTING that the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (hereafter EAAF) supports more migratory waterbird species – and a higher proportion that are globally threatened – than any other flyway in the world especially the Yellow Sea region, which is of critical importance;

ALARMED that 24 waterbird species dependent on intertidal wetlands are listed as globally Threatened or Near Threatened on the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*,

including the Critically Endangered Spoon-billed Sandpiper (*Eurynorhynchus pygmeus*); the Endangered Red-crowned Crane (*Grus japonensis*) and the Black-faced Spoonbill (*Platalea minor*); and the Vulnerable Swan Goose (*Anser cygnoides*), the White-naped Crane (*Grus vipio*), the Hooded Crane (*Grus monacha*) and Saunders's Gull (*Larus saundersi*);

CONCERNED that the situation is deteriorating rapidly with an additional nine species under review for classification as Threatened or Near Threatened, apparently linked to the unprecedentedly rapid rate of conversion of intertidal wetlands to other forms of land use in the EAAF (faster than the rate of tropical forest loss), thus generating an urgent need for specific research and cooperation for the restoration and management of these habitats;

NOTING that the rate of loss of intertidal wetlands is particularly severe around the Yellow Sea (as much as 50% in the last 30 years) and is continuing in key areas across the flyway;

FURTHER NOTING that less than 5% of intertidal areas of most EAAF countries are Ramsar sites or protected areas;

ACKNOWLEDGING the ongoing efforts of INGOs such as BirdLife International, the International Crane Foundation, the World Wide Fund for Nature, and Wetlands International to conserve these endangered birds and their habitats in the region;

RECALLING previous commitments to intertidal wetland conservation made by Ramsar Convention Contracting Parties in Resolutions VII.21 and VIII.4 and in Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan 2009–2015;

NOTING the commitment of the Republic of Korea at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention in 2008 (paragraph 22, Ramsar Resolution X.22) that “intertidal mudflats should be preserved and that no large-scale reclamation projects are now being approved in the Republic of Korea”;

RECOGNIZING the activities of the EAAF Partnership, an endorsed regional initiative within the framework of the Ramsar Convention, which provides an international framework for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats;

AWARE that the decline in biodiversity along the EAAF is a clear indication of the decreasing availability of productive intertidal ecosystems and a warning of potential future ecological disasters, including irreversible impacts on fisheries, that could adversely affect human health and livelihoods, and undermine investments;

RECALLING that all countries along the EAAF are Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and have adopted the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets, of which Targets 5, 12 and 14 are particularly relevant;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that if urgent action is not taken to address the loss of intertidal wetlands, ability to meet the Aichi Targets will be seriously impaired; and

NOTING the independent report “IUCN situation analysis on East and Southeast Asian intertidal habitats, with particular reference to the Yellow Sea (including the Bohai Sea)” produced in August 2012 by the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) with the Asia Regional Office, as context for this motion;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, IUCN Commissions and Members to undertake an in-depth study that:
 - a. investigates the benefits of ecosystem services provided by intertidal wetlands, especially tidal flats and associated habitats, in East Asia with particular reference to the Yellow Sea, in relation to the benefits arising from the reclamation (land claim) or conversion of such habitats;
 - b. includes case studies focused on endangered birds and their habitats and develops habitat mapping as a tool and knowledge basis for selection, conservation and restoration of key sites for endangered birds;
 - c. provides a list of the key migratory waterbird sites and a network of experts to share experiences in the conservation and restoration of rice paddies, estuaries and intertidal wetlands as important habitats for endangered birds in the region; and

- d. evaluates the status of endangered birds and their habitats and suggests prioritized sites requiring urgent conservation and restoration;
2. ENCOURAGES governments along the EAAF to recognize the international importance of their intertidal wetlands for biodiversity and ecosystem services, halting further approval of intertidal mudflat reclamation (land claim) at priority sites for biodiversity, irrespective of protection status, until a full assessment of the economics of ecological services and identification of biodiversity needs can be completed;
 3. FURTHER ENCOURAGES governments along the EAAF, in view of the importance of cooperation between countries for achieving effective management, to develop international and national action plans by 2014 to secure the future of this fundamentally important resource, focusing on:
 - a. agreeing on the key sites for endangered birds that require urgent conservation and restoration, leading to the conservation, before 2020, of at least 10% of the intertidal zone as sustainably managed protected areas;
 - b. strengthening the Ramsar Convention (including encouraging ratification by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea) to highlight the importance of key sites and improve funding and capacity to manage them;
 - c. strengthening protected area legislation and management, including increasing flexibility regarding the integration and control of human activities, to ensure achievement of conservation objectives;
 - d. ensuring that enhanced coastal zone planning results in stability of the biodiversity of the intertidal zone by embracing the principles of sustainable development and specifically by fully considering the ecological services and dependent biodiversity of tidal flats and associated habitats in integrated planning that incorporates appropriate Strategic Environmental Assessment and Environmental Impact Assessment processes, including appropriate site selection that considers alternatives, design to reduce impacts, compensation for unavoidable residual damage, and monitoring to assess mitigation effectiveness and trigger adaptive management;

- e. restoring impounded internationally important intertidal wetlands through increasing tidal exchange to such sites;
 - f. strengthening levels of awareness, transparency and public participation as regards the importance, values and benefits of tidal flats and associated habitats;
 - g. improving understanding of bird conservation needs via increased population monitoring and research on migratory bird patterns and ecological requirements; and
 - h. using the EAAF Partnership, a Ramsar Regional Initiative, as a mechanism for implementing a clear strategy to guide investments, programmes and activities for strengthening habitat and species protection along the EAAF; and
4. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions (to the extent possible within available resources) to:
- a. provide assistance to governments along the EAAF, and particularly those around the Yellow Sea, to find sustainable means of managing intertidal wetlands that meet the needs of economic development and biodiversity conservation, and to provide support to the proposed or existing national and international action plans as required;
 - b. provide assistance to IUCN Members to provide technical advice, contribute to awareness raising, capacity building and management action; and
 - c. report to the next IUCN World Conservation Congress on progress achieved.

WCC-2012-Res-029-EN Combating the illegal or unsustainable capture, trade or killing of migratory birds in the Mediterranean

OBSERVING that the countries around the Mediterranean serve as important wintering, staging and breeding grounds for many species of the African-Eurasian flyway;

FURTHER OBSERVING that bird migrations are one of the most remarkable phenomena in nature and that

during their migrations birds are particularly vulnerable to changes, disturbances and dangers, such as hunting, which requires careful management and governance to ensure it is practiced sustainably;

BEARING IN MIND that over 40% of long-distance migrants in the African-Eurasian flyway have shown signs of decline over the last three decades and that governments therefore need to adopt urgent measures as this situation represents a serious threat to nature conservation and to ecosystem balance;

CONSIDERING that the protection and conservation of migratory birds is a shared responsibility of all countries of origin, destination and transit, both in the European Union (EU) and in the rest of the Mediterranean basin;

BEARING IN MIND the fact that millions of birds migrating between Europe and Africa are shot during the breeding season and on their migratory journey, or are captured and killed using massive and indiscriminate methods such as poison, nets, traps and glue, in many cases to justify the maintenance of old and popular traditions, and often for financial profit for individuals or organized crime generating illegal and untaxed benefits not related to basic survival needs;

CONSIDERING that some Mediterranean countries are covered by national legislation and European directives that should adequately protect migratory birds but that these countries do not make the necessary efforts to correctly implement and enforce this legislation, authorizing or tolerating methods that result in the death or captures of millions of migratory birds every year;

RECOGNIZING that some Mediterranean countries have adequate legislation to protect migratory birds and that this legislation is generally enforced, but that illegal killing or capture may still occur and that this should be eradicated;

CONSIDERING that other countries have extremely insufficient legislation with regard to the hunting of migratory birds or do not have the necessary means to enforce their legislation;

RECOGNIZING the efforts made by some countries to implement the EU Birds Directive through its transposition into State legislation and its enforcement;

ALARMED at the fact that large numbers of birds, particularly migratory birds, die every year in the countries of the Mediterranean basin because of this, and that many of them belong to species whose populations are in serious decline;

RECALLING that specific recommendations were made to governments and civil society in this regard at the European Conference on Illegal Killing of Birds, held in Larnaca (Cyprus) on 7 July 2011, at which it was noted that the solutions to these problems often require a special cultural sensitivity and full application of the law as a first, essential step in this process; and

FURTHER RECALLING the EU's responsibility for migratory bird conservation, being a Contracting Party to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention), as well as to the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and having adopted the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC) and the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES:

- a. the countries of the Mediterranean basin which have adequate legislation on hunting of migratory birds to ensure that this legislation is rigorously enforced;
- b. EU Member States in the Mediterranean basin to enforce their bird protection legislation and to rigorously apply the guidelines of the EU Birds Directive. Any use of derogations under Article 9 of this Directive should be very restricted and can only be allowed under certain strict conditions and if stringent controls and reporting can be ensured, with the aim of avoiding any misuse of the derogations permitted by Article 9;
- c. countries with insufficient legislation on migratory bird hunting, or which either do not have legislation or do not have the necessary means to enforce legislation, to devote the necessary effort to putting legislation in place that will guarantee the conservation of migratory birds on their territory;

- d. the countries of the Mediterranean basin to support the development and implementation, under the Convention on Migratory Species, of an Action Plan for the conservation of African-Eurasian migratory landbirds and their habitats throughout the flyway, for adoption at the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as called for by CMS Resolution 10.27, ensuring that a strong component of the Action Plan includes measures to address the unsustainable capture or killing of migratory landbirds in the Mediterranean; and
- e. the countries of the Mediterranean basin to support the development and implementation, under the Convention on Migratory Species, through an intersessional working group, of guidelines on minimizing poisoning of birds, for adoption at the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as called for by CMS Resolution 10.26; and

2. REQUESTS the Director General to:

- a. promote and cooperate with efforts to eradicate illegal or unsustainable bird capture trade and killing in the Mediterranean basin, with the help of the IUCN Commissions;
- b. communicate this Resolution to all organizations mentioned therein;
- c. involve IUCN Members around the Mediterranean in cooperative efforts to eradicate the illegal or unsustainable capture, trade and killing of migratory birds; and
- d. ensure the engagement of appropriate IUCN expertise in the work of the CMS Working Group on Combating Poisoning.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-030-EN
The conservation of Asian horseshoe crabs

RECOGNIZING that of four species of horseshoe crabs found globally, three, namely *Tachypleus tridentatus*,

Tachypleus gigas and *Carcinoscorpius rotundicauda*, are restricted to Asia (hereinafter collectively “Asian horseshoe crabs”) and are facing similar threatening processes;

NOTING that range States include, but are not limited to, India, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, China and Japan, and that Asian horseshoe crabs have symbolic cultural value in parts of Asia;

RECOGNIZING that horseshoe crabs belong to a class of arthropods termed Merostomata, that are closely related to the pre-historic trilobites, and are accordingly of paleontological significance;

RECOGNIZING that Asian horseshoe crabs have biomedical significance and that their blood, especially of *T. tridentatus*, is employed in the pharmaceutical industry to produce the bacteria-detecting Tachypleus Amoebocyte Lysate (TAL);

NOTING that their habitats include seabeds, intertidal sandy beaches and mudflats, mangroves, river inlets and seagrass beds, and that these serve, *inter alia*, as dwelling zones, foraging grounds, breeding areas, hatcheries and nurseries;

RECOGNIZING, even as ecological studies are being undertaken, that they have an extremely important place in the marine food chain as scavengers and as predators and prey, and that their eggs and young could help sustain bird and marine species;

RECOGNIZING that the classification of all three species of Asian horseshoe crabs as “Data Deficient” on the *IUCN Red List* was published in 1996 and has been recognized as in need of updating, especially in the light of current knowledge;

WELCOMING the recent establishment of the Horseshoe Crab Specialist Group under the auspices of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), and ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts being made by conservationists and scientists to study their distribution patterns, ecological needs, reproductive behaviour, population status and their relationship with other species, throughout their range and threats facing them;

RECALLING especially Resolution 2.20 adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) on the *Conservation of marine biodiversity*;

CONCERNED that Asian horseshoe crab populations have been or may be decimated by:

- a. habitat destruction and degradation caused by land reclamation, coastal dredging and development, the construction of coastal fortifications that prevent beach expansion, shoreline modification, and the excavation and disturbance of seabeds;
- b. habitat disturbance and the impact of pollution on populations and habitats; and
- c. the exploitation, harvesting and trade in Asian horseshoe crabs, particularly, *T. tridentatus*, for the commercial production of TAL, and *T. tridentatus* and *T. gigas* for food, and losses resulting from fisheries’ by-catch;

CONCERNED that population declines may be accelerated by low population density, low genetic diversity, limited connectivity among populations, low survival rates of eggs and young and climate-change induced sea-level rise, such that restoration of viable populations may be challenging;

RECOGNIZING that their conservation can best be advanced by national and regional governments, non-governmental organizations, indigenous and community groups, educational, zoological and scientific bodies, and the private sector; and

RECOGNIZING that, given the various threats faced by Asian horseshoe crabs throughout their range, it is essential to apply the Precautionary Principle as set out in Principle 15 of the 1992 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* and noted in Resolution 3.075 *Applying the Precautionary Principle in environmental decision-making and management* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and to expedite all efforts to conserve them, even as research is being undertaken and data are being gathered to support their conservation;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. ENCOURAGES Members to conserve Asian horseshoe crabs as important biological resources essential for sustenance of broader ecosystems, as important natural and scientific resources needing sustainable management and as culturally symbolic species’;

2. ENCOURAGES Members to identify critical habitats that sustain them and recalling Decision VII/5 of the 7th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on National Frameworks of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas, to address, through appropriate integrated marine and coastal management approaches, all threats to their habitats, including all activities and incentive systems that support their destruction and unsustainable use and to formally protect these habitats;
3. RECALLING Resolution VII.21 of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on enhancing the conservation and wise use of intertidal wetlands, ENCOURAGES Members to identify, conserve and, where appropriate, designate as wetlands of international importance, intertidal wetlands, including mudflats, sandy beaches, mangroves and seagrass beds that sustain and support Asian horseshoe crab populations, and to propose them as “flagship species” for the conservation of such ecosystems;
4. ENCOURAGES Members to promote sustainable development in areas adjacent to Asian horseshoe crab habitats with a view to protecting those habitats, to discourage activities that could adversely affect the connectivity between different habitats or alter natural processes, such as tide-flows, and to rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems, and re-stock populations to promote the recovery of their numbers;
5. URGES Members to identify the threats faced by Asian horseshoe crabs in national and local jurisdictions, to support the use of legislative, regulatory and policy instruments and alternative mechanisms, including incentive systems, financing structures and management strategies, in addressing their conservation and to support the introduction of provisions relating to them and the efforts of enforcement agencies in protecting them;
6. ENCOURAGES Members to promote citizen science, community participation, education and greater awareness, as integral elements in the conservation of Asian horseshoe crabs and as prerequisites for the development of capacity and knowledge that will further such efforts;
7. URGES Members to encourage in all jurisdictions greater research and study into Asian horseshoe crabs and challenges to their conservation, and to support

and facilitate the efforts of the IUCN Horseshoe Crab Specialist Group; and

8. ENCOURAGES transboundary cooperation by States, non-governmental organizations and educational, scientific and zoological bodies to further their conservation.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-031-EN Precautionary tuna management through target and limit reference points and improved drifting Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) management

ALARMED that two tuna species were listed as Critically Endangered and Endangered in the 2011 *IUCN Red List* assessment: Southern Bluefin (*T. bunnus maccoyii*) were assessed as Critically Endangered, Atlantic Bluefin (*T. thynnus*) as Endangered;

CONCERNED that a third species was listed as Vulnerable: Bigeye (*T. obesus*);

RECOGNIZING that two further species were listed as Near Threatened: Yellowfin (*T. albacares*) and Albacore (*T. alalunga*) and two species as Least Concern: Skipjack (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) and Pacific Bluefin (*T. orientalis*);

CONCERNED that there are no formally approved harvest control rules for any of the tunas;

NOTING that the five tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) are responsible for the management of tuna species in an area that extends across 91%, or 325 million square miles, of the Earth's ocean surface;

NOTING ALSO that up to 60% of the 23 tuna stocks are more or less fully exploited, and up to 35% are over-exploited or depleted, according to *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2010* of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations;

ACKNOWLEDGING Article 6 of the United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of

the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UNFSA), the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission convention text, and the Antigua Convention of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, all of which call on States and members to apply the precautionary approach in order to protect living marine resources and preserve the marine environment;

RECOGNIZING that of the two types of precautionary reference points that should be used according to Annex II of the UNFSA, conservation, or limit, reference points set boundaries which are intended to constrain harvesting within safe biological limits within which stocks can produce maximum sustainable yield; that harvest control rules are needed to direct conservation action relative to the reference points; and that a specific harvest management plan is necessary to enumerate and organize the requirement for sustainable precautionary fishery management;

AWARE that approximately half of the global tuna catch comes from fisheries that employ Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs), but information on the exact number of FADs deployed and their locations is generally not shared with fisheries scientists and managers;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that the scale of drifting FAD deployment could alter the overall function of the ocean ecosystem and change the natural behaviour of marine species without proper precautionary management in place and that more research is needed;

CONCERNED about the impacts from the unconstrained use of FADs including, *inter alia*, large increases in fishing mortality of juvenile Yellowfin and Bigeye, differences in sizes and ages of target catch compared with free-school caught tuna, increased difficulty of properly assessing the status of individual tuna populations, and high rates of bycatch, including sharks, sea turtles and juvenile tuna; and

FURTHER WELCOMING recommendations from participants at the 2011 International Symposium on Tuna Fisheries and FADs, Tahiti, France, 28 November–2 December 2011;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS on tuna RFMOs to establish harvest control rules including target and limit reference points for managed tuna stocks as a step in implementing precautionary management and beginning to reverse the alarming decline in the status of some tuna stocks;
2. FURTHER CALLS on tuna RFMOs and governments to take steps to improve the traceability of tuna catch, and where appropriate consider the implementation of a catch documentation scheme through the use of electronic reporting, as well as to minimize illegal, unregulated and unreported tuna fishing;
3. URGES RFMOs to take the action below with regards to Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) management;
4. CALLS on IUCN State and government agency Members to take precautionary management actions, such as the implementation of target and limit reference points for tunas in waters under national jurisdiction, in a manner compatible with any measures taken by the relevant tuna RFMO;
5. URGES IUCN State and government agency Members with vessels fishing on drifting FADs to develop appropriate resolutions that establish FAD management plans, through and in conjunction with their respective RFMOs, that require Member States to submit FAD information that is standard across fleets and regions so that RFMO scientific committees have better information on the extent of their use, and potential ecosystem impacts associated with the uncontrolled proliferation of drifting FADs, including:
 - a. requiring vessels to report the number and status (i.e. retrieved or left in water) of deployed and fished drifting FADs per trip;
 - b. recording the use of supply vessels to aid in drifting FAD fisheries;
 - c. inventory and take measures to track all drifting FADs in their respective convention areas to understand the scope of use and enable effective regulation; and
 - d. undertaking research and scientific trials to determine how to reduce catch of non-target species when fishing on drifting FADs;

6. URGES members of tuna RFMOs to implement 100 per cent observer coverage on large purse seine vessels for compliance purposes with drifting FAD measures and provide data to RFMOs;
7. ALSO URGES IUCN, particularly Species Survival Commission (SSC) members and relevant Specialist Groups, to engage with RFMO scientific committees as a way of providing scientific advice and expertise; and
8. CALLS ON the Director General to promote and strive to achieve the actions described in paragraphs 1–7 above.

WCC-2012-Res-032-EN
Action to recover the Atlantic Bluefin Tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*) population in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean

CONSIDERING Resolution 4.028 *Action for the recovery of the East Atlantic and Mediterranean population of Atlantic Bluefin Tuna *Thunnus thynnus**, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) in which the Director General of IUCN was asked to urge the governments involved in the management of this species, through the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT), to curb the overfishing of this species through illegal catches both by the state and the private sectors;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES IUCN Members that are members of ICCAT to continue to engage in improving conservation and management measures for Atlantic Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea; and
2. CALLS ON the Director General to request that ICCAT, at its next annual meeting:
 - a. takes meaningful measures to address non-compliance with ICAAT recommendations for the conservation of Atlantic Bluefin Tuna, such as closing the fishery of ICCAT Contracting Parties that have not complied with the Capacity Reduction Plan

approved by ICCAT in 2009, and/or have not implemented the approved control measures, and to amend this Capacity Reduction Plan in accordance with recommendations made by the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) and taking into account the best available science reflecting total fishing mortality;

- b. applies sanctions, including the withdrawal of fishing rights, against ICCAT members whose flagged vessels are violating applicable management measures;
- c. considers the creation of sanctuaries at the ICAAT 2012 meeting in accordance with scientific advice of the SCRS; and
- d. considers options for improving implementation of ICCAT's Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) programme.

WCC-2012-Res-033-EN
Increasing the attention given to the conservation of fungi

NOTING that fungi are an independent biological kingdom separate from animals and plants;

AWARE that there is widespread agreement among scientists that there are probably far more fungal species than plant species;

EMPHASIZING that fungi play a key role as the recyclers of ecosystems and that without fungi, life, if it were to exist at all on this planet, would be very different;

NOTING that fungi occur in all parts of the world, in all major freshwater, terrestrial and marine ecosystems, and provide many of the checks and balances necessary for the healthy functioning of these ecosystems;

RECOGNIZING that fungi are enormously important in the provision of ecosystem services including:

- a. degrading plant debris and recycling the nutrients from plant decomposition;
- b. supplying key nutrients to plants (as mycorrhizal symbionts);

- c. acting as an important source of antibiotics, statins and other pharmaceuticals, as well as having other commercial and industrial applications; and
- d. being a much-valued human food source;

CONCERNED that the worldwide conservation movement gives fungi far less attention and priority than either animals or plants;

ALSO CONCERNED that only a handful of fungus species have so far been assessed for the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*;

STRONGLY BELIEVING that fungi are as threatened as animals and plants, as they have no special attributes which protect them from climate change, foraging, habitat destruction, persecution and pollution, and serious declines of certain groups of fungi have been linked to threatening processes such as nitrification; and

AWARE that as a first step in giving higher profile to the conservation of fungi, the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) has established five Specialist Groups to work on fungi during the 2009–2012 quadrennium;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON all of the component parts of IUCN, including Members, Commissions and the Secretariat, and the conservation movement more generally, to place much greater emphasis and priority on the conservation of fungi, and to recognize that fungi constitute a kingdom in their own right, and so the much-used phrase “animals and plants” is not a sufficient description of all life on Earth;
2. REQUESTS SSC, working with Members and partners as required, to greatly increase the number of fungal assessments for the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, focusing, among others, on:
 - a. species dependent on highly threatened places, habitats or associations, and so which are *a priori* likely to face high extinction risk;
 - b. species for which extinction risk data have already been compiled, e.g. the 3,117 North American taxa for which data are maintained by NatureServe;

- c. groups of fungi that are believed to be effective indicators of the impacts of major threatening processes such as nitrification;
- d. well-known, charismatic fungi, including those of high value as food for humans; and
- e. statistically representative samples of some of the better known fungal groups; and

3. CALLS ON all governments to give greater priority to mycology, including mycological taxonomy and the discovery and description of currently unknown species, and to underline the importance of building greater capacity in the science of mycology worldwide as an essential basis for future conservation measures.

WCC-2012-Res-034-EN **Strengthening training and capacities for botanical gardens and arboreta staff for the *Global Strategy of Plant Conservation (GSPC) 2020 in East Asia***

ACKNOWLEDGING that the East Asian region represents almost all biogeographical regions of subtropical and temperate, as well as cold temperate forests, including species diversity and habitat heterogeneity;

EXPRESSING CONCERN that in East Asia species and their habitats are dramatically degraded by high population density and rapid economic growth, and that overall public awareness of plant diversity conservation needs to be improved;

WELCOMING Decision X/17 of the 10th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on adopting the consolidated update of the *Global Strategy of Plant Conservation (GSPC)* including the outcome-oriented global targets for 2011–2020 as a flexible framework within which national and/or regional targets may be developed, according to national priorities and capacities;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the GSPC is a vital tool to work together to halt the degradation trends of plant diversity in the region, by networking regionally and supporting national efforts in managing species and habitats in the respective countries;

AWARE that the loss of plant diversity, including habitat and genetic diversity, directly affects human well-being in

the region, as well as cultural diversity which is among the oldest cultural heritage in the world;

RECOGNIZING the important contribution to GSPC implementation made by the East Asia Botanic Garden Network;

WELCOMING the active effort to review the implementation status of the GSPC in Asia by publication of the *Asian Plant Conservation Report 2010*;

RECALLING that overall progress at the 3rd Meeting of the East Asian Botanic Gardens Network in October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan emphasized the establishment of a network to prepare the candidate species list of the region, working together for the assessment of red-listing beyond political barriers; and

EMPHASIZING the need to widen the scope of activities of the botanic gardens and arboreta in implementation of the targets of GSPC 2011–2020;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), Botanic Gardens Conservation International, and regional plant conservation bodies to undertake activities for plant conservation in East Asia that include, but are not limited to:
 - a. supporting the East Asia Botanic Gardens Network in its plant conservation work towards achieving the GSPC targets in countries of the region;
 - b. facilitating government-NGO collaboration towards the achievement of GSPC;
 - c. building capacity of both government and non-government organizations to implement the GSPC at regional, sub-regional and country scale; and
 - d. supporting further collection and collation of information on ethnobotanical and sustainable use of plant resources in relation to cultural diversity;
2. CALLS ON the umbrella structure under the East Asia Botanic Gardens Network to facilitate the GSPC 2020 targets in the region by:
 - a. supporting collaborative research on the conservation of species which are commonly endangered in the region;

- b. promoting staff exchanges on a long-term and short-term basis;

- c. implementing selected targets through botanical gardens and arboreta and showcasing their own achievable GSPC targets;

- d. facilitating collaboration with relevant institutes outside botanic gardens to achieve GSPC targets IV, V, VI and X;

- e. implementing periodic assessments of GSPC targets in countries within the region; and

- f. supporting the assessment of capacity-building needs for plant conservation in the region; and

3. URGES all countries in the region to develop the East Asia Regional Strategy for Plant Conservation under the GSPC.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-035-EN Facilitating conservation through the establishment of protected areas as a basis for achieving Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020

RECOGNIZING the significance of the 20 Aichi Targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, and the renewed commitment embodied in Target 11: “By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes”;

ACKNOWLEDGING the invitation by the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to international organizations, including IUCN, to provide scientific information and to assist Parties to implement the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* and in particular, to

develop national and regional targets, and to monitor progress towards the achievement of the Aichi Targets including Target 11;

RECOGNIZING IUCN's responsibility to maintain the World Database on Protected Areas through its partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), and IUCN's leadership role in setting conservation standards for determining sites of global biodiversity conservation significance to guide national gap analysis, protected area management categories, governance types and management effectiveness assessments;

AWARE also that Target 11 can only be met by including protected areas governed by government agencies, those under shared governance arrangements; areas in private ownership, and territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities, and by recognizing and supporting them in national and sectoral development, natural resource management programmes and through cooperation at all levels in an integrated manner including national, regional and international cooperation;

RECOGNIZING that effectively managed protected areas, when linked to critical migration corridors, can serve to anchor the conservation goals and biodiversity integrity of larger landscapes counted towards Target 11 goals;

CONSCIOUS that the expansion of protected area systems should only be pursued with full and effective participation of affected stakeholders, in full respect of their rights and cultural values, and in recognition of their responsibilities, cognizant of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; and

AWARE, however, that there is a need to interpret the implications of Target 11 at national and regional scales to enhance action and accountability and to clarify terms and measures, including the use of the term "other effective area-based conservation measures";

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership to analyze the extent to which existing protected area systems meet Target 11 at global, regional and national scales, and make this analysis available to Parties to the CBD for consideration in their planning and reporting;
2. RECOMMENDS that national governments acknowledge the IUCN definition of a protected area¹, including the full range of protected area management categories and governance types as a primary basis for the inclusion of protected areas to contribute towards meeting Target 11; and
3. REQUESTS the IUCN Commissions, IUCN Members, UNEP-WCMC, the ICCA Consortium and other organizations to collaborate in support of CBD Decision X/2 to:
 - a. review and where appropriate develop additional technical guidance for national governments to contribute towards meeting Target 11, focusing on aspects related to: "areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services", "effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas" and "integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes";
 - b. develop criteria for what constitutes "effective area-based conservation measures", including for, *inter alia*, Private Protected Areas, Indigenous Peoples' Conserved Territories and Areas Conserved by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (ICCAs), and Sacred Natural Sites (SNS);
 - c. draw upon existing social safeguard policies to propose guidance and tools that support the effective participation of indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders regarding governance and management in systems of protected areas, and the recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples with regard to their territories, property or resources and the application of the principle of free, prior and informed consent;

¹ A protected area is defined by IUCN as a "clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values". Dudley, N. (Editor) (2008). *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. x + 86pp. <http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/PAPS-016.pdf>

- d. develop guidance, disseminate information and provide assistance regarding the legal tools and mechanisms and decision-support systems for achieving the integration of protected area systems into land-use and marine spatial plans, and sectoral development plans;
 - e. promote guidance and training to expand regular assessment of management effectiveness to all protected areas and develop and implement a system for the voluntary appraisal of protected area management effectiveness and governance quality that will illuminate and communicate innovative and effective approaches to protected area management and governance (e.g. the IUCN Green List of Well-Governed and Well-Managed Protected Areas); and
 - f. further update, refine and develop the key datasets to support publication of regular editions of the Protected Planet Report that will monitor progress towards the achievement of Target 11 at global, regional and national scales.
- a. the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) in facilitating measurement of species extinction risk through the 2001 *IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria* and publication of the data through the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*; and
 - b. the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) in facilitating documentation of protected area management objectives through the *Guidelines for applying protected area management categories* and publication of data, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), through the World Database on Protected Areas, and further to Decision IX/18 of the Conference of the Parties (COP) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-036-EN Biodiversity, protected areas and Key Biodiversity Areas

DISMAYED that the destruction and conversion of natural habitats continues to be the primary driver of biodiversity loss;

UNDERSTANDING therefore that the primary conservation response must be to safeguard places of biodiversity conservation significance within protected areas;

CELEBRATING that protected areas of all classes and governance types have long been successful as the cornerstone of biodiversity conservation action;

RECOGNIZING IUCN's leadership role in guiding such responses through the establishment of conservation standards and maintenance of data systems that allow publication by the global conservation community of data meeting these standards, and specifically the roles of:

WELCOMING the efforts of the WCPA/SSC Joint Task Force on Biodiversity and Protected Areas, in collaboration with IUCN Members including WWF and the Zoological Society of London, partner organizations such as UNEP-WCMC, the University of Copenhagen, and the University of Queensland, and many others, to better understand how biodiversity is changing inside protected areas, determine the linkages between these biodiversity trends and protected area management, compare this with changes outside protected areas, and thereby inform adaptive management and policy decisions for conservation success;

FURTHER WELCOMING the efforts of the same WCPA/SSC Joint Task Force in consolidating standards for the identification of Key Biodiversity Areas as sites of global biodiversity conservation significance in fulfilment of Resolution 3.013 *The uses of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), providing an umbrella for existing efforts from numerous IUCN Member institutions, and supporting, *inter alia*, Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, Programme Element 1 of the CBD's *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* and Target 5 of its *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation*, as well as the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, the HCV Resource Network, the Alliance for Zero Extinction, and regional intergovernmental organizations such as the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity; and

CONCERNED, however, that the conservation community has as yet no system into which to publish either data on population trends of species inside and outside protected areas, the effectiveness of reserve management at delivering positive biodiversity outcomes, or the global significance and protected area coverage of important areas for biodiversity;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), and the Director General to:
 - a. support the development of a data system for collection and publication of data linking biodiversity and protected areas, specifically:
 - i. standards for data quality and quantity;
 - ii. trends in the distribution and abundance of species inside and outside protected areas, and the linkage between species trends and protected area management inputs; and
 - iii. documentation of the global significance and protected area coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas;
 - b. implement such data system development in ways which build from, strengthen, and collaborate with, not duplicate, complementary initiatives such as the:
 - i. Living Planet Index;
 - ii. Tropical Ecosystem Assessment and Monitoring programme;
 - iii. World Biodiversity Database;
 - iv. Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool; and
 - v. Global Biodiversity Information Facility; and
 - c. undertake such data system development in ways which draw from and link to the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* (and related systems such as the Global Invasive Species Database), the World Database on Protected Areas, including the associated management effectiveness data and emerging Green List of Protected Areas, and, at such a time as it becomes operational, the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems;
2. ENCOURAGES national IUCN Member institutions and other national conservation institutions in the public sector, civil society and academia to:
 - a. utilize the standards established through the scientific stakeholder consultation process established by the WCPA/SSC Joint Task Force on Biodiversity and Protected Areas in guiding their efforts in monitoring species populations inside and outside protected areas, assessing the linkages between protected area management and biodiversity outcomes, and documenting the global significance and protected area coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas within their jurisdictions;
 - b. collect, manage and publish biodiversity and protected area data not only in nationally specific systems but also in data systems to be developed for this purpose at the global scale by IUCN and others, with those institutions responsible for data collection retaining the ownership of, and rights to, these data in accordance with the Principles of the Conservation Commons; and
 - c. ensure that these data are readily available and accessible in support of decision making at all jurisdictional levels;
3. REQUESTS the Director General to mobilize the IUCN Regional Offices and global programme in support of these national efforts to collect, compile and publish data following global standards on biodiversity and protected areas; and
4. INVITES the scientific bodies of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements to recognize the value of these standards for monitoring species populations inside and outside protected areas, and for documenting the global significance and conservation coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas, in support of their respective processes, and to utilize the data maintained and published through the IUCN data systems accordingly, further to Decision X/20 of the CBD's Conference of the Parties.

WCC-2012-Res-037-EN

The importance of nature conservation criteria in land-use planning policies

ASSUMING that it has not been possible to curb the global processes of habitat degradation and biodiversity loss worldwide through conservation strategies and programmes aimed at biodiversity conservation, and that there is a consensus on the need to revise the models and principles currently in force with regard to biodiversity conservation;

RECOGNIZING the importance of ecosystem services for the general well-being of society, and in particular the role played by ecosystems in carbon sequestration, the regulation of the water cycle, the supply of water, materials and food, as well as many other ecological services and processes;

NOTING that the land-use matrix is a physical medium, which guarantees the supply of ecosystem services, and that actions with very variable objectives are projected onto this matrix, subject to the resolutions established by land-use planning policies;

HIGHLIGHTING the importance of natural and semi-natural areas in the configuration and ecological quality of the land-use matrix, as elements of connectivity, irrespective of the level of legal protection;

CONSIDERING that land-use planning is a key policy, which allows for the design of appropriate strategies, capable of reconciling the conservation of the ecological quality of the land-use matrix with the introduction of the structures and activities required for socio-economic development; and

RECALLING relevant documents on this subject, such as: Resolution 4.062 *Enhancing ecological networks and connectivity conservation areas*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008); the core area of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016 on Valuing and conserving biodiversity*, and more specifically the global result 1.2 Policies in support of biodiversity conservation; goal 1.2 of the Convention on Biological Diversity's *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*, to integrate protected areas into broader land- and seascapes and sectors so as to maintain ecological structure and function; the European Union's green infrastructure initiative, as part of its post-2010 biodiversity policy, which aims to incorporate biodiversity fully into EU policies; and Strategic Goal A

of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, to “Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON States, sub-national governments and local Member organizations with powers in the domain of land-use planning, to plan and manage land bearing in mind both natural and semi-natural components, and the ecological processes that take place in them, because their conservation and restoration has a direct impact on human societies and their quality of life;
2. CALLS ON States, sub-national governments and local Member organizations to incorporate natural heritage conservation criteria into all sectoral policies, which, in addition to land-use planning, are related to land use and management;
3. PROPOSES that States, sub-national governments and local Member organizations with powers in the area of land-use planning establish a land-use model in which human settlements, transport and energy infrastructure, farming, cattle-raising, forestry, fishing and mining activities and all other economic activities are developed in harmony with the conservation of biodiversity and the natural heritage;
4. RECOMMENDS that this land-use model be defined using land-use planning tools and other land-use planning techniques, which include the definition of a representative system to protect natural values, including protected areas, and that guarantees the ecological permeability of the land-use matrix and allows for the development of ecosystem services; and
5. URGES the Director General to:
 - a. highlight in the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, and within the medium-term priorities regarding the strengthening of policies and governance, the importance of land-use planning as a key policy for establishing conservation criteria applicable to the entire land-use matrix;
 - b. disseminate the value of green infrastructure and the land-use matrix as a basis for environmental, cultural and socioeconomic heritage elements;

- c. develop guidelines regarding the promotion of green infrastructure through land-use planning; and
- d. support existing initiatives, such as the *European Green Infrastructure*, whose objectives coincide with the objective of this motion.

WCC-2012-Res-038-EN

The Sydney VIth IUCN World Parks Congress 2014

RECALLING that the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, entitled “Benefits Beyond Boundaries” was hosted by South Africa in 2003, and led to recommendations and outputs that made a significant impact on protected area management globally, through, amongst others, Decision VII/28 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) regarding the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*;

NOTING that the Government of Australia and the State of New South Wales has offered to host the VIth IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia in November 2014;

NOTING the excellent work already done by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the World Protected Areas Leadership Forum in preparation for the VIth IUCN World Parks Congress;

NOTING the Jeju Declaration on National Parks and Protected Areas adopted at the National Parks CEO Forum held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, on 8 September 2012;

NOTING also the preparatory work that is being undertaken by the Government of Japan towards the Asia Parks Congress to be held in 2013, whose outputs will feed into the VIth IUCN World Parks Congress;

NOTING also the preparatory work that is being undertaken by the WILD Foundation in partnership with the Government of Spain for WILD10, the 10th World Wilderness Congress, in Salamanca, Spain in October, 2013, whose outputs will also link with the VIth IUCN World Parks Congress;

ACKNOWLEDGING the support already given to IUCN in preparation of the VIth IUCN World Parks

Congress by Parks Australia; Parks Victoria, Australia; the Parks and Wildlife Service of Queensland, Australia; the US National Park Service; Parks Canada and Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia;

NOTING the Union’s orientation towards producing measurable progress in each of the three Programme Areas described in the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, all of which reference the role and function of protected areas in achieving knowledge products, results on the ground and policy influence;

ALSO NOTING that the VIth IUCN World Parks Congress will review the global status of protected areas and the achievement of Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, assess the critical issues facing them, and map out directions for both the remaining period of the *Strategic Plan*, and for the review of the Millennium Development Goals (Goal 7) for the next decade and beyond; and

FURTHER NOTING that it is expected that the VIth IUCN World Parks Congress will focus on the central role of protected areas in valuing and conserving nature; effective and equitable governance of nature’s use; and deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges; all core programmatic elements of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* that will also support the global community in meeting the Aichi Targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the *CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas*;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. AGREES that the VIth IUCN World Parks Congress to be held in Sydney, Australia should be a prominent feature of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*;
2. INVITES all within the IUCN family to participate actively in the Congress;
3. URGES IUCN Members and donors to give all possible financial, technical and intellectual support to ensure the success of the VIth IUCN World Parks Congress, in particular to the Secretariat and WCPA in preparing for the event, through assistance to developing country participants, and in the preparation and dissemination of Congress outputs; and
4. CALLS on the Director General to mobilize all parts of the Secretariat to work in support of the VIth IUCN World Parks Congress.

WCC-2012-Res-039-EN **Healthy parks healthy people**

RECOGNIZING that there is much evidence to demonstrate the integral link of nature with human health and well-being;

NOTING that IUCN has often endorsed and promoted the significance of this symbiotic relationship either overtly or implicitly, but it has yet to formally adopt the need for related action;

ALSO NOTING that the April 2009 edition of IUCN's publication *World Conservation* was devoted to 'human health and the environment';

UNDERSTANDING that the modern world is facing a challenging future, in which non-communicable diseases (NCD) are the leading cause of death, more and more health risks are linked to lack of physical activity and poor diet and where the global urban population now exceeds the global rural population;

CONSIDERING the following statement of the World Health Organization (WHO), "Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity";

UNDERSTANDING that there is a direct relationship between physical activity and risk reduction for coronary heart disease, stroke and diabetes and there is a dose-response relationship for cardiovascular disease and diabetes with risk reductions routinely occurring at levels of 150 minutes of activity per week;

RECOGNIZING that the *Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health* endorsed by the World Health Assembly in 2004, and the *Action Plan for the Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2008–2013* urge Member States to implement programmes and actions to increase levels of physical activity among their populations;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the "Health benefits of contact with nature" report commissioned by Parks Victoria (Australia) and produced by Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia (originally 2002, revised 2008) – the first comprehensive worldwide literature review to identify the evidence for the many benefits (both mental and physical) that nature can provide to individuals and communities – has been highly acclaimed internationally;

NOTING that the much acclaimed World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) publication *Arguments for Protection – Vital Sites – The contribution of protected areas to human health* supported by WHO and the World Bank identifies many of the benefits that can be realized;

AWARE that the National Trust (United Kingdom) recently released a report "Natural Childhood" which highlights the need to accommodate contact with nature into children's development;

RECALLING that at the last IUCN World Conservation Congress in 2008 the significance of the relationship between nature and public health was recognized as one of the (three) Thematic Streams: "Healthy environments – healthy people";

MINDFUL that in planning discussions for the VIth World Parks Congress (Australia, 2014), it is evident that the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme views the significance of the synergistic relationship between biodiversity and human health as a vital component of that event's programme, one which will contribute to greater recognition of the value of nature;

HIGHLIGHTING that the US National Park Service, recognizing the value and importance to its responsibilities, has adopted a "Healthy Parks Healthy People" approach as a major strategic direction and in November 2011 announced its "Healthy Parks Healthy People" US Strategic Action Plan, intended as a blueprint for illuminating and magnifying the power of the National Park System to promote health and well-being;

NOTING that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* is overt in its acknowledgement that biodiversity, conservation and ecosystem management can support human well-being; and

EMPHASIZING that in April 2010 the inaugural International "Healthy Parks Healthy People" Congress, staged by Parks Victoria in Melbourne, Australia attracted 1200 delegates representing a variety of related disciplines from 37 countries, and resulted in the Melbourne Communiqué which forms the basis of the present motion;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. WELCOMES IUCN's progressive recognition to date of the benefits of enhancing healthy ecosystems and human health and well-being synergistically;

2. Recommends that IUCN and IUCN Members adopt the “Healthy Parks Healthy People” philosophy and commit to a further understanding and strengthening of the connection between nature and people, recognizing that success depends on interdisciplinary collaboration and alliances;
3. RECOMMENDS that IUCN and IUCN Members work in close cooperation with WHO, and other global bodies, to strive for a healthy planet and healthy humanity, and continue to promote, facilitate and advance the health and vitality of the world’s parks and communities;
4. RECOMMENDS that IUCN and IUCN Members undertake, collaboratively with key global bodies, research and analysis to better develop compelling rationale for this approach to national, sub-national and sectoral policies;
5. RECOMMENDS that IUCN and IUCN Members implement initiatives that deliver both human health and biodiversity outcomes, to promote them globally, and to forge partnerships and alliances with the health and medical care community to raise recognition of parks and protected areas as a healing tool and a vital source of health and well-being; and
6. CALLS UPON all constituencies of IUCN and their partners and stakeholders to adopt the “Healthy Parks Healthy People” philosophy.

WCC-2012-Res-040-EN

Endorsement and uniform application of protected area management guidelines

RECALLING Recommendation V.19.5 of the Vth World Parks Congress that “IUCN, working in collaboration with partner organizations, urgently produce, through an open, participatory process, a revised, up-dated edition of the 1994 guidelines” on protected area management categories;

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 3.048 *IUCN Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), requesting as a priority, a review and updating of the 1994 *IUCN Guidelines on Protected Area Management Categories*;

FURTHER RECALLING the existence of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Task Force on Management Categories formed to respond to Resolution 3.048;

AWARE that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at its Seventh Ordinary Meeting, 9–20 February 2004, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, formally recognized “the value of a single international classification system for protected areas and the benefit of providing information that is comparable across countries and regions” (Decision VII/28);

RECALLING the IUCN WCPA Almeria Summit in 2008, where over a hundred protected area experts from 60 countries reached a strong consensus on revisions to the IUCN definition of protected area and guidance on the protected area management categories;

ALSO RECALLING the 2008 IUCN publication *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories* produced in response to Resolution 3.048 mentioned above;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 4.035 *Strengthening IUCN’s work on protected areas* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

REFERENCING Recommendation 4.123 *Promotion of Category V and VI Protected Areas for biodiversity conservation* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) which recognized the work of the IUCN WCPA Task Force on Management Categories and the 2008 IUCN publication *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories* and called for use of the full range of protected area management categories; and

RECALLING the publication in 2011 of the IUCN *Guidelines for Protected Areas Legislation* and its key principles for the use of the IUCN categories in law and policy;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN membership to endorse the 2008 *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories*;
2. URGES governments to adopt and apply the 2008 *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories*; and

3. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that the *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories* be applied consistently across IUCN's One Programme.

WCC-2012-Res-041-EN

Development of objective criteria for a Green List of species, ecosystems and protected areas

CONCERNED that biodiversity loss has accelerated since the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was adopted in 1993, and that the species and ecosystems being lost, and the protected areas being degraded, are valuable in their own right as well as critical to human well-being;

NOTING that the extinction of species and the diminution of their populations both contribute to biodiversity loss, and that this loss leads to degradation of natural ecosystems and to a decline in the provision of ecosystem services;

ACKNOWLEDGING the invaluable role played by the *IUCN Red Lists* in assessing the extinction risk of species and risk of collapse of ecosystems, and of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) in promoting the good management of protected area systems globally;

EMPHASIZING that a focus on avoiding and reversing declines in biodiversity loss is critical but insufficient, and therefore must be complemented by a strategy for recovering species and ecosystems, and promoting good management of natural systems, including through the establishment of effectively managed protected area systems, to ensure their conservation;

RECOGNIZING that a successfully conserved species is self-sustaining demographically and ecologically, genetically robust, healthy, has populations distributed across the historical range in ecologically representative settings, including within representative systems of protected areas, and, in the case of widely distributed species, has replicate populations within each ecological setting, in order to enhance resilience across its range;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that conservation success depends on the restoration of threatened species and

ecosystems, and the maintenance and sound protection of fully-functioning populations, species and ecosystems, including through representative and effectively managed systems of protected areas as insurance against existing and future risks including climate change;

CELEBRATING that conservation actions over the last four decades, including progress towards the establishment of effective systems of terrestrial and marine protected areas, have successfully reduced the slide of countless species towards extinction relative to their projected status in the absence of such actions;

ALSO CELEBRATING that national governments and many other organizations have made significant efforts to expand existing systems of protected areas to address representativeness and persistence of *in situ* biodiversity, and to improve management effectiveness and positive outcomes for biodiversity conservation in accordance with the IUCN *Durban Action Plan* and the CBD's *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that local, national and international conservation decisions, and funding for them, frequently consider the *IUCN Red List* status and the degree of protection within protected areas when determining priorities;

RECOGNIZING that WCPA is well advanced in developing an IUCN Green List of Well-Managed Protected Areas based on objective standards to recognize success in the effective management and equitable governance of protected areas in accordance with Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*;

NOTING that an agreed set of conservation standards is needed not only to measure extinction or risk of collapse (i.e. *IUCN Red List* Categories and Criteria), but also to systematically classify conservation and management success of species and ecosystems, thus recognizing and incentivizing conservation action and complementing the *IUCN Red List* with objectively defined "Green Lists" at the levels of species and ecosystems;

FURTHER NOTING that such sets of standards across protected areas, species and ecosystems would reward, and also encourage investment in programmes and policies that enhance and measure conservation success and management effectiveness; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that, in principle, Green List criteria could be applied to any relevant unit and scale,

including species, ecosystems, and protected areas and sites, landscapes and seascapes of importance for biodiversity;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), and WCPA, whose expert networks support and provide scientific guidance and information on species, ecosystem and protected area conservation respectively, to conduct international scientific consultations to develop objective, transparent and repeatable criteria for Green Lists that systematically assess successful conservation of species and ecosystems, including in protected areas;
2. REQUESTS SSC, CEM and WCPA to explore synergies with the criteria being developed for the Green List of Well-Managed Protected Areas, possibly with a view to developing a consistent approach to the Green List Criteria across IUCN;
3. REQUESTS the Director General to provide support to these efforts;
4. REQUESTS SSC, CEM and WCPA to report to the next IUCN World Conservation Congress on progress achieved; and
5. URGES countries to work with relevant IUCN constituencies to develop and implement Green Lists, and to monitor both risk and success in order to provide a complete picture of the status of species and ecosystems, and assess the management status and effectiveness of protected areas throughout their entire global distribution.

**WCC-2012-Res-042-EN
Proposing goals for the coverage of protected areas based on management certification and assessment systems**

RECOGNIZING the importance of the 20 Aichi Targets included in the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, and the renewed commitment embodied in Target 11 to protect “at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water” and that these areas should form part of “areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystems

services” and that these systems are “ecologically representative and well connected” and that they are also “effectively and equitably managed”;

BEARING IN MIND the invitation made by the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP10, Nagoya, Japan, October 2010) to international organizations, including IUCN, to provide scientific information and help the Parties to implement the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* and, in particular, to develop national and regional targets and to monitor the progress towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including Target 11;

RECOGNIZING that Decision X/31 of CBD COP10 invites Parties to improve the management effectiveness of protected areas and use international standard criteria for the evaluation, extension and improvement of national protected area systems;

RECOGNIZING Strategic Direction 2 of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Strategic Plan 2009–2012, on knowledge, science and the management of protected areas, alerting and promoting the certified improvement of the efficiency of the management of protected areas on a global level;

RECOGNIZING IUCN’s responsibility to maintain the World Database on Protected Areas, in partnership with the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), to guide national gap analysis, the management categories for protected areas, governance types, and management effectiveness assessments;

AWARE also that the above-mentioned goals can only be met by including the protected areas governed by government agencies; those under shared governance agreements; conserved areas in private ownership; and land and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities; and through the recognition of and support for the latter in national and sectoral development plans and in natural resource management programmes, and through transboundary and regional cooperation;

RECOGNIZING the urgent need to improve the performance of protected areas in order to comply with global conservation goals, including a decrease in the extinction rate and the inclusion of endangered species in protected area networks;

RECOGNIZING that effectively managed protected areas, when linked to important migration corridors, can serve to anchor conservation objectives and the biodiversity integrity of larger landscapes, which count towards the goals of Target 11;

AWARE that it is only possible to improve the efficiency of the management of protected area systems with the full and effective participation of affected stakeholders, in full respect of their rights and cultural values, and in recognition of their responsibilities, bearing in mind the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; and

ALSO AWARE, however, that there is a need to clarify the implications of Target 11 at national and regional scales in order to reinforce action and accountability and to clarify terms and measures, including the use of the term, “*effectively and equitably managed*”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

ASKS IUCN’s Commissions and Members, UNEP-WCMC, the Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) Consortium, and other related organizations to collaborate in:

- a. the consolidation of the IUCN initiative to develop an international certification system of protected areas to promote good management practices, focusing on guidance on the management of potentially damaging activities and their impacts, and assist compliance with Aichi Target 11, and Strategic Direction 2 of the WCPA Strategic Plan 2009–2012;
- b. the establishment of coverage goals in protected areas with proven efficiency in the management of their conservation based on evaluations and certifications carried out; and
- c. the incorporation and strengthening in the evaluation systems of the rights-based approach, in particular the rights of indigenous peoples and traditional local communities.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-043-EN

Establishing a forum for transboundary protected area managers

RECOGNIZING the fundamental importance of protected areas in addressing interconnected global and regional issues of environmental change, degradation of biological and cultural resources, human and environmental security, and in the provision of essential environmental goods and services for human and other ecological communities;

GRATEFUL that the establishment and governance of protected areas have been a priority for IUCN and its member organizations;

NOTING however that there is a limit to the areas which can be set aside as protected areas, and that those areas reserved have geographically fixed, legally defined boundaries;

HIGHLIGHTING the vital role that ecological networks play in the conservation of biological and cultural diversity in the face of environmental change or insecurity, through, for example, improving the resilience of ecosystems and species mobility;

OBSERVING that there have been a growing number of transboundary protected areas and increasing experience in cross-border collaboration for protected area management;

ACKNOWLEDGING that transboundary collaborative conservation fosters peaceful relations while addressing common environmental threats;

AWARE that the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) has published a study on *Transboundary Protected Areas for Peace and Co-operation*, and that many States have furthered biodiversity conservation and peace by establishing collaboratively managed transboundary protected areas;

CONCERNED that despite efforts to promote conservation beyond borders, transboundary protected areas face unique challenges arising from the presence of international or subnational jurisdictional boundaries, including, *inter alia*, laundering and trafficking of natural resources, inter-jurisdictional legal barriers concerning the movement of rangers, weapons and veterinarian forces or equipment, limited resources to support

collaborative programming, difficult fundraising for cross-border activities, regional insecurity, instability of high-level political support, and limited awareness about transboundary conservation experiences in other parts of the world; and

BELIEVING that the effective management of transboundary protected areas will improve through co-learning between protected area managers based on sharing information and experiences related to in-field challenges, concerns, best practices and opportunities specific to transboundary conservation areas;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS UPON the Director General, WCPA, the WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group and Theme on Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Equity and Protected Areas (TILCEPA) to establish a forum for protected area authorities engaged in transboundary conservation that promotes knowledge and information sharing, capacity building, and collaboration in addressing common concerns and interests, building on the World Parks Congress networks; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Members to facilitate the participation of relevant protected area authorities, managers and rangers in the transboundary conservation forum.

WCC-2012-Res-044-EN
Implementing ecological restoration best practices in and around protected areas

RECOGNIZING that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* embraces the reality that healthy and restored ecosystems make cost-effective contributions to meeting global challenges of climate change, food security and economic and social development and that credible and trusted knowledge for valuing and conserving biodiversity should lead to better policy and action on the ground;

NOTING that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* does not identify contributions made by ecological restoration in and around protected areas to achieving specific approaches and results of the Programme;

RECOGNIZING also that ecological restoration, including restoration of at least 15% of degraded ecosystems globally is fundamental to the achievement of the goals of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets, and particularly Target 14 and Target 15;

ACKNOWLEDGING that achieving Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the global results of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* will require attention to improving the management of protected areas and enhancing connectivity between protected areas, including ecological restoration of intervening terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, landscapes and seascapes, and of protected area ecosystems where they are degraded;

CONSCIOUS that addressing ecological restoration priorities in and around protected areas will require collaboration among and support from partners and stakeholders to reduce pressures on protected area systems and to undertake ecological restoration actions outside protected area boundaries that contribute to the achievement of protected area goals and targets, and in particular those related to connectivity;

RECALLING Decision VII/28, *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*, adopted by the 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP7) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and particularly Sections 1.5.3 and 1.2.5, which call for the implementation of measures for the rehabilitation and restoration of the ecological integrity of protected areas and corridors, networks and buffer zones; and Section 3.3.3, which calls for the development and use, as well as the transfer of, appropriate technology related to restoration;

ALSO RECALLING that Decision X/31 (Protected Areas) of the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the CBD:

- a. invited the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and other relevant organizations to develop technical guidance related to protected areas and, *inter alia*, ecological restoration; and
- b. urged Parties to the Convention to:
 - i. increase the effectiveness of protected area systems in biodiversity conservation and enhance their resilience to climate change and other stressors, through increased efforts in restoration of ecosystems and habitats and including,

as appropriate, connectivity tools such as ecological corridors and/or conservation measures in and between protected areas and adjacent landscapes and seascapes; and

- ii. include restoration activities in the action plans of the *CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas*;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 4.036 adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which asked IUCN to develop a *Best Practice Protected Area Guideline for Ecological Restoration*, to work with governments on its dissemination, application and use, and to develop and implement programmes for further guidance, awareness raising, capacity building, monitoring and research on protected area restoration; and

RECOGNIZING that WCPA, Parks Canada and the Society for Ecological Restoration, along with other partners, have produced best practice guidelines for ecological restoration of protected areas in response to Resolution 4.036;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. WELCOMES the work of WCPA and its partners in producing best practice guidelines for ecological restoration of protected areas and recognizes their relevance to restoration in and around protected areas;
2. REAFFIRMS that ecological restoration for protected areas should contribute to broad societal goals related to biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and human well-being, as well as to specific protected area goals by re-establishing natural and associated values of protected areas, maximizing beneficial outcomes while minimizing costs in time, resources and effort, engaging with partners and stakeholders, promoting participation, and enhancing visitor experience;
3. CALLS UPON Parties to the CBD and their partners and stakeholders to adopt the *Best Practice Protected Area Guideline for Ecological Restoration* produced by WCPA and its partners as technical guidance to support them in implementing Decision X/31 (Protected Areas) of CBD COP10 and other relevant decisions related to the *CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas*;

4. CALLS UPON all IUCN constituencies to support governments and other partners and stakeholders in implementing actions enumerated in Decision X/31.B.7 (Restoration of ecosystems and habitats of protected areas) of CBD COP10;
5. FURTHER CALLS UPON all IUCN constituencies to support the Director General in implementing the initiatives enumerated below;
6. REQUESTS the Director General to work in close cooperation with the IUCN Commissions, particularly WCPA and all global thematic programmes, along with international terrestrial and marine protected area organizations, indigenous peoples, learned societies, sectoral management bodies, industries and non-government organizations to:
 - a. develop, disseminate and implement assessment tools and related guidance for identifying priority locations for ecological restoration of protected areas and surrounding aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, landscapes and seascapes that will efficiently support achievement of the goals and targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, particularly Aichi Targets 11, 14, and 15; and
 - b. develop online and other training tools and programmes for ecological restoration practitioners aimed at improving local capacity for implementing best practices in ecological restoration in and around protected areas; and
7. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General to include the actions enumerated above as specific approaches that will be undertaken as part of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* related to *Valuing and conserving nature* and *Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food and development*.

WCC-2012-Res-045-EN Broadening awareness of benefits and relevance of protected areas

CONCERNED that the rate of biodiversity loss increased throughout the 20th century and has continued to increase in the first decade of the 21st century, and that global efforts to reverse this trend have not been effective;

FURTHER CONCERNED that all assessments since Rio show that most of the key drivers of biodiversity loss are increasing in intensity, and that no country was able to meet the 2010 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Biodiversity Targets;

AWARE that protected areas in the 21st century are increasingly becoming the key tool for protecting critical components of the planetary life support systems and other ecosystem services that are crucial to human well-being and life on Earth;

RECOGNIZING that in addition to being the cornerstones of biodiversity conservation, sustainable tourism, climate change adaptation and mitigation, among others, protected areas can also play a crucial role for:

- a. enhancing food production and food security by providing secure places for reproduction of valuable marine and terrestrial species, by stabilizing climates necessary for enhancing food production, by conserving key pollinators and by preserving crop varieties that are disappearing elsewhere;
- b. protecting water catchment areas that provide water for use by millions of people, and for sustaining agriculture, hydropower generation, manufacturing and industrial processes and many other sectors of the economy;
- c. enhancing human health by acting as repositories for medicinal plants, buffering people from the adverse impact of increasing vector-borne infectious diseases, and providing refuges of tranquillity in a busy urbanized world; and
- d. connecting people with nature through the great range of values and benefits they can provide to diverse communities, partners and stakeholders at local, national, regional and global levels;

RECALLING that the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* recognizes protected areas as critical elements for achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

FURTHER RECALLING that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* launched at the 2012 World Conservation Congress strategically positions protected areas at the centre of global efforts to secure biodiversity and contribute to nature-based solutions to many of societies' needs;

UNDERSTANDING that the ability of protected areas to provide ecosystem goods and services to support increasing societal needs is being undermined by a broad range of human activities;

CONCERNED that engagement for stewardship of protected areas has traditionally focused on a few stakeholders and sectors, thereby limiting the range of options and actions to effectively address the multiple threats they face at a scale sufficient to reverse the negative trends; and

REALIZING that the relevance of protected areas to wider society will be greatly increased and strengthened if appropriate measures are taken to raise society's awareness and appreciation of the value and benefits of protected areas and how human activities are undermining the ability of protected areas to provide these benefits in the short and long term;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON all IUCN constituencies to promote protected areas as natural solutions to a range of ecological and livelihood challenges and engage with partners and stakeholders in the planning, establishment and management of protected areas and in all other aspects of landscape management;
2. CALLS ON the world's protected area leaders to make a new and strengthened commitment to connect people with nature and to actively collaborate with a full range of partners and stakeholders including voluntary certification initiatives in order to inspire broad-based awareness, support, engagement and participation in conservation actions at all levels;
3. REQUESTS the Director General to work in close cooperation with the IUCN Commissions, particularly the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), and all global thematic programmes, along with terrestrial and marine protected area organizations and a full range of partners and stakeholders, among others sustainable forest management organizations (e.g. Forest Stewardship Council) to establish guidelines, targets and clear and measurable outcomes for connecting people with nature;
4. CALLS ON the Director General to support governments and NGO communities to fulfil international

goals on food, water and health-related issues through the use of best practices that ensure the long-term protection of natural ecosystems and minimize impacts on protected areas; and

5. REQUESTS the Director General and the Chairs of WCPA and other IUCN Commissions, as appropriate, to work closely with organizations that promote sustainable food production (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – FAO, International Fund for Agricultural Development – IFAD), water conservation (UN Water), health (World Health Organization – WHO), industrialization (United Nations Industrial Development Organization – UNIDO), sustainable development (World Bank, International Monetary Fund – IMF), among others to:

- a. develop an inclusive framework to create awareness of and appreciation for: the central role played by protected areas in achieving the goals of these organizations; the threats caused by these and other sectors to effective protected area management; the implications of these threats to the organizations' ability to deliver on their mandates; and the actions needed to address them at the appropriate levels;
- b. engage stakeholders within their respective jurisdictions and mandates in advancing the importance of protected areas in providing ecosystem services necessary for meeting their specific goals;
- c. build connections and relationships with stakeholders whose sectors negatively impact on biodiversity and protected areas, identify barriers that prevent them from adopting environmentally sustainable practices, and work with them to formulate appropriate mechanisms for removing those barriers;
- d. establish tools and processes to help these organizations and their partners, including those in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, health and industry, to enhance the ability of protected areas to provide ecosystem goods and services for their own benefit and for the good of society;
- e. devise capacity-building strategies and financing mechanisms for broadening and strengthening sustainable relationships between society and nature, and for promoting protected areas as natural

solutions to many environmental and human welfare challenges; and

- f. create mechanisms for seeking efficiencies in implementing partnerships, maximizing opportunities to leverage resources, and sharing lessons learned, best practices and tools.

WCC-2012-Res-046-EN Strengthening the World Heritage Convention

RECALLING Resolution 1.67 *World Heritage Convention* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), and other relevant IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations;

WELCOMING the 40th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention taking place in 2012, that near universal recognition of the Convention has been achieved, and that the recognition of natural heritage on the World Heritage List has grown to more than 211 natural and mixed World Heritage Sites;

RECOGNIZING the specific and unique formal mandate IUCN holds within the World Heritage Convention as the Advisory Body for natural heritage, and also IUCN's own mandates and objectives as an international conservation organization that relate to World Heritage;

COMMENDING the World Heritage Committee, the State Parties to the Convention, and UNESCO and its World Heritage Centre, for significant conservation successes over the 40 years of the operation of the Convention and recognizing the important role of IUCN and the other Advisory Bodies named in the Convention (International Council on Monuments and Sites – ICOMOS and International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property – ICCROM), in these successes;

RECOGNIZING the significant contribution of World Heritage Sites to the conservation of protected areas, noting that natural and mixed World Heritage Sites, and World Heritage cultural landscapes together provide coverage of over 10% of the land and aquatic areas included within the protected areas estate globally;

CONSIDERING that the potential benefits of World Heritage extend far beyond the sites which have been

listed, and that these areas and those responsible for them should play a leadership role in developing, establishing and demonstrating global standards for management of protected areas and act as “flagships” in terms of raising public awareness, capacity building and finding solutions to conservation issues;

CONSIDERING that there is a need to strengthen recognition of the rights of local communities and indigenous peoples with respect to Convention processes, in line with agreed international norms, and secure environmentally sustainable and equitable benefits from World Heritage Site designation, as part of sustaining the leadership role of the World Heritage Convention;

CONCERNED that the World Heritage Convention, notwithstanding its record of success, faces significant challenges in its credibility and effectiveness, as notably set out in the conclusions of the evaluation of the Convention’s global strategy undertaken by UNESCO’s external auditors in 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly of State Parties to the World Heritage Convention, especially with respect to the protection and management of listed sites as the key priority for the Convention, the achievement of a balanced and credible World Heritage List, adherence to the highest standards for the assessment of the Outstanding Universal Value of sites proposed for inclusion in the World Heritage List, and recognition by signatories to the Convention of their joint responsibility to assure the conservation of all World Heritage sites; and

CONCERNED that there continue to be significant pressures on World Heritage Sites, including from major infrastructure and extractive industries, the impacts of conflict, the loss of management capacity and a range of other threats and pressures, that have resulted in a growing number of sites being included in the List of World Heritage in Danger, including some that have seen significant long-term deterioration of their values;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REAFFIRMS its view that the principles of the World Heritage Convention are critical to conservation and therefore calls on the Convention’s signatory Parties to ensure that the Convention remains effective;
2. ENDORSES the establishment of effective and equitable governance, conservation and management of all listed World Heritage Sites as the highest priority and benchmark of success of the World Heritage Convention for the ten years to its 50th anniversary in 2022, and commits to support the Convention to develop new mechanisms, strategies and programmes of work to achieve this goal;
3. REQUESTS the World Heritage Committee and all signatory Parties to uphold the highest standards by ensuring the rigorous observation of the Convention’s *Operational Guidelines*, by meeting their collective responsibility to protect and manage effectively all World Heritage Sites, by ensuring that the Convention plays a full role in the implementation of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets, and by developing as soon as possible new processes and standards that will ensure that the Convention appropriately recognizes the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in line with accepted international norms and standards;
4. ALSO REMINDS State Parties to the Convention that there still remain gaps on the World Heritage List for new natural and mixed sites, and cultural landscapes which have the potential to be considered of Outstanding Universal Value, and that the protection of sites that would fill these gaps, their inclusion in national tentative lists, and their nomination to the World Heritage List remains a valid priority, that requires increased support and advice. This includes the specific opportunities to strengthen cooperation between States for ecosystems that require comprehensive and integrated approaches to conservation and management;
5. REQUESTS UNESCO, within available resources, to strengthen further the professional capabilities in natural heritage within the World Heritage Centre, and to cooperate with IUCN to increase IUCN’s capacity to support the Convention;
6. CALLS UPON IUCN Members and Commissions to actively engage in supporting the World Heritage Convention, including by continuing to provide proactive support and advice to support IUCN’s advice to the Convention on threats, conservation issues and solutions, and on the evaluation of potential candidate sites; and

7. REQUESTS the Director General, within available resources, to:
- a. maintain the effectiveness of, and develop further, IUCN's Advisory Body role on World Heritage to ensure that IUCN is able to advise, influence and guide the World Heritage Committee, to monitor and report on its implementation, and to contribute to the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*;
 - b. regularly report to IUCN on progress and concerns regarding the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, and to strengthen awareness across IUCN and within civil society of the performance and results of the World Heritage Convention, including through global and regional communication strategies;
 - c. in the 10 years leading up to the Convention's 50th Anniversary, develop and support the application of international IUCN protected area standards and norms to all World Heritage Sites, to support identified measures needed to achieve their conservation, to communicate the status of World Heritage Sites and recognize World Heritage sites that meet global management standards, and to catalyze support to World Heritage Sites in Danger;
 - d. establish new regional capacity and support via IUCN Regional Offices, Commissions and Members, and regional and national partners, with the purpose of strengthening IUCN's direct support to States, managers and stakeholders in World Heritage Sites to deliver both biodiversity conservation results, and ensure that World Heritage Sites contribute to the realization of benefits for communities, while respecting and supporting the rights of those communities; and
 - e. maintain and develop strong and effective working relationships with UNESCO, and its World Heritage Centre, ICOMOS, ICCROM, and other partners, to pursue a continuing, strengthened and effective role for the World Heritage Convention as a flagship for best practice in global conservation.

WCC-2012-Res-047-EN

Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the context of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention

RECALLING the adoption of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 13 September 2007 and its endorsement by IUCN at the 4th World Conservation Congress through Resolution 4.052 *Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (Barcelona, 2008);

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 4.048 *Indigenous peoples, protected areas and implementation of the Durban Accord*, which resolves “to apply the requirements of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to the whole of IUCN's Programme and operations” and calls on governments “to work with indigenous peoples' organizations to... ensure that protected areas which affect or may affect indigenous peoples' lands, territories, natural and cultural resources are not established without indigenous peoples' free, prior and informed consent and to ensure due recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples in existing protected areas”;

REAFFIRMING Resolution 4.056 *Rights-based approaches to conservation*, and Recommendation 4.127 *Indigenous peoples' rights in the management of protected areas fully or partially in the territories of indigenous peoples* and numerous other Resolutions which demonstrate IUCN's commitment to a rights-based approach to protected areas establishment and management;

NOTING that the World Heritage Convention is celebrating its 40th anniversary under the theme “World Heritage and Sustainable Development: the Role of Local Communities”;

FURTHER NOTING that the World Heritage Convention can and has played a leadership role in setting standards for protected areas as a whole and that World Heritage sites with their high visibility and public scrutiny have the potential to act as “flagships” for good governance in protected areas;

RECOGNIZING the potentially positive role that the World Heritage Convention can and has played in ensuring and supporting the continued preservation of the

traditional lands and territories of indigenous peoples, and WELCOMING Decision 35 COM 12E (2011) of the World Heritage Committee, which encourages States Parties to the World Heritage Convention to “Respect the rights of indigenous peoples when nominating, managing and reporting on World Heritage sites in indigenous peoples’ territories”;

ACKNOWLEDGING that injustices to indigenous peoples have been and continue to be caused in the name of nature conservation, and that indigenous peoples have suffered dispossession and alienation from their traditional lands and resources as a result of the establishment and management of protected areas, including many areas inscribed on the World Heritage List;

NOTING that the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (herein “African Commission”) have all expressed concerns that current procedures and mechanisms are inadequate for ensuring that the rights of indigenous peoples are respected in the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, and have called on UNESCO and the World Heritage Committee to review and revise current procedures and operational guidelines;

IN PARTICULAR NOTING the African Commission’s *Resolution on the protection of indigenous peoples’ rights in the context of the World Heritage Convention and the designation of Lake Bogoria as a World Heritage site* (ACHPR/Res.197 (L) 2011) which reaffirms the Commission Decision on Communication 276 / 2003 - *Centre for Minority Rights Development (Kenya) and Minority Rights Group International on behalf of Endorois Welfare Council v Kenya* (Endorois Decision) and highlights the traditional ownership rights of the Endorois over Lake Bogoria;

SHARING the African Commission’s concerns that Lake Bogoria National Reserve was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2011 without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous Endorois people and “that there are numerous World Heritage sites in Africa that have been inscribed without the free, prior and informed consent of the indigenous peoples in whose territories they are located and whose management frameworks are not consistent with the principles of the UN *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*”; and

RESPONDING to the African Commission’s recommendation urging IUCN to “review and revise its procedures for evaluating World Heritage nominations as well as the state of conservation of World Heritage sites, with a view to ensuring that indigenous peoples are fully involved in these processes, and that their rights are respected, protected and fulfilled in these processes and in the management of World Heritage areas”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Council and Director General to:
 - a. develop clear policy and practical guidelines to ensure that the principles of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* are respected in IUCN’s work as an Advisory Body to the World Heritage Committee, and to fully inform and consult with indigenous peoples when sites are evaluated or missions are undertaken on their territories; and
 - b. actively promote and support the adoption and implementation of a rights-based approach to conservation by the World Heritage Committee and to promote the principles and goals of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;
2. URGES the World Heritage Committee to:
 - a. review and revise its procedures and Operational Guidelines, in consultation with indigenous peoples and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, to ensure that indigenous peoples’ rights and all human rights are upheld and implemented in the management and protection of existing World Heritage sites, consistent with the principles and goals of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, and that no World Heritage sites are established in indigenous peoples’ territories without their free, prior and informed consent;
 - b. work with State Parties to establish mechanisms to assess and redress the effects of historic and current injustices against indigenous peoples in existing World Heritage sites; and
 - c. establish a mechanism through which indigenous peoples can provide direct advice to the Committee in its decision-making processes in a manner

consistent with the right of free, prior and informed consent and the right to participate in decision making as affirmed in the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;

3. CALLS UPON States Parties to the World Heritage Convention to ensure respect for the rights of indigenous peoples in the management and protection of existing World Heritage sites, and to ensure that no World Heritage sites are established in indigenous peoples' territories without their free, prior and informed consent; and
4. URGES the Government of Kenya to ensure the full and effective participation of the Endorois in management and decision making concerning the "Kenya Lake System" World Heritage area, through their own representative institutions, and to ensure the implementation of the African Commission's Endorois Decision.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-048-EN

Valuing and conserving geoheritage within the IUCN Programme 2013–2016

AWARE of the increasing interest and greater commitment of States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and communities with respect to the preservation, value assessment, study and sustainable use of geodiversity (geological diversity) and geoheritage (geological heritage);

RECALLING that geodiversity is an important natural factor that conditions and underpins biological, cultural and landscape diversity, and is also an important parameter to be considered in the conservation, assessment and management of protected areas;

RECALLING ALSO that geoheritage is a constituent and inseparable element of natural heritage, and that it possesses cultural, aesthetic, landscape, economic and intrinsic values that must be preserved and transmitted to future generations;

BEARING IN MIND the pioneering work carried out by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and other international

institutions in the promotion and sustainable use of geoheritage to promote local socio-economic development in underdeveloped areas through the Global Geoparks Network (GGN);

ACKNOWLEDGING the increasing impacts of economic development, which are frequently not sustainable, on the world's geodiversity and geoheritage;

ACKNOWLEDGING ALSO that the planning of this development underestimates or even ignores the intrinsic values of geodiversity, geoheritage and geological processes present in natural areas;

AWARE that the GGN and UNESCO Global Geosites Programme cover less than 2% of the world's terrestrial and marine surface, and that most geoheritage is not included in protected natural areas;

RECALLING the pioneering trend established by the Council of Europe in 2004 with the approval of recommendation Rec(2004)3 on *Conservation of the Geological Heritage and Areas of Special Geological Interest*, and its call to strengthen cooperation with international organizations, scientific institutions and NGOs in the field of geological heritage conservation, and their participation in programmes towards geoconservation;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the conservation of geodiversity and geoheritage (i.e. geoconservation) also contributes to avoiding the loss of species and habitats, and to preserving the integrity of ecosystems, as well as to safeguarding the diversity and the quality of landscapes;

ACKNOWLEDGING ALSO that the conservation and management of geoheritage requires that all governments and organizations integrate geoconservation within their objectives and action plans;

BEARING IN MIND that the IUCN guidelines for the application of management categories in protected areas explicitly consider among the common objectives for all protected areas the need to:

- a. maintain the diversity of landscape or habitat;
- b. preserve important landscape, geomorphological and geological features; and
- c. preserve natural and scenic areas of national and international relevance for cultural, spiritual and scientific purposes;

BEARING IN MIND ALSO that the objectives of IUCN are to influence, encourage and assist the societies of the world to preserve the integrity of nature, and that this integrity is incomplete and inefficient if it does not consider and incorporate the totality of natural heritage, i.e. the most valued elements and processes of nature, both biotic and abiotic;

RECALLING that the conservation of geodiversity and geoheritage at international, national and local level contributes towards the objectives of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014);

RECALLING ALSO that IUCN Resolution 4.040 *Conservation of geodiversity and geological heritage*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), promotes actions related to geodiversity and geoheritage, as well as collaboration between Members and other organizations in this matter;

BEARING IN MIND that areas with relevant geoheritage may deteriorate if this type of natural heritage is not considered in planning and development policies; and

AWARE of the need to promote the proper conservation and management of the world's geoheritage, and in particular of the sites of geological interest that represent it;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON IUCN Members to ensure that, when reference is made in the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* to nature in general, preference be given to inclusive terms such as “nature”, “natural diversity” or “natural heritage”, so that geodiversity and geoheritage are not excluded;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to initiate a discussion in the regions on the conservation and management of geodiversity and geoheritage, in collaboration with IUCN Members and other organizations, in the spirit of the above-mentioned request and with a view to giving consideration to this issue for the next intersessional programme; and
3. CALLS ON IUCN Commissions, and in particular the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), to:

- a. promote and support local socio-economic development initiatives, such as UNESCO Geoparks, based on the sustainable use of geoheritage, including the proper management of geoheritage in protected areas;
- b. promote and support, in collaboration with UNESCO and the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), the elaboration and extension of the inventory for the Global Geosites Programme, as well as other regional and international inventories of sites of geological interest; and
- c. support the Secretariat in the implementation of the actions requested in point 2 above.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-049-EN
Redesigning future cities and related urban zones with protected areas: cities, return to nature

CONSIDERING that the number of total protected areas designated for the purpose of nature conservation currently exceeds 160,000;

ALSO CONSIDERING that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) continues to urge its Member States to expand protected areas;

RECOGNIZING that the outlook on the management of protected areas has been transformed into the present-day, future-oriented concept, which takes into account ecosystem services as well as social, economic and ecological values from a modern perspective that stresses scenic values;

NOTING that protected areas are generally classified into core areas, buffer zones and transitional areas and managed accordingly and that numerous metropolises and small-sized cities are located on the outskirts of protected areas including transitional areas;

REMEMBERING that the United Nations *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment* underlines the functions of various ecosystem services (supporting services, provisioning

services, regulating services, cultural services) essential for both surrounding cities and human lives;

CONCERNED that as surrounding cities adjacent to protected areas grow in size due to population concentration and regional development, the ecological soundness of border regions of protected areas and transitional areas has deteriorated and the quality of their ecological services has been undermined;

EMPHASIZING that, in a bid to conserve nature in protected areas and ensure that surrounding areas continue to benefit from ecological services, the ecological and cultural values of protected areas should be linked to urban planning in surrounding cities, centring around transitional areas;

ALSO EMPHASIZING that, in order to manage surrounding cities which reflect values of protected areas, it is necessary to establish eco-friendly urban planning based on scientific mapping for natural and cultural resources, and to develop policies and programmes for regional collaboration;

RECALLING Resolution 3.063 *Cities and Conservation* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) which addressed the benefits that nature brings to city dwellers and stressed the necessity of conserving biodiversity within cities, and Recommendation 4.128 *Setting up networks of protected urban and periurban natural areas* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) which mentioned that reckless development of periurban natural areas has ramifications on the quality of lives of city residents and biodiversity; and

ALSO RECALLING Rio+20 Zero Draft Section V. *Framework for action and follow-up* Paragraph 72 (Cities) which pointed out the importance of implementing policies and strategies for sustainable and effective urban planning and urban design;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the Director General in collaboration with experts from the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) to develop indicators for urban

planning of eco-friendly cities and guidelines for city design with the aim of linking ecological and cultural values as well as ecosystem services of protected areas to surrounding cities, spearheaded by WCPA experts, in collaboration with CEESP experts; and

2. ENCOURAGES IUCN Member States and NGO Members from those States to:

- a. list the functions of ecosystem services provided to surrounding cities by individual protected areas designated by each country, to analyze the status of environmental degradation and potential development demand in transitional areas adjacent to protected areas, and to assess the mutual relationship between protected areas and surrounding cities;
- b. boost effectiveness of sustainable urban planning and to set ecological development goals and directions of landscape planning by establishing a spatial database through biotope mapping of natural and cultural resources of protected areas and surrounding cities;
- c. apply the urban planning indicators and urban design guidelines of IUCN considering the goals and directions of ecological development of surrounding cities; and
- d. forge and implement collaborative policies and programmes for urban planning based on the participation of local communities and residents led by the transitional areas between protected areas and surrounding cities.

WCC-2012-Res-050-EN Protection of Mediterranean submarine canyons

APPROVING the recommendations of the meetings in Istanbul (January, 2010) and Procida (September, 2010) for the protection of Mediterranean submarine canyons, approved by the IUCN Mediterranean Forum, held in Malaga, Spain, between 22 and 25 November 2010;

CONSIDERING the unique, vulnerable character of the submarine canyons and seamounts in the Mediterranean; and

RECOGNIZING the Mediterranean as a specific marine system in which submarine canyons and seamounts are of great importance;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

ASKS the Mediterranean coastal States to:

- a. recognize the importance of submarine canyons as structural elements in the functioning of Mediterranean ecosystems;
- b. support the building of a knowledge base on:
 - i. the ecological role of Mediterranean submarine canyons and seamounts, in particular to underline the key role they play in the lifecycle of several marine species;
 - ii. the anthropogenic impact suffered by submarine canyons and seamounts, such as land-based pollution, waste, the removal and extraction of natural resources (also including the study of zones near the canyons); and
 - iii. their economic and ecological importance with regard to the services they provide;
- c. adopt the Precautionary Principle for developments and activities that could have an impact on those canyons located in waters under French jurisdiction, notably pollution and waste from land-based activities;
- d. support the creation of a coherent network of marine protected areas in the Mediterranean, taking the protection of canyons into account;
- e. support in particular the cooperative project currently underway between France and Spain for the creation of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Importance (SPAMI) in the Gulf of Lion; and
- f. continue the support given to activities in the Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas under the Barcelona Convention (RAC/SPA).

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-051-EN

Improving conservation and sustainability of the Yellow Sea

RECOGNIZING that the natural phenomenon of the Asian Monsoon system coupled with a relatively shallow sea creates both heavy sediment and significant freshwater discharges into the Yellow Sea on an annual basis;

AWARE of the extensive development of cities bordering on the Yellow Sea, both in Korea and China, and the reliance of the population of these cities on the Yellow Sea ecosystem for a large portion of their basic and economic requirements;

CONSIDERING in particular the global significance of East Asia's tidal mudflats evidenced by the fact that approximately 1,600 species have been recorded from marine and coastal habitats in the Yellow Sea, including 70 phytoplankton, 300 benthic diatoms, 300 marine macroalgae, 50 halophytes, 500 marine invertebrates, 150 fishes, 230 water birds and sea birds and 10 marine mammals, with most of these organisms dependent on tidal flats at least once during their life histories;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the rapid increase in coastal industrialization has contributed to an increase in pollution and disruption in ecosystem functioning in the Yellow Sea, compounded by the fact that the sea water exchange interval between the Yellow Sea and the East China Sea is about seven years;

NOTING that advances in fishing technology since the mid-1980s have resulted in catches of the ten most important commercial species landed in the Yellow Sea area increasing from 400,000 tonnes in 1986 to 2,300,000 tonnes in 2004, and that this rapid increase in the annual catch of fish is considered unsustainable;

FURTHER NOTING that several implemented and proposed large-scale reclamation projects in the region are having and will have a significant impact on coastal areas;

RECALLING Recommendation 4.129 *Strengthening the integrated management of coastal areas* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) which recognizes the vulnerability of coastal areas and their central importance to human needs therein reinforcing the principles of integrated coastal zone management;

FURTHER RECALLING Recommendation V.22 *Building a Global System of Marine and Coastal Protected Area Networks* adopted at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) and Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, both of which call for the establishment of representative, effectively and equitably managed systems of marine and coastal protected areas;

WELCOMING the commitments made by the Republic of Korea to the Ramsar Convention to ensure appropriate management and wise use of internationally important wetlands that have not yet been formally designated as Ramsar sites and confirming that no large-scale reclamations projects are now being approved in the Republic of Korea;

FURTHER WELCOMING the international efforts of projects like the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/Global Environment Facility (GEF) Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (YSLME) Project and initiatives such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Seas Programme to focus on improved regional cooperation, governance and conservation action, noting, however, that more is needed to address the acknowledged issues; and

ALARMED however, that the ecological conditions and sustainability of resource exploitation in the Yellow Sea continue to rapidly deteriorate due to the combination of its biophysical characteristics along with the over-exploitation of marine resources and increased pressure from urban coastal development and along its coastal borders;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS on all countries bordering the Yellow Sea to collaborate in reversing the current negative impacts on the ecosystems of the Yellow Sea resulting from over-development and resource exploitation, and to mitigate the negative impacts of coastal development, particularly land reclamation;
2. ENCOURAGES all countries bordering the Yellow Sea to facilitate agency level working groups to expedite the Strategic Action Programmes already in place in current programmes such as the UNDP/GEF Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem (YSLME) project;

3. URGES international and regional institutions such as the Ramsar Convention and the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership to direct increased attention, technical guidance and capacity development in support of the conservation and wise use of the internationally significant tidal mudflats of the Yellow Sea and the region of East Asia;

4. URGES IUCN Members to:
 - a. promote and support enhanced efforts to conserve the ecosystems of the Yellow Sea, including the unique tidal mudflat ecosystems of East Asia, to ensure the sustainable use of marine resources;
 - b. support the conservation of the Yellow Sea ecosystem by creating and effectively managing national parks and other marine and coastal protected areas;
 - c. review the existing Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) of the UNDP/GEF YSLME project and support the urgent implementation of the SAPs;
 - d. promote increased research and monitoring of the ecosystems of the Yellow Sea, especially the unique tidal mudflats and marine waters of the Yellow Sea and the region of East Asia; and
 - e. promote awareness of the need for effective conservation of regional seas including the Yellow Sea and the region of East Asia through relevant national and regional institutions and non-governmental organizations; and

5. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - a. collaborate with IUCN Members, Commissions, and other partners to strengthen regional governance, action and increased international awareness for conservation of the Yellow Sea, and strengthen the protection of East Asia's tidal mudflat ecosystems, to ensure more coordinated consideration of damaging coastal developments and to increase international awareness of the need to conserve these systems;
 - b. utilize where possible existing mechanisms such as the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership, of which IUCN is a member institution,

and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Asian Regional Steering Committee to advance conservation action in the Yellow Sea; and

- c. provide technical and programmatic support to the above efforts to foster regional tidal expert networks and share conservation information.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-052-EN Establishment of an integrated management system for UNESCO protected areas

RECOGNIZING that Jeju Island, a world renowned environmental conservation area protected by a number of internationally recognized designations covering most of its 1,847 kilometres, has been managed systematically by linking environmental information on ecosystems, underground water, scenic views, fauna and flora reserves and soil and geological features, to establish an integrated management system for conservation of nature and sustainable living in the region, based on the Geographical Information System (GIS) in accordance with the Special Act on the Establishment of Jeju Self-Governing Province and the traditional methods of practicing nature conservation;

CONCERNED that Jeju Island, being a popular international tourist destination visited by more than 10,000,000 people annually, is badly exposed to the possibilities that the protected areas around the entire island could be impacted negatively and its diverse flora and fauna could be under serious threat;

EQUALLY CONCERNED that different management guidelines, time cycles and periods provided and monitored by different authorities for the regular evaluation of Jeju protected areas, for example every 10 years by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) International Co-ordinating Council (ICC) of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) for the Biosphere Reserve, every six years by the World Heritage Committee for the Natural World Heritage site, and every four years by the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) for the Global Geopark, impedes the establishment of a comprehensive management regime;

RECALLING Resolution 19.38 *Targets for Protected Areas Systems* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly, Recommendation 16 of the 4th International Conference on Geoparks (Langkawi, 2010) on protecting 10% of the biosphere in protected areas, and Resolution 2.2 *Integrating ecosystem management in IUCN's Programme* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

EMPHASIZING that integrated management is an important part of IUCN's mission, and that the objective of the World Heritage Convention is to conserve, while the objectives of MAB and GGN are education and ecotourism through conservation, an integrated management system of the natural resources of Jeju is necessary and should be established;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 4.094 *Impetus and support for local and regional biodiversity conservation policies* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which seeks actions from local and regional governments to articulate policies for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, and requests the IUCN constituency to undertake a specific work programme with local and regional authorities for the development of local biodiversity and sustainable development policies and for the management of species with natural values;

CONVINCED that an integrated management system of UNESCO international protected areas is the most assured method for conservation of wild fauna and flora, and that this approach to management complies with the fundamental concept of IUCN and contributes to the sustainable use of ecosystems; and

FURTHER CONVINCED that the protected areas in Jeju have been well managed, assuring sustainable conservation through the long practice of integrated management in harmony with the history and culture of the people of Jeju;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, based on the learnings of the Jeju experience and in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to develop an integrated conservation management manual that includes guidelines and other prescriptions for the systematic conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, to develop and standardize a management system for protected areas including the integration of the dif-

ferent cycles for re-evaluation of designations, and to distribute it as a model for IUCN Members;

2. URGES IUCN Members to take action to establish cooperative programmes through which international institutions collaborate on the conservation of the natural environment by establishing integrated management systems for protected areas across the world; and
2. REQUESTS that support is sought from the United Nations organizations, States and nations to legislate integrated management laws at national or State level for appropriate conservation, systematic integration and management of natural resources to bring about the integration of protected areas such as Biosphere Reserves, Natural World Heritage sites and Global Geoparks.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-053-EN Strengthening the participatory and equitable governance of the indigenous communities and peoples of Mexico

RECALLING previous IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations that recognize and promote the appropriate implementation of conservation policies and practices that respect the human rights, roles, cultures and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples, in accordance with international agreements and their right to self-determination;

APPLAUDING the approval of the UN *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which gives unprecedented endorsement of indigenous peoples' rights to their lands and natural resources, including Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs);

EMPHASIZING the *Millennium Development Goals* (which focus on poverty reduction and environmental sustainability) and country commitments under the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*, ratified by Mexico in 1993, and which urges Contracting Parties, by 2008, to:

...Ensure that indigenous and local communities are participating fully and effectively in identifying, implementing and

managing new protected areas...the signatory countries must:

- *Recognize civil society's conservation capacity;*
 - *Participate in the participatory research, planning and management with indigenous peoples and local communities;*
- ...Rules, criteria and best practices have been developed for planning, identifying, creating and managing their own national and regional ways of working with the protected area systems, learning about the different types of protected area governance in certain areas and territories being conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCAs) – Establish and comply with the principles of "good governance";*

ALSO EMPHASIZING the American *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which guarantees indigenous peoples' right to self-determination, prior and informed consultation and to the ownership, use, management and conservation of the biodiversity and natural resources on their territories;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 4.041 *Following up on actions called for by the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007)* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which called for: "... the participatory planning of protected areas, applying the principles of good governance such as transparency, fairness, accountability and access to conflict management ...";

EMPHASIZING the fact that Mexico's National Biodiversity Strategy and the Action Plans (ENBPA) of 2000 established four strategies by which to achieve the objectives of the CBD and included: "promoting the sustainable and diverse use of components of biodiversity";

FURTHER RECALLING that the Mexican legal framework recognizes, promotes and calls for the rights of indigenous and local communities to land, along with their right to participate in its conservation;

CONSIDERING that Mexican legislation establishes that:

- a. indigenous peoples and communities have the right to self-determination and autonomy in order to use and enjoy the natural resources in the places inhabited and occupied by those communities;
- b. the Federation, States and Federal District shall design, develop and apply economic tools that encourage compliance with the objectives of environmental policies, and through which attempts will be made to grant incentives to those who carry out actions promoting the protection, preservation or restoration of the ecological balance; and

- c. the indigenous communities and peoples that designate their territory as a Community Conserved Area (CCA) must enjoy full rights and access to the services and incentives in accordance with Mexico's legislation and the international treaties which this country is party to;

BEARING IN MIND that Mexico is one of the world's megadiverse countries (being fourth overall in terms of its wealth of species) and, for example, in the case of the State of Oaxaca, due to the confluence of two mountain ranges, this has given rise to an abrupt topography, and wide variations in climate and microclimates, which make it one of the most biologically and culturally diverse states in Mexico. This favours in particular the development of community forestry (forests cover 64% of the State's territory) and creates a wide range of soil types, which in turn give rise to a very high level of biodiversity. Given all of the above, a diverse portfolio of tools is required for the sustainable conservation and management of natural resources;

BEARING IN MIND that local communities and indigenous peoples have developed traditional techniques for adapting to the different micro-environments in which they live. Likewise, for example, each of the 15 ethnic groups found in Oaxaca is managing its resources in a different way through its own institutions and organizations, alongside its own traditional resource management system, which has survived down the centuries;

CONSIDERING in this same context that there are already bodies with a new organizational structure in Oaxaca that have been incorporated into traditional government mechanisms, and that these have been capable of developing territorial management plans to address the comprehensive environmental and socioeconomic needs of the communities, through the integrated management of their lands. There are 126 Community Conserved Areas in Oaxaca, 14.5% more than in the National Action Plan, which has been transposed into the State's legal framework by way of a decree. Only 43 of the 126 CCAs are recognized at a national level; and

INTERESTED in providing relevant information in order to ensure that CCAs are certified by the Mexican Government, and to promote the adoption of these conservation schemes, in view of the rights and needs of the indigenous communities and peoples of Mexico;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

CALLS on the IUCN Secretariat to:

- a. request the Mexican Government to strengthen other instruments recognized by Mexican nature conservation legislation, such as CCAs, which should present a coherent management plan, drawn up by the indigenous communities and peoples' management bodies, with the technical advice that the latter define; and
- b. request the Mexican Government to increase its investment in the human and social capital of the indigenous communities and peoples, without which the long-term conservation of natural capital is unsustainable. Moreover, request the Mexican Government to promote and support the creation of new sources of income from natural resources, such as those provided by environmental services, sustainable use plans and community tourism.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-054-EN Guaranteeing the protection of the Cabo Pulmo National Park

RECOGNIZING the ecological value of the Cabo Pulmo National Park on the Baja California Peninsula in Mexico, including its 20,000-year-old system of coral reefs, one of the oldest and most significant in the eastern Pacific;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that this reef, comprising 25 species of coral, sustains a rich marine ecosystem that includes 154 species of marine invertebrate; five of the world's seven species of sea turtle; three species of dolphin; three species of whale; sea lions; and 226 species of fish in the Gulf of California;

BEARING IN MIND that the area was declared a Protected Natural Area in 1995 and reclassified as a National Park in 2000;

RECOGNIZING that Cabo Pulmo was designated a World Heritage Site in 2005 and a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention in 2008;

NOTING that overfishing had reduced fish populations in the zone but that a recovery of more than 400% has been noted in the zone's biomass levels since the National Park was established, representing one of the best examples of the positive effect of marine protected areas in Mexico;

OBSERVING WITH CONCERN that the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* indicates that 12% of the marine species of the tropical eastern Pacific are under threat and that the area around the mouth of the Gulf of California is a priority conservation zone;

AWARE that the Government of Mexico invited a joint IUCN-UNESCO-Ramsar research mission to evaluate the status of Cabo Pulmo National Park in November 2011, and to draw conclusions and make recommendations regarding the potential impact of tourism infrastructures near this site;

THANKING the Government of Mexico for the decision made by the Mexican Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources to deny authorization, due to potential environmental impact, for the tourism and real-estate development proposal known as Cabo Cortés, on 3,814 hectares of adjacent land directly to the north of Cabo Pulmo National Park, “due to the absence of elements that enable it to comply with the aim of protecting the environment and preserving and restoring the ecosystems, in order to avoid the negative impacts on the environment or keep them to a minimum”;

RECOGNIZING that despite the cancellation of the Cabo Cortés project, there is still a need to protect Cabo Cortés National Park, its biodiversity and its fragile marine and coastal ecosystems, from other projects, including large-scale tourism and real-estate developments;

AWARE that tourist activity in coastal areas is one of the most important economic activities in Mexico, but noting, however, that the increase in the operation and construction of real-estate and tourism infrastructure may have social and environmental repercussions that threaten ecosystems and communities;

RECALLING the Bariloche Declaration (2007), which established that “coastal and marine areas are under increasing pressure from fishing, tourism and urban development”;

RECALLING Resolution 12.2 *Marine Parks*, approved by the 12th IUCN General Assembly (Kinshasa, 1975), which recognizes that “marine ecosystems are not easily protected by national parks or reserves covering limited areas,... such protection requires attention to conservation practices over extensive areas of land and sea” and urges governments to “take measures to control, and where necessary ban, activities which are damaging ... to marine habitats ... particularly ... where such activities can be damaging to marine parks or reserves”; and

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 12.3 *Conservation of Critical Coastal Marine Habitats* adopted by the 12th IUCN General Assembly (Kinshasa, 1975), which recognizes that “certain habitats of the coastal zone, such as ... coral reefs and mangroves, are of great importance” and urges “coastal States with such habitats ... to evolve policies to maintain their continued health and stability”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES the Mexican Government, and specifically its Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), to:
 - a. guarantee the protection of Cabo Pulmo from projects that may constitute a risk for its conservation, including large-scale tourism and real-estate developments, as it is a priority conservation site and one which, moreover, represents a model of success for the rest of the region; this is particularly important given that the Government of Mexico, non-governmental organizations and other interested actors are stepping up the scale, scope and rate of marine conservation efforts;
 - b. guarantee that Mexican legislation on environmental protection is applied impartially and strictly to all projects carried out in federal, state and municipal Protected Natural Areas and other priority conservation areas and their buffer zones, which have a direct or indirect impact on the health of surrounding ecosystems;
 - c. efficiently implement the Marine Environment Management Plan for the Gulf of California;
 - d. undertake to follow IUCN principles on biodiversity conservation as given in the document *Siting and Design of Hotels and Resorts: Principles and*

Case Studies for Biodiversity Conservation, IUCN, 2012; and

- e. comply with the Los Cabos Municipality Environmental Management Plan;
2. RECOMMENDS that, as far as possible, IUCN conducts an analysis of the biodiversity threats in the Baja California peninsula linked to the location and design of large-scale tourism and real-estate developments similar to IUCN's 2011 analysis: Impacts of hotel siting and design on biodiversity in the insular Caribbean: A situation analysis; and
3. CALLS on all relevant and interested IUCN Members, as far as possible, to provide Mexico and especially SEMARNAT with all technical and scientific support to help ensure the long-term protection of the Cabo Pulmo National Park.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-055-EN Consolidation of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems

NOTING that Resolution 4.020 *Quantitative thresholds for categories and criteria of threatened ecosystems* approved by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), called for the initiation of “a consultation process for the development, implementation and monitoring of a global standard for the assessment of ecosystem status, applicable at local, regional and global levels”;

ALSO NOTING that during the last quadrennium the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems has achieved recognition as one of the key emerging knowledge products of the Union, due to the joint efforts of the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) and the IUCN Ecosystem Management Programme (EMP), in close collaboration with the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the Global Species Programme (GSP);

HIGHLIGHTING that draft categories and criteria for the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems have been publicly available in the three IUCN official languages for examination and testing since 2010 – generating considerable interest among the Union's membership and networks of

experts – and that detailed feedback has been received from participants in 17 conferences and 18 workshops carried out in 20 countries on five continents;

RECOGNIZING that this consultation process has led to improvement in the draft categories and criteria for assessing the status of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems, to the development of guidelines on how to implement the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems concept at both the national and global scale, and to the compilation of a portfolio of case studies from different ecosystems and regions of the world;

CONSIDERING that the greatest policy impact of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems in global conservation efforts, such as the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets, and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), as well as in national efforts, such as the development of National Biodiversity Conservation Strategies, will be achieved by seamless integration with the other IUCN knowledge products: *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, Key Biodiversity Areas, and World Database on Protected Areas;

RECOGNIZING that the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems and the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* are intended to be complementary tools providing different windows into the measurement of biodiversity status and trends, and therefore each can provide important insights that the other might not detect;

ANTICIPATING that global coverage of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems will be coordinated and managed by IUCN by integrating and sharing tools, knowledge and expertise with the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, and engaging experts primarily from CEM, EMP, SSC and GSP, but also from the Union more generally;

ANTICIPATING that national ecosystem risk assessments will probably be undertaken by local, national and international organizations, primarily IUCN Members, such as governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations and academia, which will have varying levels of prior experience and knowledge of the categories and criteria of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that achieving seamless integration with the family of IUCN knowledge products, as well as accomplishing global coverage of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems, providing support to emerging

national assessments, and assuring maximum relevance of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems to policy processes from the global to the local level, will all require strengthening existing technical and scientific capacity at the Secretariat, the IUCN Commissions and among the membership; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the fundamental role that funding agencies, in particular the MAVA Foundation and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation have played in providing support to the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems during the past quadrennium;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. WELCOMES the significant progress of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems;
2. CALLS on IUCN Council, once the draft categories and criteria have been rigorously tested, to take the necessary steps for formal approval of the categories and criteria as an official IUCN data analysis protocol for use by Members and any other stakeholder interested in ecosystem risk assessment, after they have been finalized and are submitted to Council by CEM and the Secretariat;
3. REQUESTS CEM to work with the support of SSC and the Secretariat to raise the necessary funds for the development and implementation of an operational plan for The IUCN Red List of Ecosystems which includes a strategy for its integration with the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* and other knowledge products. This should ensure that adequate staff, financial and technical resources are made available for the integration of these two IUCN Red Lists, such that their databases are linked, and users are able to conduct simultaneous searches on the status of species and ecosystems, including the coverage by Key Biodiversity Areas and the World Database on Protected Areas;
4. URGES CEM and the Secretariat to assess the status of the world's terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems in order to be able to report on progress towards achieving Aichi Target 5: "By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced;"

5. REQUESTS CEM and the Secretariat to develop a mechanism for providing technical support and training for developing national ecosystem risk assessments, such that they are carried out in alignment with approved categories and criteria, making use of the best available data, and aimed at achieving maximum impact on biodiversity conservation policies, and at assuring human livelihoods and well-being; and
6. CALLS ON donors to view the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems and the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* as products which will eventually be integrated and not as alternatives to each other, and therefore to support the enhancement of both.

WCC-2012-Res-056-EN

Enhancing connectivity conservation through international networking of best practice management

NOTING that Resolution 4.062 *Enhancing Ecological Networks and Connectivity Conservation Areas* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) called for enhanced ecological networks and connectivity conservation areas;

RECALLING the urgency underpinning this resolution that most biodiversity is today affected by human activities, and that according to the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment* "...over the past 50 years humans have changed ecosystems more rapidly and extensively than in any comparable period of time in human history", as a result of which more than 60% of ecosystem services are degraded;

ALSO RECALLING that healthy ecosystems provide a multitude of ecological services to humanity and that as such they represent its "life insurance" and the world's largest development agency;

APPLAUDING the Ecosystem Approach developed within the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

RECOGNIZING the indispensable contribution of protected areas, which today cover 12% of emerged land areas, to the conservation of life on Earth;

FURTHER RECALLING that Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* states that "By

2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes” which, if achieved, will significantly reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity;

NOTING however despite the revised 17% target, that there is a limit to the area which can be set aside, and that those areas reserved have geographically fixed, legally defined boundaries;

RECOGNIZING that the majority of the world’s biodiversity is found outside protected areas and that the latter will not be able to fulfil their protective role without taking into account the biodiversity found within a larger area;

HIGHLIGHTING the vital role that ecological networks and other connectivity conservation areas play in the conservation of biodiversity in the face of alterations caused by changes to climate, through, for example, improving the resilience of ecosystems and the dispersion of species, as highlighted by Aichi Target 11;

ENCOURAGED by initiatives for the implementation of networks of protected areas, and initiatives aimed at establishing ecological networks such as the Pan-European Ecological Network (PEEN) and the Natura 2000 network in Europe; Yellowstone to Yukon and boreal conservation efforts in North America, including the Canadian Boreal Initiative; Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and 2012 National Wildlife Corridors of Australia; the Terai Arc in Nepal and India; the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor; the Vilacamba-Amboró in South America, and many others;

RECALLING Recommendation 1.38 *Ecological Networks and Corridors of Natural and Semi-Natural Areas* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

FURTHER RECALLING the CBD *Programme of Work* target that, by 2015, “all protected area systems are integrated into the wider landscape and seascape, and relevant sectors, by applying the ecosystem approach and taking into account ecological connectivity and the concept, where appropriate, of ecological networks”;

NOTING that connectivity conservation and ecological networks are a strategic part of landscape and seascape integration of protected areas;

RECOGNIZING that infrastructure built by humans can be a major obstacle to ecological connectivity;

CONVINCED that the loss of connectivity in wildlife corridors leads to ecosystems becoming less resilient and to irreparable losses that have an effect on human welfare and safety;

RECOGNIZING the critical importance of people in connectivity conservation areas, their values, rights, needs and aspirations, and the need for them to be part of an integrated approach to connectivity conservation areas as part of ecological networks and to enable them to share in the benefits of protecting connectivity;

NOTING the urgency of action required to help retain these natural, interconnected lands and seas due to the pressures of global change, and in particular, the growth in the world’s population from 6.7 billion in 2008 to 9.2 billion people by 2050;

ALSO NOTING that the new carbon economy provides an opportunity for carbon storage and carbon sequestration in ecological networks including protected areas and connectivity conservation areas, and in particular, in high biodiversity conservation value sites;

RECOGNIZING the value of terrestrial connectivity conservation areas for the future supply of reliable quantities of high-quality water; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that connectivity conservation corridors including ecological networks require active management and that the exchange of best practice management information through informal and formal networks helps build continuous improvement;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS States to consolidate and continue to establish national ecological networks and connectivity conservation areas to strengthen the protection of biodiversity, including, as appropriate, biological corridors and buffer zones around protected areas;

2. CALLS ON States to continue to strengthen the integration of biodiversity and ecological connectivity in terrestrial and marine planning, including conservation planning and especially actions on climate change mitigation and adaptation; and
3. REQUESTS the Director General, in close collaboration with IUCN's Commissions, Council, Members and partners, to ensure that IUCN plays an active role in facilitating the effective management of ecological networks and connectivity conservation areas by:
 - a. actively assisting the development and operation of a new network for the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) called the International Connectivity Conservation Network (ICCN) whose principal role is to share best practice corridor management information, in association with the relevant parts of the Secretariat and the IUCN Commissions;
 - b. further supporting and facilitating the exchange of best practice connectivity conservation management information through an international network of connectivity conservation managers and stakeholders; and
 - c. supporting and facilitating the dissemination of information and provision of guidance on the legal aspects of connectivity conservation, both as an essential component of best practices in the establishment and maintenance of connectivity conservation areas, and as an essential element of their effective management.

WCC-2012-Res-057-EN Conserving island biodiversity and supporting human livelihoods

RECOGNIZING that islands and their surrounding waters cover one-sixth of the world's surface, representing one quarter of the nations of the world, containing 16% of the planet's known plant species, and over half of the world's tropical marine biodiversity, with over 20% of global coral atolls and lagoons in French Polynesia alone;

RECOGNIZING the deteriorating overall situation of island biodiversity due to invasive alien species, destruction of habitat and over-harvesting, impacts of climate

change, and particularly in Small Island Developing States (SIDS) the limited human, technical and financial capacity to effectively manage island biodiversity;

NOTING Resolutions 4.067 *Advancing island conservation and sustainable livelihoods* and 4.079 *European Union and its overseas entities faced with climate change and biodiversity loss* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

RECOGNIZING the special vulnerability of Small Island Developing States (SIDS), and in particular United Nations General Assembly Resolution 65/2 of October 2010 which recognized the objectives of the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) as vital and indispensable elements of achieving sustainable development in SIDS;

HIGHLIGHTING the importance of the CBD's *Island Biodiversity Programme of Work*, and the role of IUCN in supporting Small Island States and island territories in the implementation of this Programme of Work, and highlighting the role of the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA) as a mechanism to support its implementation including through inspiring high-level leadership, catalyzing commitments, and facilitating collaboration among all islands;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the ecological and regional connections between many SIDS, countries with islands and the Outermost regions (ORS) and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) of Europe, which are situated in biodiversity hotspots of global ecological significance and have the potential to strengthen the sharing of lessons and best practice;

CONCERNED about information gaps, invasive species, increasing impacts of climate change, over-harvesting, disaster risk and vulnerability, and forced migration – all as they relate to the specific situation of islands;

HIGHLIGHTING that while invasive species are one of the single most important threats to biodiversity, on most islands the current amount of investment at all levels is not sufficient to address this threat adequately;

WELCOMING the steps taken by IUCN to recognize the particular needs of islands and to establish the Global Island Initiative, the IUCN Caribbean Initiative 2009–2012 and the IUCN programme on EU Outermost Regions and Overseas Countries and Territories and the support provided to GLISPA;

RECOGNIZING the significant island leadership and efforts to achieve global conservation targets and sustain livelihoods of island people through the Coral Triangle Initiative, Micronesia Challenge, Caribbean Challenge Initiative, and the developing Western Indian Ocean Coastal Challenge and Far West Africa Conservation Challenges, New Zealand's efforts on invasive alien species, and the recent inscription of the Phoenix Islands Protected Area and Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Hawaii) as two of the largest World Heritage sites;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the importance of regional initiatives such as the Pacific Island Roundtable for Nature Conservation, the Western Indian Ocean Consortium, the Pacific Invasives Partnership (PIP), the European Island Biodiversity Working Group of the Bern Convention and the Europe Overseas Roundtable on Biodiversity and Climate Change in promoting collaboration, a shared vision and action towards sustaining island biodiversity and addressing the challenges of climate change; and

HIGHLIGHTING the potential of islands to be models for the blue/green economy and for integrating various models of sustainable development at a manageable scale;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. WELCOMES the leadership provided by the Director General in:
 - a. the development of the Global Island Initiative and appointment of staff for comprehensive implementation;
 - b. hosting GLISPA within IUCN to ensure its continued success as an important platform for island action, leadership and collaboration, and its continued role in supporting the CBD *Programmes of Work on Island Biodiversity and Protected Areas* and related policies; and
 - c. including oceans, coastal areas and islands as a mid-term, programme priority under the IUCN Business Model 2013–2016; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - a. undertake an independent review of the Global Island Initiative with due consideration

of opportunities to transition the Initiative to an appropriately resourced IUCN Global Islands Programme to enhance implementation of the IUCN One Programme;

- b. invest in the development of a Global Islands Portfolio of activities to conserve island biodiversity and address related climate change issues, with a clear focus on the vital Red-Listing process for island species and ecosystems, invasive species, ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation and mitigation, and greening island economies, and including pilot projects involving communities;
- c. increase financial support to GLISPA as an implementation mechanism of the CBD *Programme of Work on Island Biodiversity*, to catalyze and strengthen island leadership, and ensure collaboration of supporting partners; and
- d. enhance efforts to strengthen representation and governance mechanisms in support of conserving island biodiversity, nature-based solutions to climate change adaptation and mitigation and greening island economies within IUCN and with partners and stakeholders, taking advantage of island Members, IUCN National and Regional Committees, and Members' networks and platforms of island-related activities.

**WCC-2012-Res-058-EN
Ecosystem management for disaster risk reduction (DRR)**

RECOGNIZING the United Nations Hyogo Action Framework and in particular its Priority Action 4 on *Reducing Underlying Risk Factors* as a guide for developing stronger environmentally related policies and practices for nature-based disaster risk reduction;

NOTING the protective functions of ecosystems such as coral reefs, mangroves, wetlands and mountain forests through, *inter alia*, flood mitigation, drought management, slope stabilization, wildfire control and that this is why they are referred to as “natural infrastructure” (the stock of ecosystems providing services needed for the operation of the economy and society that complement, augment or replace the services provided by engineered infrastructure);

RECALLING that the poor, women and children, in developing countries are disproportionately more vulnerable to natural disasters;

FURTHER CONCERNED that ecological degradation reduces the ability of ecosystems to sequester carbon, provide valuable resources such as food, medicinal plants, clean water, air and fuel, and thus further exacerbates the vulnerabilities to climate change and its related disasters;

CONVINCED that it is urgent to design strategies for adaptation to climate change that are based on environmental protection and restoration to reduce future impacts from disasters and other related adverse effects from climate change;

CONCERNED that disasters and the responses to them have a negative impact on biodiversity through the spread of invasive species, mass species mortality and loss of habitat, and that poorly planned post-disaster response and reconstruction work can further degrade ecosystems;

RECALLING that the frequency and severity of disasters, unless reduced through prevention or mitigation and preparedness measures, will only serve to undermine sustainable development initiatives;

AWARE that investing in natural barriers and in mainstreaming disaster risk and ecosystem management in development planning can be cost-efficient and may represent a no-regret solution that has potential to make a major contribution to the goal of achieving sustainable livelihoods for the poor;

EMPHASIZING that IUCN has experience and expertise in ecosystem management and is therefore a valuable resource in contributing to the understanding of underlying environmental risk factors and the way to reduce related social vulnerabilities; and

AFFIRMING that IUCN is uniquely positioned to integrate ecosystem management, livelihoods, community vulnerability, climate change adaptation and disaster management;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON all of IUCN's State Members to develop and establish cross-sectoral policies among relevant sectors such as environment management, disaster

risk reduction and climate change to provide a facilitating framework for a truly integrated approach to develop nature-based solutions for reducing community vulnerabilities and disseminate lessons learnt on best and worst practices;

2. URGES IUCN State and non-State Members to uphold the 2009 United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and IUCN joint publication *Making Disaster Risk Reduction Gender-Sensitive: Policy and Practical Guidelines* in relation to legislation, policies and programmes for sustainable development;
3. FURTHER CALLS ON State Members to commit to establishing innovative nature-based solutions in complementing engineered infrastructure with natural infrastructure for disaster risk reduction, as well as having post-disaster "green recovery" strategies in place;
4. URGES IUCN Member States to adopt a post "Hyogo Framework" that recognizes and capitalizes upon the role of ecosystem services for disaster risk reduction; and
5. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - a. continue developing cross-sectoral partnerships, including through involvement with the Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR) for integrating ecosystem- and nature-based disaster risk reduction into preventative and reactive responses to disasters;
 - b. continue promoting ecosystem- and nature-based disaster risk reduction at international fora, such as the United Nations Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction;
 - c. prioritize participatory initiatives for coastal, watershed, dryland and mountain ecosystem restoration for social-ecological resilience to disasters;
 - d. identify strategic links and facilitate collaboration between climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction communities for united action in sustainable environmental management;
 - e. further research and promote the economic case for ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction; and

- f. develop guidelines to integrate disaster-risk reduction in green reconstruction and recovery initiatives.

WCC-2012-Res-059-EN

The importance of adaptation and disaster risk reduction in coastal areas

RECOGNIZING that nearly half of the human population lives in coastal areas, that coastlines contain more than two-thirds of the world's largest cities, and that these populations are growing more rapidly than global trends;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that many economic activities and critical infrastructure are concentrated in coastal areas and that the coastal zone is an important engine of national economies of most coastal countries;

AWARE that sea level rise is likely to become one of the major impacts of climate change over the coming century, causing gradual inundation of lowlands; increased rates of erosion in many areas, even of higher elevation shores; and the salinization of ground-water in many coastal and small island territories;

AWARE that in addition to sea level rise, coastal communities are threatened by a number of coastal hazards such as tropical storms and storm surges, and that these hazards are increasing in intensity as a result of climate change;

CONCERNED that many indigenous, local and poor communities live in low elevation coastal zones and small islands, often in substandard housing, and are therefore highly threatened by small rises in sea level, and other coastal hazards;

RECOGNIZING the important role that coastal ecosystems can play in reducing risks from coastal hazards to coastal communities, particularly through wave attenuation and shoreline stabilization, as well as the large body of information now available to provide information about the conditions under which ecosystems will provide such services;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the same ecosystems offer multiple additional services that support resilience of human communities. Examples of such services are food, fuelwood and timber provision, and water and climate regulation. The full suite of these and other services that coastal ecosystems provide are an opportunity

for development and job creation, if they are managed sustainably;

ALARMED that coastal ecosystems are experiencing some of the most rapid environmental change and are being lost at a higher rate than most other ecosystems;

FURTHER CONCERNED that most strategies to protect coastal communities and resources from coastal hazards and sea level rise involve hard engineering and artificial coastal defences. These may have an impact on the ecosystem services on which coastal communities depend, thereby potentially increasing social and economic vulnerability;

CONSIDERING that, in some cases, artificial structures accelerate rates of change and cause erosion of coastlines;

NOTING that ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation and disaster risk reduction are the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services to help people to adapt to climate change and other hazards, and that effective adaptation requires attention to ecological, social and economic aspects of sustainability;

RECOGNIZING that ecosystem-based based approaches to adaptation and disaster risk reduction present tangible opportunities to address impacts of climate change and other hazards by aligning conservation, development and poverty alleviation interests;

ALSO NOTING that ecosystems can be used in combination with hard and soft engineering approaches to produce "hybrid" strategies for coastal risk reduction, where many ecosystem services remain or can be restored leading to a significant contribution to risk reduction; and

FURTHER CONSIDERING that management efforts are more effective when vulnerable indigenous peoples and local communities are respected partners and custodians;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS on the Director General to dedicate further efforts and resources to promote and advance ecosystem-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction in coastal areas globally, including human and social aspects of adaptation as part of the IUCN Marine and Polar Programme under the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*;

2. URGES IUCN coastal State and government agency Members, and other coastal States to:
 - a. pay special attention to nature-based adaptation in coastal areas in particular when developing their national adaptation plans;
 - b. integrate ecological, economic and social consideration when undertaking vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning, taking into account the critical role that coastal ecosystem play in both 1) reducing risks to human communities and their economic assets along the coast, and 2) in supporting social and economic development;
 - c. actively involve diverse stakeholders in strategy development and seek collaboration between governments, indigenous and local communities, environmental organizations, relevant private-sector stakeholders, development and humanitarian aid organizations;
 - d. encourage collaboration between industry and NGOs in developing and demonstrating ecosystem-based approaches for coastal risk reduction and encourage the corporate sector to take a leading role in promoting such approaches;
 - e. fully account for risks and all costs and benefits associated with development in vulnerable coastal areas, provide incentives for “climate smart” and integrated coastal development and discourage development in vulnerable and sensitive coastal habitats;
 - f. conserve and restore “natural coastal infrastructure”, coastal ecosystems and wetlands (and in particular mangroves, coral reefs, bivalve banks, saltmarshes, tidal flats and seagrasses) that help reduce vulnerability and increase resilience to climate change impacts;
 - g. undertake environmental impact assessment when planning and installing artificial coastal defences and consider the risks such structures pose to coastal ecosystems, including the risks for the ecosystem services they provide to society; and
 - h. where the use of hard engineering approaches is necessary, strongly encourage consideration of hybrid engineering approaches that combine ecosystem restoration and management with engineering techniques to enhance risk reduction and improve efficiency of hard infrastructure while continuing to provide additional ecosystem services;
 3. URGES multilateral development banks and agencies, national and local government and agencies in charge of coastal development to take into consideration the impacts of climate change in the coastal zone when planning new coastal development projects;
 4. URGES donor agencies and multilateral development organizations to increase their support for developing and implementing nature-based approaches to reducing climate and disaster risks in coastal areas, in particular in vulnerable Small Island Developing States, low-lying countries, and deltaic areas;
 5. URGES all private-sector actors that are active in coastal areas to consider their direct and indirect impacts and dependencies on coastal ecosystems and to embrace and develop best practice that will lead to a net positive impact for these ecosystems; and
 6. ENCOURAGES private-sector actors that are active in coastal areas to collaborate with government agencies and NGOs in demonstrating ecosystem-based adaptation at scale.
- WCC-2012-Res-060-EN**
Strengthening the role of IUCN in saving the world’s primary forests
- RECALLING IUCN Resolutions 1.20, 1.21, 1.22, 2.39, 3.071, 3.101, 4.068, 4.075, 4.076, 4.078, 4.083, and 4.134, referenced in full in Annex I of this Resolution;
- NOTING with concern that Earth continues to face an extinction crisis, and that primary forests, particularly tropical primary forests, contain half or more of the planet’s terrestrial biodiversity;
- RECOGNIZING that intact primary forests provide ecosystem services at local, regional and global scales, including protection of water quality and quantity, maintenance of significant carbon stocks and ongoing sequestration of carbon to mitigate climate change,

regulation of local climate variability, maintenance of wild relatives of crops, pollinators, soil formation and retention, and other services vital for food security;

ACKNOWLEDGING that while precise definitions of “primary forest” vary, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations defines primary forest as “Naturally regenerated forest of native species, where there are no clearly visible indications of human activities and the ecological processes are not significantly disturbed”;

NOTING that some 50% of the world’s natural forest cover has been lost, with particular high and continuing rates of loss in tropical forests, and that only around 36% of Earth’s remaining forests are primary forests;

BEARING IN MIND the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)/IUCN *Guidelines for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber production forests*;

RECALLING the United Nation’s *Non-legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests* and its first Global Objective, to “reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide”;

FURTHER RECALLING that both the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) include reducing deforestation and conserving natural forests among their objectives, and have requested input for improving synergies between the two conventions to achieve both climate change and biodiversity objectives;

RECOGNIZING that the direct drivers of primary forest degradation and loss have been well documented, and include conversion for agriculture and livestock; direct and indirect impacts of the expansion of infrastructure, mining, and human settlement; and legally-authorized as well as illegal logging;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the indirect drivers of primary forest degradation and loss are complex and vary from place to place, but frequently include, *inter alia*, insecure and inequitable land tenure, inadequate or absent forest land-use planning, deficiencies in the rule of law and law enforcement, weak institutional capacities, perverse subsidies and economic incentives;

NOTING also that logging in primary tropical forests often acts as the cutting-edge agent of forest degradation

and as a precursor to uncontrolled expansion of agriculture, infrastructure and human settlement, frequently resulting in massive losses of biodiversity and carbon, the destruction of local livelihoods, and increased forest and land fires;

REAFFIRMING the central role of protected areas, including indigenous and community conserved areas, in an overall strategy to slow the loss of primary forests; and

CONVINCED that legitimate human needs and aspirations worldwide can be met without destroying the world’s remaining primary forests, particularly if efforts are significantly increased to optimize use of existing purpose planted trees on previously cleared land and restore degraded lands for agricultural and timber and fibre production;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and Council to establish a mechanism involving representatives of Council, the Secretariat, IUCN Commissions and Members to examine, make recommendations and report to Council and Members, by the end of 2013, on:
 - a. opportunities to strengthen relevant IUCN global programmes and build synergies between them, as well as the Commissions, with a view to saving the world’s remaining primary forests;
 - b. options and opportunities to meet global demand for wood and agricultural commodities from lands other than primary forests;
 - c. measures that IUCN can take or promote to help ensure that purpose planted trees (plantations) for wood, fibre, or biofuel and biofibre feed-stocks or other agricultural products do not further encroach on remaining primary forests, and their carbon and biodiversity benefits;
 - d. the current state of the science and practice of logging in tropical forests, the extent to which current best practices are in fact compatible with the maintenance of primary forest as primary forest, and recommendations for IUCN in accordance with the findings and conclusions of this inquiry; and

- e. options and strategies for emphasizing the protection of primary forests in the evolving international REDD+ regime, as well as national REDD+ strategies, in ways that provide appropriate financial and other incentives, respect the rights and livelihoods of indigenous and other local communities dependent on primary forests, and maximize biodiversity and carbon sequestration benefits;
 2. ALSO REQUESTS the Director General and Council, in carrying out the tasks in paragraph 1, to review and build on relevant IUCN Resolutions, literature on the drivers of deforestation and other related topics, and to consult as appropriate with IUCN Members and Commissions, members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests¹, relevant multilateral and bilateral development agencies, centres of scientific, technical and policy expertise, the private sector, NGOs, representatives of indigenous and local communities, and other stakeholders and institutions as they may deem necessary;
 3. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General to convey recommendations to Council and the Membership on ways to strengthen the IUCN Programme and approach to primary forests, both for the current Programme and for future Programmes, and also to conduct outreach to relevant international processes and bodies such as CBD, UNFCCC, REDD+ Partnership, ITTO, etc.; and
 4. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General to develop a work plan and procedures for carrying out this Resolution, based on IUCN rules, procedures and best practices for similar exercises, in consultation with Council.
- 3.071 *International cooperation on forest management*
 - 3.101 *Advancing boreal forest conservation*
 - 4.068 *Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD)*
 - 4.075 *Climate change mitigation targets and actions for biodiversity conservation*
 - 4.076 *Biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation in national policies and strategies*
 - 4.078 *Appeal for action to address global environmental change*
 - 4.083 *Industrial agrofuel production*
 - 4.134 *Responding to deforestation and land degradation related to climate change and desertification*

WCC-2012-Res-061-EN

IUCN strategy for tropical forest ecosystems of Amazonia and Congo Basins and South East Asia basins

RECALLING the Joint Declaration of the Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the First Summit on Tropical Forest Ecosystems of Amazonia and Congo Basins and South East Asia basins adopted in Brazzaville on 3 June 2011;

RECALLING the conclusions of the Summit of Heads of State and Government on the Forest Ecosystems of the Congo Basin held in Brazzaville on 5 February 2005;

RECOGNIZING the fact that sustainable ecosystem management constitutes a crucial and essential element for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other international agreements, as well as national legal instruments;

REAFFIRMING the fact that ecosystem management plays a key role in the implementation of IUCN's mission and Programme, and that, whilst constituting the *raison d'être* of the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), it also plays an important role in the work carried out by the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL), the Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA); and

ANNEX I: Past IUCN Resolutions Relevant to this Resolution's Objectives

- 1.20 *Biological Diversity and Forests*
- 1.21 *Forest Concessions*
- 1.22 *Voluntary Independent Certification of Forest Management and Marketing Claims*
- 2.39 *Corruption in the Forest Sector*

¹ Including: Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), CBD, FAO, Global Environment Facility (GEF), ITTO, IUCN, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Forum on Forests, UNFCCC, World Agroforestry Centre and The World Bank.

NOTING the crucial and essential role played by tropical forest ecosystems in the mitigation of climate change;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

REQUESTS the IUCN Council to create a mechanism to pay special attention to the sustainable management of tropical forest ecosystems in the Amazon Basin, the Congo Basin and in South East Asia basins, within the context of the IUCN 2013–2016 Programme Areas ‘Valuing and conserving nature’ and ‘Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food and development’; and include in the mechanism representatives of CEM, the other Commissions involved and mentioned above, the IUCN Secretariat and the Council Programme Committee.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-062-EN
Atlantic Forest in Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, as a priority biome for conservation

CONSIDERING that the Atlantic Forest in Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay is one of the most endangered biomes in the world, among the richest in biodiversity (over 10,000 plant species; 298 species of mammals; over 200 bird species; and more than 140 species of reptiles), and among the most significant in terms of levels of endemism (8,000 tree species, 40% of the total; 200 bird species, 16%; 71 mammal species, 27%; 94 reptile species, 31%; and 286 amphibian species, 60%; to mention only the best-known taxonomic groups), there is an absolute urge to enhance its protection;

RECOGNIZING that in Brazil only approximately 8% of the Atlantic coastal forest remains, that less than 20% of the remaining biome is officially conserved in protected areas, and that high rates of forest loss are still present, approaching 350 km² or 0.25% per year in Brazil, and even higher rates in Argentina and Paraguay, international recognition of the importance of conserving the remnants of what still exists of the Atlantic Forest may be critical for its protection – from individuals to organizations and societies in general, and from local to national

and global levels – and that IUCN is in a unique position to influence many levels of decision making and conservation policy that may help create change;

AWARE that IUCN, primarily through its Commissions and Members, can play an important role in advocating the importance of conserving the Atlantic Forest among the Multilateral Environmental Agreements and conventions;

ANTICIPATING the continuing rapid growth of national, regional and global pressures on natural habitats, especially those where human populations are concentrated (70% of the Brazilian population lives in cleared lands once covered by the Atlantic Forest, even though it accounts for only 11% of the nation’s territory, and approximately 80% of the Brazilian gross domestic product (GDP) is generated in the Atlantic Forest region);

UNDERSTANDING that the integrity of the world today may depend on the protection of natural areas – to provide for food and water security and reduce the pressures caused by climate change and soil degradation, pollution and other negative impacts on human well-being and the preservation of the world’s biodiversity;

RECALLING Resolution 4.004 *Strengthening IUCN’s institutional presence in South America* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), aiming at strengthening IUCN’s initiatives in South America, and which resulted in the establishment of an office in Brazil; and

REAFFIRMING the importance of IUCN’s role for global conservation, it is imperative that it provides the following guidance for the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* on this matter;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to include into the IUCN regional programmes specific and measurable initiatives to influence public policies to better protect the Atlantic Forest in Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, and to contribute more effectively to the implementation of the Conventions that deal with Biodiversity and Climate Change and, recognizing the role of the organization’s Commissions and Members in influencing policies and actions, to work on synergies that may enhance the implementation of the Conventions; and

2. REQUESTS the Director General to:
- a. incorporate specific activities and goals regarding the conservation of the Atlantic Forest into the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* pursuant to the aforementioned point;
 - b. further strengthen IUCN’s bioregional role in South America, considering the Atlantic Forest as being present in Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay;
 - c. strengthen IUCN’s role to enhance protection of Atlantic forests, in one of its most important niches, which is to integrate South American countries in the “IUCN family” approach, enhancing the application of international conventions and regional agreements (such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and Mercosul, among others);
 - d. expand IUCN’s recommendations to protect Atlantic forests for the next quadrennium, integrating the objectives, themes and specific activities, specifying responsibilities for the different components of the “IUCN family”, such as Members, Commissions, Secretariat, at both regional and central levels;
 - e. take action regarding sending letters to the three countries’ presidents, ministers and other decision makers in support of Atlantic Forest protection, based on the relevant international conventions and regional agreements; and
 - f. support local member organizations and members of Commissions in emergency situations that may threaten the Atlantic Forest in any of the three countries that host this biome.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-063-EN

Support for conservation and sustainable use of Gotjawal forests in Jeju, Republic of Korea

RECOGNIZING that the Gotjawal forests of 109.87 km², covering 6% of Jeju Island, is a unique resource created by volcanic activity in Aa lava areas of Jeju Island, which serves to recharge the island’s groundwater used as the main source of drinking water for the population of Jeju, and that these forests are very important in terms of ecosystem services and the application of traditional knowledge in relation to abundant biological diversity and sustainable uses of the forests;

RECALLING that in connection with Resolutions 4.040 *Conservation of geodiversity and geological heritage*, 4.067 *Advancing island conservation and sustainable livelihoods*, 4.094 *Impetus and support for local and regional biodiversity conservation policies*, and 4.055 *Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN’s policy and Programme* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), the purchasing properties in the Gotjawal forests as a National Trust Movement has been carried out to conserve these areas under the leadership of the Gotjawal Trust of Jeju since 2007;

NOTING that the Gotjawal forests, including Jeju Volcanic Island and Lava Tubes, inscribed as a Natural World Heritage site as well as a Wetland of International Importance (‘Ramsar site’), are home to *Mankyua jejuense*, an endemic fern of a monotypic genus, and 36 plant species which are on the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*; in addition to the bird Fairy Pitta (*Pitta nympha*), and that traditional knowledge has been accumulated by the indigenous people in the area for ages; and

CONCERNED that large-scale developments such as golf course construction are in progress on the private lands of over 60% in Gotjawal forests, and that as such destructive developments continue, they will not only destroy the original features of the unique ecosystem of the Gotjawal forests, but also eventually threaten the livelihood of all Jeju residents;

The World Conservation Congress, at its Session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to seek support for conservation programmes on the wise use of natural

resources of the Gotjawal forests and the sustainability of livelihoods in connection to Gotjawal because the conservation of biological, geological and cultural diversity, including traditional knowledge of indigenous people of Gotjawal, is consistent with IUCN's objective, and the pattern of sustainable use by indigenous people is also consistent with the principle of Biosphere Reserve which emphasizes the mutual prosperity of biological organisms as well as human; and

2. URGES the Government of the Republic of Korea, the Government of Jeju Special Self-governing Province, and the private sector conducting the developments, to take active part in the Gotjawal Trust Movement, to establish long-term plans and to take immediate and practical actions for the conservation of the Gotjawal forests.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-064-EN Acknowledging Quebec's advancement of conservation of the Boreal region

HAVING RECOGNIZED in Resolution 3.101 *Advancing boreal forest conservation* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), the critical importance of the world's remaining intact boreal forest regions, and in that resolution having urged governments to take steps to conserve those forest regions under their jurisdiction;

RECALLING that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has noted that the fundamental requirement for the conservation of biological diversity is the in-situ conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats and the maintenance and recovery of viable populations of species in their natural surroundings, and has recognized the close and traditional dependence of many indigenous local communities embodying traditional lifestyles on biological resources;

RECALLING that the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) has recognized that respect for indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment;

AKNOWLEDGING that on May 9, 2011 the Government of Quebec, represented by Prime Minister Jean Charest, and a "Partners Table" including leaders from aboriginal communities, environmental organizations, industry and local government, signed together a "Declaration of the Partners" regarding the Plan Nord, a sustainable development initiative applying to the northern two-thirds of the province of Quebec, an area covering 1.2 million square kilometres;

ACKNOWLEDGING WITH SATISFACTION that this Declaration recognizes that:

- a. the development of the territory that the Plan Nord covers must be socially responsible, sustainable and environmentally sound;
- b. the Plan Nord must support development that fosters the preservation of the quality of the environment, safeguards biodiversity and the traditional, ancestral way of life of the First Nations and the Inuit and allows for collective social and economic enrichment;
- c. the Plan Nord must abide by the agreements already concluded with the First Nations and the Inuit living in the territory and their ancestral rights and that its implementation must be sufficiently flexible to allow for a case-by-case examination of each development project, take into account current and future negotiations, and adapt to changes in such negotiations, in particular in respect of governance;
- d. the Plan Nord must complement the approaches that the Government of Quebec has already adopted in respect of the aboriginal representatives concerned to deal with questions that require immediate action and that nation-to-nation discussions must be maintained between the Government of Quebec and the aboriginal nations throughout the implementation of the Plan Nord;
- e. the territory encompassed by the Plan Nord contains some of the world's most extensive intact ecosystems, which provide an array of ecological goods and services that it is important to maintain; and
- f. mechanisms must be adopted to ensure the continuity of the commitment to devote 50% of the territory that the Plan Nord covers to non-industrial purposes, environmental protection and safeguarding biodiversity;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING WITH SATISFACTION that:

- a. the Government of Quebec has committed to initiate Ecological Planning by 2013 on the whole of the Plan Nord territory with a participation framework for consulting with the territory's stakeholders and aboriginal peoples to achieve these goals;
- b. the Government of Quebec has committed to create Protected Areas on 20% of the Territory of the Plan Nord by 2020 as an interim target, which will thereby devote 17% of the territory of the Province of Quebec to conservation by that date; and
- c. the Government of Quebec intends to develop the ecological and environmental knowledge needed to assess various conservation practices to ensure the protection of the environment and the territory;

RECOGNIZING that Plan Nord will make a significant contribution towards Canada's commitments to the Aichi Targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* including Strategic goal B, Target 5, and particularly to Target 11 of goal C which sets global conservation targets for 2020, whereby areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascapes; and

NOTING the importance of the commitment that at all stages of the planning and realization of the projects put forward under the Plan Nord, the protection of the environment and northern ecosystems, which are especially sensitive to climate change and disturbances stemming from human intervention, will be at the forefront of decision making;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. WELCOMES the policies and commitments of the Plan Nord because of their commitment to conservation and sustainable economic development;
2. AFFIRMS that the policies and commitments of the Plan Nord befit a sustainable development model that, if implemented in full, will allow natural resources to be developed in a spirit of respect for the

environment, thereby creating an exemplary sustainable development project that integrates energy, mining, forest, bio-food, tourism, transportation development, wildlife management, environmental protection, the preservation of biodiversity, and that will foster development for the benefit of the communities concerned in a spirit of respect for cultures and identities;

3. FURTHER AFFIRMS that the aspirational goal of maintaining 50% of the northern territory of Quebec free from industrial development, if operationalized correctly, has the ability to be a guiding light to the globe as we combat the enormous global challenges of biodiversity loss and climate change;
4. AFFIRMS that Plan Nord is a globally significant sustainable development initiative, if implemented in a manner that safeguards the integrity of the environment and respects the indigenous peoples' human rights in accordance with the principles of UNDRIP;
5. FURTHER AFFIRMS that the proposal to dedicate 600,000 square kilometres to non-industrial purposes, protecting the environment and safeguarding biodiversity, is an outstanding and historic conservation policy that will positively reverberate around the world;
6. AFFIRMS that the ecological planning at the heart of Plan Nord is a critically important strategic commitment that will provide a sound long-term foundation for conservation;
7. AFFIRMS that the conservation components of Plan Nord will make an outstanding contribution to climate change adaptation responses in the boreal zone; and
8. CONGRATULATES the Government of Quebec for its vision and commitments to conservation and aboriginal rights.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-065-EN **The conservation and protection of the world's indigenous temperate grasslands**

CONSIDERING that indigenous temperate grasslands provide a wide range of ecological services for life on Earth: as a source of food, water and fibre for human livelihoods and well-being; for cultural and biological diversity; and the sequestration of carbon, particularly in the face of global climate change;

ACKNOWLEDGING that indigenous temperate grasslands, that occur on every continent except Antarctica, have been modified by human activity to such a degree that very little remains in its natural state and that they are currently considered by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) as one of the most at-risk ecosystems in the world;

CONFIRMING that indigenous temperate grasslands have a global level of protection of only 4–5%, the lowest of all terrestrial biomes, and that many new, large and ecologically viable protected areas need to be established to achieve conservation and protection on a landscape scale to reach the Aichi Biodiversity Target of 17%;

RECOGNIZING that the remaining areas of indigenous temperate grasslands continue to be threatened by inappropriate policies that lead to further loss through conversion and unsustainable land use and management practices;

ACKNOWLEDGING that many indigenous temperate grasslands play an important role in poverty and hunger alleviation and food production, and thus are not only strategic ecologically but are essential for contributing to the achievement of the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs);

REALIZING the importance of indigenous temperate grasslands to the life and cultural survival of mobile indigenous peoples and, in turn, the value of the accumulated knowledge and experience of traditional temperate grasslands users to their on-going conservation and management;

ACKNOWLEDGING that climate change seriously affects the biodiversity of, and the provision of goods and services by, indigenous temperate grasslands, thus having

a negative impact on biodiversity and people that depend on these grasslands for sustaining their lives and livelihoods;

CONSCIOUS that developing and implementing effective incentives for good land stewardship, restoration and the sustainable management of indigenous temperate grasslands is essential to guaranteeing their long-term sustainable use as healthy and living environments; and

RECOGNIZING that the Temperate Grasslands Conservation Initiative (TGCI) of the WCPA Grasslands Specialist Group is focused on achieving the conservation and protection of the world's indigenous temperate grasslands to meet the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) targets and to contribute to the MDGs and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), in coherence with the IUCN Drylands Programme, having achieved the following goals over the past decade:

- a. assembled an international network of grasslands professionals to address the issues surrounding their conservation and protection;
- b. improved communications on the subject through workshops, a newsletter, publications and website;
- c. compiled a list of existing protected areas in the grasslands biome and identified priorities for future conservation and protection;
- d. assessed the current state of knowledge on the economic value of intact indigenous temperate grasslands; and
- e. observed an increase in the level of protection for this biome of 600%, from 0.69% to 5%, since the TGCI's inception in 1996;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and the IUCN Commissions to:
 - a. acknowledge that indigenous temperate grasslands are one of the most imperilled and the least protected ecosystems and are under-represented in the world's protected area system and, as a consequence, include this issue in the implementation of the Global and Regional Programmes;

- b. encourage governments, non-government organizations and private interests to protect indigenous temperate grasslands, with the aim of achieving Aichi Target 11, with a minimum of 10% by 2014, as proposed at the IVth World Congress on National Parks and Protected Areas in 1992 in Caracas, Venezuela;
 - c. recognize that indigenous temperate grasslands require urgent and targeted action to protect, maintain and restore their biodiversity and the many valuable social, cultural, economic and ecological services they provide to sustain human life and well-being under the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*; and
 - d. support the work of the *Temperate Grasslands Conservation Initiative* and the WCPA Grasslands Specialist Group;
2. REQUESTS relevant governments to:
- a. increase the efforts to designate protected areas within indigenous temperate grassland regions, and integrate them into broader, multiple use landscapes; and
 - b. promote the sustainable use of indigenous temperate grasslands through the development of incentive mechanisms and certification schemes; and
3. REQUESTS international funding mechanisms, including the Global Environment Facility, to support a targeted increase in funds available for temperate grassland conservation, protection and sustainable management.

WCC-2012-Res-066-EN Antarctica and the Southern Ocean

RECALLING Resolutions 2.54 *Antarctica and the Southern Ocean* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), 3.36 *Antarctica and the Southern Ocean* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok 2004) and 4.034 *IUCN's engagement on Antarctica and the Southern Ocean*, and Recommendation 4.118 *Antarctica and the Southern Ocean* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

ALSO RECALLING Resolutions 16.9 *Antarctica (II)* adopted by the 16th IUCN General Assembly (Madrid, 1984), 18.74 *The Antarctic Conservation Strategy* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990) and 19.96 *Antarctica and the Southern Ocean*, and Recommendation 19.95 *Improved Protection for Wildlife in Subantarctic Island Ecosystems* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);

FURTHER RECALLING the commitment made by heads of State and government at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg) for States to facilitate development of representative networks of marine protected areas (MPAs) by 2012, and the recommendations of the 2003 World Parks Congress (Durban) calling for the establishment and effective management by 2008 of at least five scientifically and globally representative High Seas MPAs, and for relevant organizations by 2012 to devote urgent attention to creating and expanding MPA networks, including 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;

NOTING that the 10th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP10) in Nagoya, Japan, agreed to the ecologically and biologically significant area criteria and the associated programme of work;

ACKNOWLEDGING the steps taken by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) to develop a network of MPAs in the Southern Ocean, and decisions taken by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to designate Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPAs) and Antarctic Specially Managed Areas (ASMAs) in both terrestrial and marine environments;

RECOGNIZING the primary role of the agreements of the Antarctic Treaty System in the conservation and management of the Antarctic region;

WELCOMING Antarctica's status as a natural reserve devoted to peace and science under the Antarctic Treaty and its Protocol on Environmental Protection, and the work of the Parties to those agreements through the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings and its Committee on Environmental Protection to advance the Protocol objective of comprehensive environmental protection;

CONCERNED about the potential for cumulative impacts on the Antarctic from the growing intensity, diversity and spread of human activities;

CONCERNED about the emerging impacts on Antarctic ecosystems from global climate change and ocean acidification;

CONCERNED by the absence of appropriate ice-classification requirements for the increasing number of vessels operating in the Southern Ocean and noting the possible opportunities to improve the routing of vessels to increase safety and avoid sensitive areas, and improve requirements for the prevention of pollution;

NOTING with concern the number of serious accidents involving fishing vessels in the Southern Ocean in the last two years that have resulted in loss of life and environmental impacts, and at the same time the likelihood that vessel traffic will increase in the years to come;

WELCOMING the International Maritime Organization (IMO) agreement to prohibit use and carriage of heavy fuel oils in the Southern Ocean;

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;

CONCERNED that Parties to the *Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty* have not brought into force its Annex VI on Liability and Emergency Response Action, which is an important tool to encourage higher operational and shipping standards;

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

NOTING that protection and management of the land and marine components of the Antarctic and Southern Ocean is fully consistent with Area 1 – *Valuing and conserving nature* and Area 2 – *Effective and equitable governance of nature's use* of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea 6–15 September 2012:

1. ENCOURAGES all CCAMLR members, in addition to implementing previous Recommendations and Resolutions, to:
 - a. include large areas and potentially the whole of the Ross Sea and other large areas in the Southern Ocean, in a representative system of marine reserves, based on the best available scientific information; and
 - b. take coordinated action to further improve the CCAMLR Ecosystem Monitoring Program (CEMP), which is fundamental for the proper management of the krill fishery, including support for and use of the recently established CEMP Fund;
2. URGES all Parties to the Antarctic Treaty, the Protocol on Environmental Protection and CCAMLR to take the steps necessary to:
 - a. reflect climate change effects in strategies and measures for the conservation and management of Antarctic marine living resources, including the designation of MPAs, and engage with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) to promote the important climate change research results flowing from Antarctica; and
 - b. coordinate steps to manage and minimize and as practicable remove marine debris from the ocean in the CCAMLR area;
3. SUPPORT the work of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to develop a legally binding and mandatory Polar Code that will cover both new and existing vessels operating in the Antarctic, which may address: (a) appropriate ice-classification requirements in relation to ice-cover; (b) regulation of ballast water and grey water discharges; (c) prevention of the entry of alien species through various pathways; (d) prohibiting the dumping of food wastes and sewage into the Southern Ocean; and (e) reducing air emissions and in particular black carbon emissions through the use of increased voyage optimization, vessel speeds, and further energy efficiency and emission control measures;
4. AGAIN URGES all Parties to the Antarctic Treaty, the Protocol on Environmental Protection and CCAMLR to take the steps necessary to:

- a. stop the illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing for toothfish (*Dissostichus* spp.) in the oceans around Antarctica, by using port state enforcement tools, ratifying the *Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing*, sharing relevant satellite data, and direct interdiction in the Southern Ocean; and
 - b. continue to consider issues related to bio prospecting in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, resolve legal and environmental issues if any, and if necessary consider the need for an appropriate set of management rules and measures;
5. AGAIN URGES all Parties to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to take the necessary steps to:
- a. enforce existing rules and establish new rules, as needed, to ensure that Antarctic tourism is conducted in a safe and environmentally sound manner, including limits to the concentration of tourists at particular sites, consideration of the overall number of tourists, and not allowing construction of land-based tourism infrastructure with significant environmental impacts such as hotels;
 - b. protect wilderness values;
 - c. plan activities in Antarctic Treaty areas so as to avoid degradation of wilderness areas and minimize the impacts of human activities in the Antarctic; and
 - d. ratify Annex VI to the Protocol as soon as practical to bring into force this important instrument on liability for harm to the environment and emergency response action; and
6. CALLS ON the Director General and Council, in implementing Area 1 – *Valuing and conserving nature* and Area 2 – *Effective and equitable governance of nature's use* of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, to take steps to ensure that it strengthens its participation in the Antarctic Treaty and CCAMLR meetings and intersessional work, that IUCN information and data are regularly presented to the Antarctic Treaty System in a timely manner, and that IUCN includes Antarctica in its policy and Polar priorities and allocates adequate resources for this work.

The State Member Japan provided the following statement for the record:

“The delegation of Japan expresses appreciations to all the participants for their hard work to develop a consensus text through Contact Group meetings.

However, as stated at the Contact Group meeting, Japan has a fundamental concern in this Motion that, MPAs or marine reserves are highlighted as the only tool for conservation and management of Antarctic marine living resources in the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources or CCAMLR.

There are many management tools in RFMOs such as limiting fishing effort and/or catch, and it is the CCAMLR members to choose the most suitable tool or combination of tools for each species and/or fishing type based on science. Japan believes that IUCN should not prejudice CCAMLR's decision.

For this reason, Japan did not support this Motion.”

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-067-EN IUCN and the Arctic region – intensified and coordinated work

NOTING that the Arctic environment is one of the world's most threatened ecosystems; the threats are manifold: from the on-going changes originating in climate change, to an increase of competition for the natural resources of the area;

RECALLING decisions by previous General Assemblies (GA) and World Conservation Congresses (WCC): 4th GA Copenhagen 1954, 7th GA Warsaw 1960, 10th GA New Delhi 1969, 11th GA Banff 1972, 14th GA Ashkhabad 1978, 15th GA Christchurch 1981, 16th GA Madrid 1984, 17th GA San José 1988, 18th GA Perth 1990, 19th GA Buenos Aires 1994; 1st WCC Montreal 1996, regarding the development of an action plan for Arctic conservation and sustainable development, working with indigenous peoples, *et al.*; 2nd WCC Amman 2000, regarding the need for an Arctic strategy and action plan, integrated ecosystem management, ecological integrity, and environmental security, *et al.*; 4th WCC Barcelona 2008, regarding IUCN representation by appropriate experts at relevant negotiations;

RECOGNIZING that IUCN throughout the history of the Union has been working in different areas for preserving the natural ecosystems of the Arctic, and has supported different initiatives to strengthen this work;

ACKNOWLEDGING the excellent work undertaken by the Arctic Council in promoting sustainable development in the Arctic region;

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING the responsibility of all nations bordering the Arctic region jointly to make every effort to create a sustainable ecosystem-based management approach to development in the Arctic area;

UNDERLINING that what happens in the Arctic region affects global nature, and thus all societies in the world;

RECOGNIZING that Arctic ecosystems provide essential services including those necessary for the livelihoods of indigenous peoples;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that IUCN's effort could be more effective by increasing the coordination within the Union;

APPRECIATING the work done by the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Specialist Groups in the Arctic region; and

RECOGNIZING the excellent scientific work undertaken by IUCN in working out the ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSA) criteria, including consideration of the way they may be used for informing future decisions regarding conservation of the marine environment both within and beyond national jurisdiction;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. AFFIRMS the interest of IUCN in playing a significant role in the Arctic region based on its major assets;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to continue to collaborate with the Arctic Council;
3. ENCOURAGES IUCN Members, Councillors, Commissions and the Secretariat to continue and to intensify joint work in cooperation with governments and relevant organizations in the Arctic and Subarctic region;

4. RECOMMENDS that the Director General strengthen the IUCN presence in the Arctic Council through its contribution to the work of the Arctic Council;

5. REQUESTS that IUCN Member and Commission experts in issues related to the Arctic, in collaboration with the Secretariat, develop a comprehensive IUCN Action Plan for its work in the Arctic region, with the aim of securing increased and relevant contributions from IUCN to ongoing and upcoming activities within the Arctic Council, its Member States, permanent participants and observers; and

6. REQUESTS the Director General to promote the implementation of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and relevant programmes of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in relation to the Arctic environment.

The State Member Denmark provided the following statement for the record:

“Denmark, on behalf of Greenland welcomes Motion 086 ‘IUCN and the Arctic Region – intensified and coordinated work’ sponsored by the Swedish Museum of Natural History. The Sponsor supports the amendments [made].

Climate change and the increased activities in the Arctic have resulted in new and rapidly developing challenges to Arctic biodiversity, Indigenous Peoples and residents of the Arctic.

Increased cooperation is essential to understand, address and respond to these challenges.

*Denmark, as one of the eight arctic states of the Arctic Council, sees this circumpolar cooperation as **the** main regional forum for advancing the goals of the international nature conventions and agreements in the Arctic Region.*

Denmark would in this regard like to use the opportunity to welcome fruitful cooperation between IUCN as an Observer in the Arctic Council and the Arctic Council's working groups such as the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF).

In light of the challenges facing Arctic biodiversity, there is a need to emphasize and encourage increased collaboration between the Arctic Council's working groups and IUCN.

In regard to the suggested Motion, Denmark finds that there is a need to highlight the importance of strengthening of the IUCN

presence in the Arctic Council and its contribution to the work of the Arctic Council.

Denmark finds that a comprehensive IUCN Action Plan for the Arctic Region should take into account the Arctic Council and its working groups plans and that an action plan should be developed with the aim of securing increased and relevant contribution to ongoing and upcoming activities within the Arctic Council.

We therefore support the Motion as amended.”

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-068-EN

The importance of assessing the water needs of wetlands in order to preserve their ecological functions

CONSIDERING the basic ecological functions of wetlands as regulators of hydrological regimes and as habitat for characteristic fauna and flora;

RECOGNIZING that wetlands provide a wide range of ecosystem services which contribute to human well-being, that their conservation and wise use is vital for the continued provision of these services, and that wetlands are both sources of water and water users;

NOTING that the lack of hydrological resources for wetlands is due to the growing human demand for water extraction which is one of the main factors that produces continuous alterations and causes the deterioration and disappearance of wetlands and their services;

RECALLING that the growing demand for water and its overexploitation endanger human well-being and the environment, and that there is often insufficient water to satisfy direct human needs and to maintain the wetlands that we need;

CONSCIOUS that it is vital to manage and protect our wetlands wisely, ensuring the availability of the quantities of water that they need to maintain their ecological characteristics, and thus to improve people's means of survival, in particular for people who are vulnerable, marginalized or dependant on wetlands;

HIGHLIGHTING that knowledge of the water needs of wetlands would contribute effectively to the wise use of the latter, establishing the water contributions necessary and assessing potential alterations through appropriate monitoring programmes;

RECOGNIZING that establishing and consolidating the water needs of wetlands would contribute to better management of river basins, harmonizing water use strategies with those relating to land use, considering the importance of the water management cycle and the relationship that exists between ground and surface waters for the purpose of their management and administration;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that the scientific methods used to justify decisions on the management of water resources pertaining to wetlands, including establishing the environmental water needs of wetlands, must be credible and must be supported by the opinion of the scientific community;

HIGHLIGHTING that organizations with shared interests in terms of data, information and knowledge (including indigenous and traditional knowledge) must increase their efforts in seeking to adopt common approaches, which are in harmony and accessible, so that their knowledge and experience (for example, in best practice) may be exchanged more efficiently, including through appropriate uses of information technology; and

RECALLING that, as a result of progress in the field of wetland management, a set of technical and scientific guidelines and other materials are available for the application of measures to promote conservation and wise use of wetlands, as well as allocation of water resources, with the objective of maintaining the ecological characteristics of wetlands;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS UPON States to renew the commitment to assessing and guaranteeing appropriate allocation and management of water resources for the maintenance of the ecological functions of wetlands, and to ensuring that the principles stated by IUCN (i.e. the ecosystems approach, sustainability, etc.) are incorporated into their national policies on water resources and wetlands;

2. PROPOSES that States compile credible information and bring it to the attention of those directly concerned with responsibilities in order to improve management of wetlands of ecological importance, in particular the sites listed under the Ramsar Convention, including administrators of wetland sites, ministries, governmental departments and bodies, organizations responsible for water and river basin management, non-governmental organizations and civil society, encouraging the aforesaid interested parties to take into account the importance of establishing the water needs of wetlands in adopting decisions and in activities related to ensuring the wise use of wetlands through preservation of their ecological characteristics;
3. URGES the Director General, the IUCN Commissions and scientific community in general to develop projects, initiatives and activities to identify valid and appropriate methods for assessing the water needs of wetlands, and to ensure immediate dissemination of the results of such assessments among its offices, the IUCN Commissions and membership as well as governments with the aim of taking informed decisions on wetlands management;
4. INVITES the Director General to use the Union's Observer Status at the United Nations General Assembly to disseminate this approach and seek its formal adoption within the United Nations structure and its components;
5. URGES riparian States with wetlands located in transboundary river basins to work together for the equitable, reasonable and optimum utilization of water resources;
6. URGES the Parties to the Ramsar Convention to approve at the 12th Conference of the Parties scheduled in 2015 in Uruguay, a technical resolution with guidelines for the application of methods which facilitate assessing the water needs of wetlands for the purpose of maintaining their ecological functions and ensuring water allocation;
7. URGES multilateral and bilateral donors to ensure that assessing water needs for the purpose of maintaining the ecological functions and production potential of wetlands is fully taken into account in the creation, planning and application of management projects for river basins and water resources, taking into consideration the circumstances and special limitations of the countries involved; and

8. ENCOURAGES States and other interested organizations to create projects and other activities that promote and demonstrate best practice in assessing the water needs of wetlands for the purpose of maintaining their ecological functions, to make these examples of best practice available to other interested parties through the information exchange mechanisms of IUCN, and also the Joint Ramsar/CBD River Basin Initiative, and to provide information about the successes achieved and lessons learned from these activities.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-069-EN

Strengthening coordination for managing the aquatic ecosystems of East Asia

ACKNOWLEDGING that conserving biodiversity and maintaining the resilience of aquatic ecosystems is essential for "sustainable nature for human well-being", addressed as a priority area by IUCN;

AWARE that East Asia is a very densely populated area where one-third of the world's human population resides; most of them reside in river basins and coastal areas where population and economic growth have been the fastest, threatening food security and the sustainability of aquatic ecosystems, especially in coastal and estuarine areas where freshwater and marine ecosystems actively interact;

NOTING that the rivers and adjacent seas of East Asia are productive enough to support approximately 40% of the global fisheries yield and to account for about 80% of global aquaculture production, and that most East Asians are dependent on fisheries;

EMPHASIZING the importance of large rivers and estuaries in East Asia (e.g. the Mekong, Huang He and Chang Jiang Rivers) for sustaining biodiversity and the productivity of marine ecosystems;

CONCERNED that, together with climate change effects and overfishing, increasing anthropogenic activity in the rivers and coasts of East Asia is expected to reduce water availability and quality, biodiversity, resilience and sustainability of aquatic ecosystems;

ALARMED that the recent nuclear accident in Fukushima, Japan, in March 2011, caused international concern over the possible spread of radiation via ocean currents and food chains, and potential exposure to contaminated marine products through international trade and the migration of marine animals, expediting an international network for monitoring and managing the seas adjacent to East Asia;

RECOGNIZING that a local environmental accident or problem in a country can directly or indirectly influence and threaten the sustainability and food security of the aquatic ecosystems of neighbouring countries;

RECALLING the World Conservation Congress Resolutions and Recommendations for managing aquatic ecosystems, including: Resolution 1.17 *Coastal and Marine Conservation and Management* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996); Resolutions 2.20 *Conservation of Marine Biodiversity* and 2.56 *Land-use Policies and Legal Tools for Coastal Conservation* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2004); Resolution 4.031 *Achieving conservation of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdictions*; Resolution 4.065 *Freshwater biodiversity conservation, protected areas, and management of transboundary waters* and Recommendation 4.116 *Fisheries management by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

RECOGNIZING that IUCN works closely with international organizations to research and manage aquatic ecosystems, including the Global Water Partnership, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Global Environment Facility (GEF), and Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); and

CONSIDERING Resolution 3.003 *Engagement by IUCN with local and regional government authorities* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and Resolution 4.003 *Strengthening IUCN's National and Regional Committees* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. RECOMMENDS States establish an international network for monitoring and managing freshwater

and marine ecosystems in East Asia and the adjacent seas to conserve biodiversity, maintain sustainability, and build resilience under the threats of climate change, overfishing, anthropogenic intervention and environmental accidents;

2. CALLS ON the regional Members and National Committees of South and East Asia and the governments of South and East Asian countries to initiate discussion on strengthening coordination for the monitoring and management of cross-boundary freshwater, coastal, estuarine and marine ecosystems; and
3. REQUESTS the Director General to promote regional governance for managing aquatic ecosystems in East Asia; and to collaborate with international organizations, including the IOC, FAO, GEF, Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES), Northwest Pacific Action Plan, Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA) and related non-governmental organizations, to initiate discussion on establishing a regional organization for this purpose.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-070-EN **Río de la Plata Basin wetlands regional initiative**

OBSERVING that the Río de la Plata Basin, with a surface area of over 3,200,000 km² is the second largest drainage basin in South America and the fourth largest in the world; that it covers the whole of Paraguay as well as considerable parts of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Uruguay, including within its central plain the most extensive corridor of fluvial wetlands on the planet, as well as some of the most densely inhabited mega-cities in South America and in the world;

CONSIDERING that the ecosystems in the region, and its wetlands in particular, are significant examples of the abundance, variety and quality of natural resources, which facilitate the production of a large number of environmental goods and services of great economic and ecological importance;

CONCERNED that the natural resources of the Río de la Plata Basin and the associated goods and services are threatened by factors such as the fragmentation of natural ecosystems, the expansion of agricultural borders, large-scale livestock rearing, major infrastructure projects, urban development and pollution, which not only affect the wetlands and biodiversity but also the local communities that depend on these resources, not to mention food safety and the global climate;

RECOGNIZING that unsustainable production is affecting the traditional production models in the region, increasing the impact of drought and flooding, and reducing the capacity for adaptation to climate change, which has a negative impact on the welfare of local populations, creating conditions that give rise to migration to large cities and increasing poverty;

AWARE of the need:

- a. for the economic and social benefits of natural resources and associated ecological goods and services to be recognized by the stakeholders involved in the development of environmental and social policies;
- b. to promote initiatives that improve existing knowledge, its systematization and application to sustainable production practices and management, which both contribute to the conservation and sustainable development of the region, and improve the quality of life of the local communities that depend on these resources;
- c. to support examples of sustainable ecosystem best practices, including the participation of the private sector, producers, social organizations, communities and local governments, in coordination with all sectors; and
- d. to develop the skills of the stakeholders and authorities responsible for the management of natural resources in the Río de la Plata Basin;

RECALLING Recommendation 2.85 *Conservation of the Middle and Lower Paraná River* adopted at the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000); Recommendation 3.097 *Conservation of the Wetland Corridor of the Fluvial Littoral, Argentina* adopted at the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004); Recommendation 4.029 *Conservation and sustainable use of fish in the Río de la Plata Basin* and Resolution 4.004 *Strengthening IUCN's*

institutional presence in South America approved at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

RECOGNIZING the important precedents of regional progress, such as the Poconé Accord (2005), the Paraguay-Paraná System Alliance Initiative, the IUCN-Río de la Plata Basin Initiative (2009), the Ramsar Convention Río de la Plata Basin Regional Initiative (2009), the ClimPlata initiative for the management of risks and adaptation to climate change and variability in the Río de la Plata Basin (2010), and the Ecosystem Alliance initiative (2011–2015) – coordinated by the Netherlands National Committee of IUCN Members, Both Ends and Wetlands International – focused on the Río de la Plata Basin, with activities in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay; and

BEARING IN MIND that it is necessary to consolidate a regional approach for the Río de la Plata Basin in the light of new global challenges, which include climate change, water scarcity, the advancing of the agricultural frontier and in particular soya bean cultivation, deforestation, infrastructure projects, urban development and pollution from agricultural products;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

CALLS ON the Director General to:

- a. support the governments, IUCN Members in the region and the IUCN Commissions in order to maintain the integrity of the wetland ecosystems in the Río de la Plata Basin, strengthen the capacities of civil society, contribute to food and water safety and to promote the sustainable economic development of the region, through management with an ecosystem approach; and
- b. to analyze the possibilities for strengthening the institutional presence of IUCN in the Southern Cone of South America, and to consider opportunities for facilitating resources to develop and implement a strategic plan with a regional approach in the Río de la Plata Basin, aimed at influencing public policies and strengthening processes involving communities, grassroots organizations, NGOs, local and national governments, and academic and scientific institutions in terms of better organization, the improvement of skills and the drawing up of agreements.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-071-EN

Conservation of the Panama Bay wetlands

RECOGNIZING that the Panama Bay wetlands have fundamental ecological functions, that they constitute a source of goods and services that contribute to human well-being, regulating the water regimes and are an important habitat for both fauna and flora; that each year these coastal wetlands provide food, shelter and resting places for over one million migratory shorebirds of 36 species (which breed in Canada and the United States), and that this has led the area to be declared an Important Bird Area (IBA), a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention, a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN) site, a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA), and a protected area at a national level; and that, therefore, it is a priority to maintain its ecological features, conserve its ecosystems and make wise use of its resources;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that in 2009 the State of Panama informed the Ramsar Convention of the extension of the boundaries of the Ramsar Site, in accordance with the protected area created that same year;

CONCERNED because on 27 April 2012, the Third Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Republic of Panama, in a decision that affects the sustainable management of the wetlands, provisionally suspended the Resolution of the National Environmental Authority of Panama N°AG-0072-2009, through which the ‘Panama Bay Wetland’ Wildlife Refuge was created on 3 February 2009, constituted following the recommendations of the Ramsar Advisory Mission N° 63, carried out in November 2008; and because this news was received by civil society organizations on 17 May 2012 and confirmed by the authorities on 21 May 2012; and NOTING that on 5 July 2012 civil society organizations filed a claim in the Third Chamber of the Supreme Court in order to be admitted as third parties in the process, and asked for the re-establishment of the protected area declaration, with no reply having been received to date regarding whether they will be allowed to participate in the process;

ALSO CONCERNED because after the Supreme Court suspended the status of protected area, the Ministry of

Housing and Land-use Planning (MVIOT) approved Land-use Planning Schemes (changes of land use that would allow construction on the wetlands), one on 25 May 2012 and the other in June 2012, which would not have occurred if the protected area declaration had not been suspended; and because if the protected area status is not restored in time, the approved projects will lead to habitat fragmentation, causing biodiversity loss and transforming the natural landscapes, rapidly replacing them with residential, tourism and industrial development, which will destroy wetlands recognized internationally due to their importance and their biodiversity, making a significant impact on hundreds of hectares of mangroves in the Ramsar Site and surrounding areas, which are protected by Law, as well as on the flyways of migratory birds of hemispheric importance;

RECOGNIZING that Panama City Hall, with civil society experts, is currently working to define an alternative protection for the Panama Bay wetlands, and that environmental organizations are carrying out actions to highlight the national and international importance of the goods and services provided by these wetlands in the natural and urban environment;

ALARMED at the fact that the development of coastal infrastructure currently underway encourages similar development in all of the Panama Bay wetlands, without taking into account extreme weather events, which are potentially catastrophic for coastal areas, the results of global climate change and sea level projections, and alarmed at the acceleration in the pace of extreme weather events, whose combined effects will contribute to the increase in the number of people vulnerable to the effects of disasters caused by flooding;

FURTHER OBSERVING that although the country has signed international environmental protection conventions (the Ramsar Convention, the Convention on Migratory Species, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change), and that national environmental legislation commits the Government of the Republic of Panama to the continuous improvement of the environment and the well-being of its citizens, the principle of non-regression has not been applied and, therefore, the human right to a healthy environment is not being met; and

CONSIDERING that the global aim of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* is the effective and equitable governance

of nature's use, improving the governance of Key Biodiversity Areas in the world and human dependency on nature;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGENTLY REQUESTS the Government of Panama to restore the 'Panama Bay Wetland' suspended protected area and to re-establish the regulations for the protection of wetland ecosystems, particularly mangroves, based on the principle of non-regression; and that likewise the public management for the conservation of these wetlands should be strengthened, through the approval of the National Wetlands Policy (process supported by the National Wetlands Committee), and the adaptation of the legislation that affects its conservation or wise use;
2. URGENTLY REQUESTS FURTHERMORE the Government of Panama to suspend the approval of Land-use Planning Schemes that contravene the land-use allocations established in Decree N° 205 of 2000 for the Panama Bay wetlands and to amend MIVIOT Resolution N° 4 of 20 January 2009, in order to establish technical environmental criteria for decision making;
3. URGES the competent authorities of the Republic of Panama to adopt a comprehensive approach to the environmental governance of wetland areas, applying ecosystem-based adaptation, and to restore the ecological features of the ecosystems affected by infrastructure projects, in order to achieve wise use and maintain the goods and services that these ecosystems offer as a site of hemispheric importance where millions of migratory birds can stop to feed and rest, taking steps to reduce the danger of environmental disasters that threaten the safety of coastal communities and the lives of local inhabitants;
4. ENCOURAGES regional cooperation agencies, funding institutions and the private sector to allocate technical and financial resources for the ecological restoration of the affected wetlands in Panama Bay; and urges them to act consistently in their interventions in order to guarantee that measures for adaptation to climate change are adjusted and adopted; and
5. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN, in cooperation with IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the Commission on

Environmental Law (CEL) and the IUCN Environmental Law Centre, to assess the situation and issue a technical recommendation addressed to the Government of Panama, establishing the priorities for actions regarding the conservation of the Panama Bay wetlands within the framework of the principle of non-regression, given the suspension of the 'Panama Bay Wetland' protected area declaration, the modification of the regulations for the protection of mangrove ecosystems, and the impact on other wetlands; and to inform IUCN Members as soon as possible about progress on this issue.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-072-EN
Support from IUCN for the sustainable development of wetlands and marine areas in Central and West Africa

RECOGNIZING that wetlands and neighbouring areas provide essential resources, notably fresh water, fishery resources, tourism and leisure activities, thus playing a vital role in the development and well being of local communities;

AWARE that the impact of intensive human activities in wetlands, in particular the expansion of agriculture, urban development, pollution and unsustainable management of resources constitute a substantial threat to ecological and social conditions;

RECALLING Recommendation 17.38 *Protection of the coastal and marine environment*, adopted by the 17th IUCN General Assembly (San Jose, 1988), Recommendation 1.37 *Protected marine areas*, adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) and Recommendation 19.56 *Global fisheries*, adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);

FURTHER RECALLING that Article 197 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea – UNCLOS (1982) asks States to “cooperate on a global basis and, as appropriate, on a regional basis”, etc. “for the protection and preservation of the marine environment, taking into account characteristic regional features”;

FURTHER RECALLING that Decision 7/1 (22) of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development “encourages States to establish and manage marine protected areas, along with other appropriate management tools” “in order to ensure the conservation of biological diversity, and the sustainable management and use of oceans”;

RECOGNIZING the biodiversity of the marine environment, and marine turtles in particular (a resource shared by numerous countries in Central and West Africa), and that it is either under the jurisdiction of coastal States or on the high seas, as defined by UNCLOS, and constitutes an integral part of the world’s natural and cultural heritage;

CONSIDERING that the regions of Central and West Africa are a typical case, where it is important that all the stakeholders combine efforts to apply the principle of wise use and the framework of international cooperation established by the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention), and noting that the principle of wise use involves the collaboration, exchange of information, experience and full participation of all stakeholders; in other words the management organizations, research institutions, NGOs, local community organizations; and

CONCERNED to see that the major contribution made by so many different initiatives has nevertheless not yet led to sufficient improvement in concrete terms in the sustainable development of wetlands and marine areas in Central and West Africa, and that the pernicious phenomenon of the degradation of wetlands and marine areas is increasing;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. ASKS IUCN to provide greater, unflagging support for countries in Central and West Africa and to lead the multilateral organizations in exploring a relevant range of tools, in order to ensure more efficient protection and conservation of the environments concerned, together with their biological diversity, as well as their restoration and sustainable use; and
2. URGES the national governments of the regions concerned, international organizations and the non-governmental community to join the existing multilateral agencies and legal mechanisms in carrying out actions targeting wetlands and marine areas, and to

reach a consensus on the conservation and management regimes for ecosystems in these regions.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

**WCC-2012-Res-073-EN
Conservation and sustainable
management of mangroves in Central
Africa: the case of Cameroon**

RECALLING that mangroves in Cameroon play an important role in the protection of beaches against coastal erosion, through the stabilization of coastal substrates, protecting them from wind and waves, and by acting as a natural biological purifying agent, retaining eroded soil and silt by means of their root system and also filtering pollutants, as well as by producing organic nutrients, assisting to stabilize micro-climates and also favouring eco-tourism activities;

RECALLING that mangroves in Cameroon provide shelter and breeding grounds for fishery resources, leaves for the marine food web, trap sediments from uphill erosion, serve as resting and feeding grounds for migratory birds, as well as biotopes for native species such as the Blue Monkey (*Cercopithecus mitis*) and a wide variety of protected species, and also constitute important carbon sinks;

RECALLING that mangroves in Cameroon are home to a wide diversity of flora, that they are living ecosystems, generate new inhabitable land by advancing towards the water, while at the same time protecting local inhabitants from natural disasters, and also reducing erosion of coastal areas and small islands by the action of water;

NOTING that for the past 50 years the mangrove ecosystems in Cameroon have been under enormous human pressure, which has led to the loss of over 33% of their surface area (from 600,000 ha to 400,000 ha to date), in other words around 4,000 ha/year, and that, as a result of this destruction, Cape Cameroon and the small surrounding islands are threatened by wave action, with many homes destroyed, and that the rise in sea level threatens not only the supply of drinking water, but also of wood, thatch used for covering roofs, and fodder for domestic animals, and other non-timber forest products (NTFP) which coastal communities depend heavily on;

FURTHER NOTING that mangroves have often been transformed for a variety of purposes, including fish farming, agriculture, salt production, sand mining and urban development;

NOTING that, given the root system of mangrove forests forms an ecological transition zone between several ecosystems, the destruction of mangroves could lead to coastal erosion, that each hectare of mangroves destroyed releases around 110 kg of carbon into the atmosphere, that vast areas of mangroves have also been degraded by pollution and wood harvesting, and that mangroves also suffer from illegal exploitation; and

AWARE that fishing constitutes the main traditional activity carried out by coastal communities, who view it primarily as a cultural activity rather than simply as one necessary to cover financial needs, and mangroves play a key role for sustaining fisheries;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. RECOGNIZES the need to conserve the resources provided by mangroves in Cameroon;
2. CALLS ON the Cameroonian Government to adopt rules regulating activities linked to the resources provided by mangroves carried out by several organizations;
3. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - a. as part of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* take up a leadership role in order to mobilize resources in favour of the sustainable management of mangroves globally and with special reference to the situation in Cameroon;
 - b. encourage all IUCN Member States and the Government of Cameroon in particular to designate, in line with Aichi Target 11, mangroves as protected areas (for Cameroon the mangrove areas of Rio del Rey, Cameroon Estuaries and Rio Ntem); and
 - c. encourage the establishment of platforms for dialogue between the stakeholders involved in mangrove management;
4. ENCOURAGES IUCN Members to raise public awareness about the need for a sustainable management

of fauna, flora, fisheries and birdlife resources in mangrove ecosystems, and the recognition of the important ecological, educational, climate, economic and socio-cultural roles mangroves play;

5. URGES governments of the Congo Basin States to declare the mangroves under their jurisdiction as protected areas;
6. ENCOURAGES Cameroonian NGO Members and other NGOs working in Cameroon to:
 - a. work in collaboration with local populations to restore the degraded mangrove areas of Rio del Rey, Cameroon Estuaries, and Rio Ntem in Cameroon;
 - b. strengthen the capacity of populations living close to the mangroves to protect and optimize the management of arborescent flora, in this case the Red Mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*), the Black Mangrove (*Avicennia germinans*), White Mangrove (*Laguncularia racemosa*), Button Mangrove (*Conocarpus erecta*), and the flora of the backshore zones, in this case beach Morning Glory (*Ipomoea pes-caprae*), Marine Couch (*Sporobolus virginicus*), Seagrape (*Coccoloba uvifera*), Beach Moonflower (*Ipomea macrantha*), and Shoreline Purslane (*Sesuvium portulacastrum*);
 - c. convince the populations, whose main activity is fishing, to use regulatory mesh fishing nets and to ban the use of chemicals for fishing;
 - d. popularize and generalize the use of improved stoves in fish smokehouses;
 - e. create biological corridors for transhumance around public infrastructures;
 - f. restore degraded breeding grounds;
 - g. restore degraded beaches used by migratory birds as resting grounds;
 - h. monitor the physical and chemical quality of the mangrove water;
 - i. raise awareness among the urban communities of Douala and Kribi of the problems of aquatic, atmospheric and soil pollution;

- j. assess and set up a monitoring system for the Rio del Rey, Cameroon Estuaries and Rio Ntem mangroves; and
 - k. strengthen the skills of the populations living near the mangroves in terms of the development of mangrove nurseries in order to reforest the degraded mangrove areas;
7. ENCOURAGES the Cameroonian administrative and municipal authorities as well as those of the Congo Basin to work incessantly to protect the mangroves and control all types of pollution;
 8. ENCOURAGES both the economic operators and the local communities to optimize the management of the waste they produce; and
 9. ENCOURAGES the local municipalities located in the area near the mangroves to create controlled waste disposal facilities.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-074-EN Implementing conservation and sustainable management of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction

RECOGNIZING the key role oceans play in sustaining life on our planet and the urgent need to maintain and conserve the resilience of the oceans' resistance to human impacts especially in light of climate change and ocean acidification;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides the overarching legal framework for governance of human activities in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction, including the conservation and management of living resources and the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

ACKNOWLEDGING also Articles 117, 118, 119, 192 and 197 of UNCLOS for the protection and conservation of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction;

ACKNOWLEDGING further that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) provides the 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 the role of the CBD for the provision of scientific and, as appropriate, technical information and advice relating to marine biological diversity with respect to areas beyond national jurisdiction as set forth in Decision VIII/24, paragraph 42, of the 8th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP8) to the CBD;

RECOGNIZING that the high seas comprise some 64% of the world's oceans, cover nearly half of the planet's surface, harbour an enormous reservoir of biological diversity, and are under increasing threat from human activities, yet our knowledge of them is still far from complete;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that sustainable management of marine areas beyond national jurisdiction is essential to safeguarding marine biodiversity and productivity, and maintaining ecological services:

NOTING WITH CONCERN the international community's failure to achieve the CBD target to achieve "by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level as a contribution to poverty alleviation and to the benefit of all life on Earth;"

ACKNOWLEDGING that this target was subsequently endorsed by the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the United Nations General Assembly – UNGA (A/RES/60/1) and was incorporated as a target under the *Millennium Development Goals*;

ACKNOWLEDGING the commitment in paragraph 32(c) of the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation*, which calls on States to take action at all levels to "develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, including the ecosystem approach, the elimination of destructive fishing practices, the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information, including representative networks by 2012 and time/area closures for the protection of nursery grounds and periods, proper coastal land use and watershed planning and the integration of marine and coastal areas management into key sectors";

ACKNOWLEDGING further the Aichi Targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, adopted in 2010, in

particular Target 11 by which governments agreed by 2020, that “at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes”;

RECOGNIZING international support for area-based management tools, including marine protected areas and marine reserves, as important measures to support conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity both within and beyond national jurisdiction;

RECALLING IUCN’s commitment to the goal of implementing effective protection, restoration and sustainable use of biological diversity and productivity and ecosystem processes in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) (including the water column and seabed) and the establishment of a representative system of marine protected areas at regional and global scales that includes ABNJ;

RECALLING also IUCN’s commitment to protecting species that rely on marine areas beyond national jurisdiction for at least part of their life cycle and to promoting the improved management of activities that may affect biodiversity in such areas, as well as to encouraging enhanced governance of specific ocean regions, as evidenced by Resolutions adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) as well as earlier World Conservation Congress Resolutions;

ACKNOWLEDGING the ongoing CBD process to identify and maintain a global inventory of ecologically and biologically significant areas (EBSAs) in marine ABNJ, while EMPHASIZING that the CBD can only identify areas that are candidates for protection, but cannot establish marine protected areas;

NOTING that despite progress on many issues and fronts, much work remains to be done to secure full implementation of international legal duties and commitments under UNCLOS, the CBD, the *UN Fish Stocks Agreement* and associated UN Resolutions, Chapter 17 of *Agenda 21*, the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation* and the *Millennium Development Goals* with respect to conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction;

DEEPLY CONCERNED by the absence of a legal mandate in current ocean governance to identify, create/designate, manage and monitor marine protected areas and reserves in most ABNJ;

RECOGNIZING the central role of the UNGA relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

WELCOMING Resolution A/RES/66/231 on *Oceans and the law of the sea* adopted by the 66th UNGA Session which decided to initiate a process to address legal gaps in the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity on the high seas, including through the possible development of a multilateral agreement under UNCLOS; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that there is substantial support from a broad spectrum of developed and developing States and civil society, as evidenced by inputs to the compilation document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio+20), for the negotiation of a new implementing agreement under UNCLOS for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity, with a particular mandate to address the absence of high seas marine protected areas, environmental impact assessments and benefits arising from marine genetic resources originating from areas beyond national jurisdiction;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON States individually and as IUCN Members to address ocean governance gaps in the protection and conservation of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction through the negotiation of a new implementing agreement under UNCLOS for the protection and conservation of high seas biodiversity which could:
 - a. identify, designate and effectively manage a global network of fully comprehensive, adequate and representative high seas marine protected areas, including reserves and other effective spatial management measures;
 - b. require comprehensive prior environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments, together with ongoing monitoring of the marine environment;

- c. ensure the provision of access to and dissemination of information and transparency in decision-making processes;
 - d. consider the question of the sharing of benefits derived from marine genetic resources in areas beyond national jurisdiction;
 - e. require application of the precautionary approach as set out in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on environment and development, and of the ecosystem approach in decision making and management, and ensure that activities are in conformity with relevant international commitments and resolutions; and
 - f. ensure that effective monitoring, control, surveillance and compliance and enforcement measures are implemented to support the long-term conservation and sustainable use of high seas biodiversity;
2. FURTHER CALLS upon States, acting individually or through multilateral organizations, to promote consistent, coordinated and coherent application of the best conservation and governance principles and approaches, through actions to:
- a. ensure, through spatial and regional approaches, the identification, protection and where necessary, restoration of areas of importance for marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction, including support to the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI) and similar scientific efforts that assist in identifying Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA), Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME) and other important areas and the design of marine protected area networks, as well as broader scale spatial planning and management;
 - b. contribute to regional governance, by promoting relevant stakeholders to implement ecosystem-based management in the high seas and seabed area, and support increased transparency as well as accountability of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO) including regular RFMO reviews;
 - c. encourage the marine private sector and related high seas stakeholders to better integrate marine conservation and sustainable development priorities into fishing, maritime transport, mining, trade, energy, tourism and other activities with the potential to impact the marine environment and its biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction;
- d. support efforts to improve the implementation of existing agreements and to strengthen the global institutional framework for sustainable and ecosystem-based ocean management built on transparency, accountability, precautionary and ecosystem approaches, and improving harmonization of regional approaches and appropriate global oversight of regional institutions;
 - e. promote the conservation of deep sea biodiversity, implementation of UNGA resolutions and further assessments of biodiversity values of deep ocean areas, and the impacts of deep sea exploration and mining operations;
 - f. support the Regular Process for global assessment and reporting on the state of the marine environment and promote the sharing of information, data and best practices;
 - g. encourage mobilization of finance for ocean and regional seas conservation actions, including the sustainable management of marine areas beyond national jurisdiction, with priority given to seamounts, submarine canyons and other VMEs, or EBSAs;
 - h. promote the strengthening or development of new agreements at the regional level to encompass the protection of the marine environment and conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction including the development and implementation of regional marine protected area networks, where needed; and
 - i. ensure long-term conservation and sustainable use of fisheries resources in areas beyond national jurisdiction while protecting marine biodiversity, safeguarding vulnerable species and habitats, and maintaining ecosystem goods and services, including by:
 - i. recognizing that illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing in waters beyond national jurisdiction threatens sustainable management

of global fish stocks and sustainable development and is often linked to organized crime, ensuring that appropriate resources are deployed to combat this form of illegal activity, including global information sharing and policing agreements, the use of flag State, port State, national measures and market State measures and coordinated regional and global actions;

- ii. promoting and ensuring compliance with international commitments and resolutions related to the prevention of significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems and ensuring the sustainability of deep sea fish stocks;
 - iii. ensuring that only precautionary, science-based and well-managed fisheries activities are allowed in a given area, ensuring that all fishing activities are carried out in conformity with relevant international commitments and resolutions;
 - iv. encouraging States to eliminate harmful subsidies that contribute to fisheries overcapacity and lead to over-harvesting of fisheries stocks; and
 - v. ensuring transparency and accountability of RFMOs through regular independent performance reviews, public reports on measures taken to address any shortcomings, and consider UNGA oversight, within the objective of ensuring that all RFMOs incorporate a broader ecosystem conservation mandate; and
3. CALLS ON the Director General and all components of IUCN to promote and support the actions described in paragraphs 1 and 2 above, with the view to having these achieved.

The State Member Japan provided the following statement for the record concerning this Motion:

“Japan is committed to conservation and management of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, but not yet convinced whether a new implementation agreement under UNCLOS will be the best option to address this issue. As has been already agreed in New York and Rio, we would like to discuss this issue further through the two workshops to be held under the UN Ad-hoc

Working Group next year and see what approach will be best, including starting of a negotiation on the new implementation agreement. At this point, we cannot support any language which prejudices the outcome of the process. Therefore, we support insertion of “including potentially” in the first paragraph. Without these two words, we cannot support this motion.”

State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

The State Member United States of America provided the following statement for the record:

“The United States believes that this Motion is beyond the scope of what IUCN should address. This issue is already under active consideration in the UN General Assembly Working Group on marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction, and this Motion prejudices the work of that group.”

WCC-2012-Res-075-EN Strengthening policies relating to the seas and oceans

RECALLING that the seas and oceans cover approximately 70% of the Earth’s surface;

AWARE of the opportunities and the hope that the seas and the oceans offer our societies and that a significant part of the solution to the world’s crises will come from the sea;

EMPHASIZING that most ecosystem services provided by marine and coastal ecosystems are within continental and island shelf systems and in areas within national jurisdictions and that these provide the highest contributions to human well-being and economies and are most highly impacted by human activities;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that the high seas, the marine zone that falls in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, represents 64% of the total surface of the Earth covered by the seas and oceans, and supplies resources and ecosystem services, which are indispensable for the planet;

NOTING that the sea’s resources are limited and that those that are exploited are often under great threat, despite attempts to adopt sustainable management methods;

RECALLING that the future of livelihoods and jobs linked to the sea (sea transport, fishing and aquaculture, energy, etc.), involve millions of individuals across the world, and depends on the preservation of the ecological services provided by marine and coastal ecosystems;

RECALLING IN PARTICULAR that the preservation of marine ecosystem services requires effective management of economic activities and human-related pressure (land-based pollution, coastal development, etc.);

CONCERNED by the intense acceleration of the use of ocean space for new and emerging activities;

FURTHER RECALLING the need for an ecosystem approach to guarantee an economic development compatible with the preservation of all marine ecosystem services;

RECOGNIZING the need for real, coordinated, integrated policies relating to the sea and coasts, for government authorities to bring the different stakeholders together, and for independent environmental consultancy and assessment authorities; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the importance of having the necessary means to ensure the implementation of strategies relating to the sea and the oceans;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON States and IUCN Member organizations to integrate ecosystem-based management of human maritime activities, the creation of resilient networks of marine protected areas (MPAs), and effective marine spatial planning in all relevant national and regional plans and programmes, in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS); and
2. CALLS ON the Director General to promote policies aiming at improving the conservation and management of the marine and coastal environment and resources, and to ensure that IUCN positions in international fora address the priorities and concerns of areas within and beyond national jurisdiction in a balanced manner.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-076-EN Accelerating the global pace of establishing marine protected areas and the certification of their effective management

RECOGNIZING the significance of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets, and the renewed commitment embodied in Target 11 to achieve conservation of “at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas”, and that these areas should be “of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services”, “ecologically representative and well-connected”, but also “effectively and equitably managed”;

NOTING that the international target set in 2002 by the World Summit for Sustainable Development for the establishment of marine protected areas (MPAs) has not been met;

AWARE that the World Conservation Monitoring Centre reports that as of 2010, protected areas covered 12.7% of the Earth’s land area outside Antarctica but only 1.6% of the Earth’s oceans, including only 4.0% of the seas within national jurisdiction (0–200 nautical miles);

INCREASINGLY CONCERNED that marine biodiversity continues to decline in the face of direct and indirect anthropogenic impacts, including overfishing, habitat loss, pollution and climate change;

ANTICIPATING that as climate change continues, its impacts on marine and coastal biodiversity and ecosystem services will also become more pronounced;

NOTING that MPAs, particularly those that are effectively managed, provide important social and economic benefits to neighbouring communities;

RECALLING item 4 of the Convention on Biological Diversity’s (CBD) *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* which commits the Parties to the Convention to assess and improve the effectiveness of the management of protected areas;

ALSO RECALLING that the Parties to the CBD, at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture, Japan, 18–29 October 2010, committed to assessing the management effectiveness of

60% of the total area of their protected areas by 2015, and to sharing their results in the database managed by the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC);

FURTHER RECALLING several IUCN Recommendations and Resolutions urging Member States to create and effectively manage networks of MPAs, in particular Resolutions 1.37 *Marine Protected Areas* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), 2.20 *Conservation of marine biodiversity* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), and 4.045 *Accelerating progress to establish marine protected areas and creating marine protected area networks* adopted at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

HIGHLIGHTING the importance of cooperation between MPAs to ensure the effective protection of highly migratory species in line with the conclusions made at the second Conference of the International Committee on Marine Mammal Protected Areas, Fort-de-France, France, 7–11 November 2011;

WELCOMING initiatives such as the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) international campaign on MPAs; Germany's marine Natura 2000 network which covers around 45% of the German marine area; the CBD's Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI); the organization of the 3rd International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC 3); the IUCN initiative to develop an international certification system of protected areas to promote good management practices, and to integrate an objective for a system of certification and evaluation to ensure the implementation of effective marine protected coastal areas in IUCN's Global Marine and Polar Programme (2013–2016) strategic plan; the *European Marine Blue Belt* initiative to promote governance and management best practices in European MPAs; and regional initiatives such as the Micronesia Challenge, the Caribbean Challenge and the Coral Triangle Initiative that intend to expand and strengthen protected areas in these regions;

WELCOMING also activities undertaken by several regional sea conventions, in particular the Helsinki Convention for the Baltic Sea, where HELCOM Baltic Sea Protected Areas cover more than 10% of the marine area, and the OSPAR Convention for the Northeast Atlantic, where apart from 175 MPAs situated in national waters of Contracting Parties, six MPAs are located in areas beyond national jurisdiction;

ENCOURAGED by efforts to establish MPAs and WELCOMING the accelerated progress of the creation of MPAs and MPA networks at all scales;

CONCERNED by the fact that a great deal of work remains to be done, often due to lack of technical and financial means, to ensure the management, monitoring and effective enforcement of MPAs and that society's awareness of the issues confronting ocean health remains limited, and by the inadequate communication of the evidence supporting the role of MPAs as one important tool in an ecosystem-based approach to protecting marine and coastal biodiversity and maintaining ecosystem services and sustainable harvesting of living marine resources in the face of these impacts;

ALSO CONCERNED that these factors affect the public and political will to address ocean health and marine and coastal biodiversity challenges by applying appropriate conservation and management tools, including by establishing, expanding and effectively managing MPA networks;

NOTING that mounting evidence indicates that effectively managed MPAs, ranging from no-take reserves to managed multiple use zones, can help restore marine biodiversity and support sustainable marine economies including sustainable fisheries;

ALSO NOTING the growing scientific consensus underlining the importance of often including no-take reserves as one approach within MPA networks in order to maximize the protection that these networks provide to marine biodiversity;

RECOGNIZING the potential of market-based approaches to foster awareness of and support for MPAs that help provide measurable, ecologically sustainable fisheries and other sustainable economic activities both within and beyond their boundaries;

BELIEVING therefore that concerted efforts should be undertaken to improve public and political understanding of the relevance of MPAs, ranging from no-take reserves to managed multiple use zones, where appropriate, in protecting marine biodiversity, in supporting economic, cultural and social prosperity through the recovery and maintenance of marine biodiversity in and near them, and in mitigating the impacts of climate change on marine and coastal biodiversity; and

NOTING that the First International Marine Protected Area Agencies Summit, held in San Francisco, United States of America, in February 2012, concluded that demonstrating the relevance of MPAs to the conservation of the biodiversity of the oceans while also fostering the sustainable use of living marine resources is a fundamental challenge that requires urgent attention;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS UPON IUCN Members, including States, government agencies and non-governmental organization Members, as well as political and/or economic integration organizations, to champion the implementation of national or regional efforts to aspire to have the world's oceans and seas managed according to an ecosystem approach, and to meet Aichi Target 11 objectives with respect to marine conservation, including the establishment of coastal and marine protected areas and the implementation of other effective area-based conservation measures;
2. REQUESTS IUCN Members, including State, government agency and non-governmental organization Members, to work closely with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Maritime Organization (IMO), national resource management agencies and relevant industries at international, national and regional levels to work together to establish representative networks of MPAs, ranging from no-take reserves to multiple use zones where the pressures of extractive use on marine species and habitats are minimized, consistent with international law, including customary international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and based on the best scientific information available, and to develop other effective management and protection tools to complement those efforts in the oceans, addressing areas within and beyond national jurisdiction as appropriate;
3. CALLS UPON members of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) to support and participate actively in global efforts to transform the manner in which the values of MPAs are communicated;
4. REQUESTS WCPA and MPA agencies to build awareness of the potential role of MPAs, ranging from no-take reserves to managed multiple use zones, in conserving marine and coastal biodiversity and contributing to a sustainable marine economy;
5. CALLS UPON WCPA and MPA agencies to work with relevant industries, the marketing sector, stewardship bodies, communities and indigenous peoples to demonstrate how marine and coastal biodiversity can be sustained and restored in MPAs to the benefit of extractive marine industries, communities, indigenous peoples, and consumers and to contribute to the ongoing health and resilience of the oceans; and
6. REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with IUCN Members and WCPA, to support the recommendations above and to jointly strive to achieve implementation of coherent, representative and effective networks of MPAs at all levels, as fundamental tools to give proper protection to species and to marine and coastal habitats, and resilience to marine ecosystems, by:
 - a. supporting global initiatives to programme the effective implementation of the Aichi Targets, by:
 - i. supporting CBD's SOI in order to effectively deliver on Aichi Targets 6 (sustainable fisheries) and 11 (MPAs);
 - ii. supporting the 3rd International Marine Protected Areas Congress (IMPAC3) and the Second International Summit of Marine Protected Area Agencies which are to be held in October 2013 in France as structuring and determining steps to mobilize the international community and to reach Aichi Target 11; and
 - iii. developing a realistic and coherent plan to achieve Aichi Target 11, submitted for discussion at IMPAC3 and presentation to the 2014 World Parks Congress;
 - b. encouraging the designation and implementation of MPA networks with strong involvement of marine and coastal communities, by:
 - i. calling on States to focus on the creation of effectively managed MPA networks in order to achieve Aichi Target 11 and to ensure that

- some undisturbed ecosystems remain as reference areas in the oceans;
- ii. calling on States to base the creation of the MPA networks on strong scientific considerations to ensure that the areas of importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services are effectively conserved and contribute to global objectives;
- iii. calling on States to increase the establishment of MPAs and other effective area-based conservation measures that are designed to conserve important ecosystem services, and provide benefits to human communities;
- iv. encouraging the designation of marine and coastal protected areas as UNESCO World Heritage sites, National Parks, Biosphere Reserves, Ramsar sites and Geoparks;
- v. encouraging the use of the Ecologically or Biologically Significant Areas (EBSA) repository and other relevant sources of information, to inform the identification of potential MPAs within and beyond national jurisdiction; and
- vi. ensuring the integration of MPAs and other effective area-based conservation measures into a larger seascape approach, including through marine spatial planning;
- c. promoting the regional integration of MPA networks, by:
 - i. promoting regional and transboundary cooperation, to specifically facilitate cooperative protection and management of neighbouring MPAs; and
 - ii. facilitating cooperation between States to suggest networking marine corridors, referred to as the “marine blue belt”, coherent and consistent zoning within large MPAs and between MPAs to take into account of mobile or migratory populations and to follow the ocean currents;
- d. reinforcing capacity building and professionalization of managers, including by:
 - i. strengthening existing programmes that provide capacity development to MPA managers such as the Reef Resilience network, developing a global programme for enhancing the professionalism of MPA personnel and MPA management using the MPA PRO model and the proposed Global Partnership for Professionalizing Protected Areas Management (GPPAM) initiative recognizing that these initiatives support existing professional associations and management organizations in formally using all elements of a profession and that a shared global brand and recognized core standards would support regions to tailor and implement the programme;
 - ii. calling on States to participate in regional MPA networks and to provide or obtain the necessary technical and financial resources, for example by creating national MPA agencies, establishing dedicated sources of funding for protected areas (such as Green Fee in Palau, or the dedicated trust funds for Micronesia and the Caribbean), to provide or assist in the task of setting up and managing MPAs, activities for the national MPAs network, monitoring, controlling and surveillance at sea;
 - iii. calling on States to establish appropriate funding mechanisms for the management of MPAs;
 - iv. encouraging networking among the managers of MPAs to share their expertise and management skills concerning regional marine ecosystems, and to disseminate their ecological knowledge and data; and
 - v. developing communication activities and cultural approaches to facilitate the involvement of stakeholders and marine users in MPA management actions;
- e. implementing management effectiveness assessment systems, by:
 - i. putting in place a mechanism to monitor and evaluate management effectiveness;
 - ii. developing and testing an IUCN certification scheme for effective and equitable management of MPAs, according to the

IUCN categories, building upon the IUCN Green List, and making sure to take into account the specificity of the marine environment;

- iii. maximizing the synergies and opportunities presented by other certification programmes such as the Blue Flag and the Green Key to support conservation objectives in or near MPAs;
 - iv. encouraging marine management initiatives in large marine areas at both global and regional levels (involving the different ocean economy sectors); and
 - v. developing and distributing methodological tools for the implementation of MPA management plans, and evaluating the effectiveness and quality of management in annual score-cards, dashboards or other effective communication tools; and
- f. generating and sharing information on MPA progress and management effectiveness, by:
- i. compiling and analyzing, where feasible, all available information about management effectiveness of MPAs globally; and
 - ii. developing protected area maps and databases which clearly show which protected areas have full protection, which areas are partly protected and which areas are unprotected.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-077-EN Promoting Locally Managed Marine Areas as a socially inclusive approach to meeting area-based conservation and Marine Protected Area targets

NOTING the 2010 decision by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to set the global target for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures at 10% (Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*);

NOTING IUCN's leadership in promoting equity, good governance and human rights and elements of protected area management effectiveness;

RECALLING that a Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) is an area of nearshore waters and its associated coastal and marine resources that is largely or wholly managed at a local level by the coastal communities, land-owning groups, partner organizations, and/or collaborative government representatives who reside or are based in the immediate area;

NOTING the important work done by the LMMA network and other agencies in the Pacific Region to promote the use of traditional and Locally Managed Marine Areas as the foundation of national MPA systems;

NOTING also the important work by many indigenous peoples, local communities and small-scale fishers worldwide in sustainably managing their marine resources based on their local and traditional knowledge;

CONSIDERING that conservation has been shown to be more effective when indigenous peoples, small-scale fishers and local communities are respected as partners and custodians in site conservation, and that numerous communities have a long history of sustainably using marine resources, while providing for both biodiversity and human needs; and

CONSIDERING that climate change and overuse of resources is posing serious threats to marine biological and genetic diversity, with potentially serious consequences for food security;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to promote awareness of the Pacific Region's use of Locally Managed Marine Areas, as well as other similar models of community governance by indigenous peoples, small-scale fishers and local communities, as a critical foundation for achieving global MPAs and other area-based management targets and national MPA systems;
2. FURTHER CALLS ON the Director General to encourage marine and coastal resource user advocacy groups to partner with IUCN in promoting the role of indigenous peoples, small-scale fishers and local

communities as custodians of these resources in achieving sustainable, equitable, effective conservation and sustainable use of the marine environment, coastal zones and reef systems; and

3. URGES States and government agencies to foster the development of MPAs and effective area-based conservation measures that, where appropriate, are managed or co-managed by local communities, as part of their efforts to achieve Aichi Target 11.

WCC-2012-Res-078-EN **Conservation of marine phytoplankton**

RECOGNIZING that the phytoplankton in the oceans of the Earth are primary producers and constitute the foundation of the food web for myriad species, are key indicators of ecosystem integrity and function, and contribute to the socioeconomic welfare of human communities throughout the world;

CONSCIOUS that the vast marine phytoplankton stocks provide essential services for Earth's climate as producers of oxygen and sequestration of carbon dioxide through photosynthesis;

ALARMED that in 2010 a scientific study published in *Nature* reported that phytoplankton populations in eight out of 10 ocean regions had declined over the past century, with a 30% decline globally since 1950;

CONCERNED that human activity on land and at sea further threatens phytoplankton populations and that ocean acidification, land-based pollution of the oceans and other adverse impacts are contributing to the threat of a drastic negative impact upon phytoplankton community structures and species compositions in coming decades;

AWARE that the States party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) have a solemn duty to protect the marine environment and that the United Nations has appointed an Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction;

TROUBLED, however, that there is no international, intergovernmental support to study and care for phytoplankton in areas beyond national jurisdiction; and

CONVINCED of the needs to strengthen international environmental law and international cooperation to mitigate and avert further anthropogenic impacts on phytoplankton;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, with appropriate scientific advice, to convene a study of legal instruments and approaches to ensure stewardship of marine phytoplankton; and
2. CALLS UPON all States, as far as applicable, to cooperate with the Director General in producing the study and based thereon take all appropriate measures to reverse the decline in phytoplankton globally.

State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

WCC-2012-Res-079-EN **Protection of the deep ocean ecosystem and biodiversity from the threats of seabed mining**

RECALLING the pertinent provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as well as the activities and recommendations implemented for the oceans and seas of the world, in particular by the International Seabed Authority (ISA), and the scientific reports and studies carried out to date;

CONSIDERING the unique, vulnerable character of deep ocean and seabed ecosystems and their importance in terms of biodiversity and genetic heritage, which are likely to suffer a major impact in relation to the future exploitation of mining resources, namely in the seabed ecosystems with polymetallic nodules, the seabed ecosystems with cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts, and hydrothermal ecosystems with sulphide deposits;

NOTING that a number of countries have signed contracts for prospecting and exploration for polymetallic sulphides and polymetallic nodules with the International Seabed Authority which may influence the pace and development of future deep seabed mining;

NOTING ALSO the obligations under the CBD, in particular Articles 1, 3, 4, 8 and 14, related decisions, and referencing Aichi Targets 3, 4, 11, and 19;

RECALLING that Resolution 14.6 *Deep Sea Mining*, adopted by the 14th IUCN General Assembly (Ashkhabad, 1978) “urged all nations engaged in, or considering, deep sea mining activities to: (a) precede commercial mining operations by commissioning a comprehensive ecological survey to determine the impact of such mining activity; designate appropriate areas of the deep seabed as base line reference and resource zones in which no mining will be allowed; designate the size and shape of such area or areas to ensure that their stability will be maintained; (b) establish guidelines for scientific research to ensure minimum disruption of the natural state of such areas”;

NOTING that the 15th IUCN General Assembly (Christchurch, 1981) in Resolution 15.18 *Deep Sea Mining and Establishment of Protected Areas of the Deep Ocean* recommended the establishment of large sanctuaries in the areas where mining is contemplated before licensing to explore and exploit the deep ocean begins;

RECALLING Resolution 16.11 *on Deep Sea Mining and the Establishment of Protected Areas of the Deep Ocean* adopted by the 16th IUCN General Assembly (Madrid, 1984), and Principle 15 of the 1992 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 4.031 adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) *Achieving conservation of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdictions* which noted with alarm the multiplying threats to marine biodiversity;

AWARE that the first commercial deep sea mining license was issued in Papua New Guinea in January 2012, for a 20-year period;

ALSO AWARE that the Governments of Fiji and Nauru have issued seabed minerals exploration licenses for exploration of areas of the seabed in their respective exclusive economic zones;

FURTHER AWARE that approximately 600,000 km² of the Pacific Ocean are the subject of applications for deep sea mining leases or exploration licenses in the western Pacific, specifically in Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu and Tonga, as well as in international waters in the eastern Pacific;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the role and the ongoing work of the ISA in accordance with UNCLOS;

ACKNOWLEDGING indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ collective governance of their traditional territories, areas, and natural resources in some countries;

WELCOMING the adoption of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* and current regional and international commitments to conserve the natural environments and protect the livelihoods of communities;

RECOGNIZING the increasing interest in mining the minerals on the deep sea floor and around thermal vents;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that, while economic benefits may be gained from seabed mining, this activity may also generate significant costs and damage other economic activities including food security and sustainable tourism and other values, often adversely impacting indigenous and local communities, host economies, the future and the environment;

CONCERNED about the potential for significant impacts on marine biodiversity of exploration and any seabed mining operation, when undertaken at depths that have not yet been adequately explored or understood and using processes and machinery that have not been proven adequate for containing environmental impacts;

FURTHER CONCERNED to ensure that areas of exploration do not foreclose the ability to protect key areas of ecological, biological, historic or scientific interest, and that the system of Areas of Particular Environmental Interest are established with full scientific rigour regardless of pre-existing Areas of Exploration; and

REMAINING CONCERNED about the potential impact on the marine environment of future deep seabed mining activities given the current level of knowledge and understanding of deep seabed mining;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS on the Director General, IUCN Commissions, Members and partners to urgently dedicate efforts, expertise and resources to conducting research to determine the impacts on biodiversity of deep seabed mining activities, especially on deep sea biodiversity in areas where deep sea exploration or mining

may be undertaken, or are currently underway, recognizing the value of deep ocean ecosystems as the essential elements of the biodiversity of the ocean floor;

2. URGES all State Members of IUCN, national, regional and global agencies, and all other States, international organizations and stakeholders to facilitate:
 - a. the identification of areas that should be set aside as representative marine protected areas recognizing the importance of ocean biodiversity and ocean ecosystems;
 - b. comprehensive strategic and environmental impact assessments, including environmental, cultural and social impact studies, ensuring stakeholders are engaged to provide rigour and transparency and allowing for independent review prior to any decision to authorize exploration or seabed mining; and
 - c. the adoption of precautionary and ecosystem approaches, including the precautionary principle, to protect the marine environment and apply safeguards such as financial security and trust-funds, prior to any decision to approve exploration or seabed mining, in order to ensure that adverse environmental impacts are avoided;
3. CALLS on all constituent parts of IUCN to cooperate to develop specialist groups and knowledge products on impacts of seabed exploration or mining activities;
4. URGES all States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to work to improve the governance of the seabed beyond national jurisdiction by implementing and, as appropriate, strengthening international and regional instruments to protect the marine environment; and
5. RECOMMENDS that States ensure that indigenous and local people are able to participate effectively in decisions that impact on ocean biodiversity and ocean ecosystems which may affect their rights and interests as custodians over their territories.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-080-EN

Mitigating the impacts of recreational diving on the marine environment

RECOGNIZING that recreational diving (including snorkelling, free diving, scuba diving and other related practices) can degrade marine habitats and have adverse effects on marine biodiversity ranging from disturbance to injury and even mortality;

CONCERNED that the volume of recreational diving, and thus the impacts of recreational diving on the marine environment, have increased significantly over the last thirty years, especially in sensitive and protected coastal areas;

RECOGNIZING the transboundary nature of marine environments;

CONCERNED that there are no international guidelines to ensure that the potential environmental impacts of recreational diving are effectively regulated and managed;

DISTURBED by various scientific reports demonstrating increased non-environmentally conscious practices in recreational diving, especially in marine protected areas and in habitats containing vulnerable species such as marine mammals, and by experimental evidence of physical and behavioural impacts of such recreational diving practices on marine ecosystems around the world;

AWARE that recreational diving is an important income generator for many countries, that it is a growing economic sector, and that it is therefore essential to ensure that the development of this sector progresses in a sustainable manner;

ALSO AWARE that recreational diving is an important activity to improve education and raise awareness about the marine environment;

ACKNOWLEDGING the important contribution of recreational diving towards conservation of the marine environment, through volunteer programmes, education and reporting;

WELCOMING preliminary steps taken by some governments to address the impacts of recreational diving on the marine environment, but noting that in most countries the environmental practices and impacts of this sector are not sufficiently regulated;

ALSO WELCOMING steps taken by non-governmental organizations and industry role players (especially diving operators and training companies) to develop more sustainable practices in the recreational diving sector;

RECOGNIZING that further research on the effects and mitigation of recreational diving impacts on the marine environment is urgently needed; and

RECALLING IUCN's strong commitment to the conservation of marine species and habitats, as reflected in IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations, for example Resolution 4.031 *Achieving conservation of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction* and Resolution 4.045 *Accelerating progress to establish marine protected areas and creating marine protected area networks* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, with the assistance of IUCN Members, Commissions and Council, to identify appropriate measures and to promote their implementation among world governments for the reduction of impacts from recreational diving on the marine environment, such as by drawing this resolution to the attention of the secretariats of, and meetings of Contracting Parties to, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Regional Seas Programmes, UNEP Governing Council, and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, particularly those with whom IUCN enjoys observer status, and by keeping Union Members informed of progress on this issue;
2. ALSO REQUESTS the Director General to encourage IUCN Members and Commissions to support and conduct further research on the effects and mitigation of recreational diving impacts on the marine environment and use these results to assist in the development of an international environmental code of conduct for recreational diving to reduce its impacts on the marine environment with the long-term aim of consolidating this code into a broader code of conduct for sustainable recreational diving;
3. CALLS ON the relevant IUCN Commissions to mainstream this issue in their relevant scope of work, especially the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) which should consider recreational diving in its work on the social and environmental accountability of the private sector, assisting the development of methods and tools to strengthen the capacity of relevant role players in the recreational diving industry to become more environmentally and socially accountable;
4. ASKS IUCN Member governments, through the mechanisms available to them under domestic and international law, including the development of legal or voluntary instruments, to:
 - a. monitor and investigate the impacts on the marine environment that are associated with recreational diving;
 - b. encourage the development and implementation of best practices for reducing impacts from recreational diving on the marine environment, especially in:
 - i. marine protected areas;
 - ii. habitats containing vulnerable species;
 - iii. special events such as migrations and mass spawning; and
 - iv. in areas where marine mammals or threatened species may be concentrated;
 - c. consider the regulation of recreational diving in management guidelines for all marine protected areas;
 - d. encourage established diver training organizations to increase their basic training requirements with a focus on conservation and protection; and
 - e. work together with national and international non-governmental organizations, with the scientific community, with the relevant industry role-players, and with representatives from the diving community to accomplish these goals;
5. URGES IUCN Member governments:
 - a. to collaborate on the development of an international code of conduct for recreational diving which should guide the development of similar national and local environmental codes (customized to specific local circumstances, needs and interests) for recreational diving;

- b. to assist in the implementation of specific national and local environmental codes of conduct for recreational diving; and
 - c. to ensure that such codes are implemented by all commercial/private recreational diving operators and other relevant industry stakeholders; and
6. URGES Parties to UNEP's Regional Seas Agreements, and to other regional marine agreements and conventions, to include the regulation of recreational diving in their strategies, action plans and measures for the preservation of habitats and the conservation of marine biological diversity, including, once it is developed, adoption of the international code of conduct.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-081-EN

Addressing ocean noise pollution in Africa

RECOGNIZING that anthropogenic ocean noise, depending on source and intensity, is a form of pollution, comprised of energy, that may degrade habitat and have adverse effects on marine life ranging from disturbance to injury and mortality;

RECOGNIZING that noise levels have increased in the African continent's oceans as a result of human activities such as recreational use of the marine environment, oil, gas and mineral exploration and production, vessel traffic, offshore installations, underwater telecommunication developments and other activities;

ACKNOWLEDGING and WELCOMING Resolution 3.068 *Undersea noise pollution* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

ACKNOWLEDGING and WELCOMING the various international and national efforts, including those of the International Maritime Organization, to address ocean noise pollution;

DISTURBED and CONCERNED, however, that no significant interventions and measures have been developed and implemented in Africa to address noise levels in the continent's oceans;

RECOGNIZING that further research on the scale, effects and mitigation of anthropogenic noise on marine species in Africa is urgently needed and must be conducted to the highest standards of science and public credibility, avoiding conflicts of interest; and

FURTHER RECALLING IUCN's strong commitment to the conservation of marine species and habitats, as reflected in its previous Resolutions and Recommendations;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, with the assistance of IUCN Members, Commissions and Council, to promote and support the development and implementation of measures to promote among African governments the reduction of anthropogenic ocean noise in the African continent's oceans, such as by drawing this Resolution to the attention of the secretariats of, and meetings of Contracting Parties to, the Regional Seas Programmes of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UNEP Governing Council, and other relevant intergovernmental organizations, particularly those with whom IUCN enjoys observer status, and by keeping IUCN Members informed of progress on this issue;
2. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General to encourage IUCN Members and Commissions to support and conduct further research on the scale, effects and mitigation of anthropogenic noise on marine species in Africa, to ensure that such research is conducted to the highest standards of science and public credibility, avoiding conflicts of interest, and to encourage the application of the results of research in mitigating anthropogenic ocean noise pollution;
3. CALLS ON IUCN Member governments in Africa, through the mechanisms available to them under domestic and international law, including the development of legal instruments, to:
 - a. monitor and investigate, in a publicly open, inclusive and transparent manner, the impacts on marine species, including but not limited to mass strandings and deaths, that coincide with periods and/or locations of intense anthropogenic noise;
 - b. encourage the development of alternative technologies and require the use of best-available

control techniques and other mitigation measures in reducing adverse impacts from individual noise sources;

- c. consider how to 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 habitats of vulnerable species and in areas where marine mammals or other endangered species may be concentrated;
 - d. in the case of military active sonar and oil and gas seismic exploration, act with particular urgency to reduce risks and impacts on cetaceans, and other potentially vulnerable species, by restricting military active sonar training exercises and seismic surveys to low-risk areas and/or times of year, and by working actively toward the implementation and further development of international best practices and standards that regulate its use;
 - e. include noise restrictions, as appropriate, in their management guidelines for marine 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 IUCN Member governments in Africa that are Parties to the UNEP Regional Seas Agreements, and to other regional marine agreements and conventions, to include the reduction of anthropogenic ocean noise and mitigation of adverse impacts in their strategies, action plans and/or measures for the preservation of habitats and the conservation of marine biological diversity.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-082-EN

Supporting the sustainability of Jeju *Haenyeo* as a unique marine ecology stewardship

CONSIDERING that for centuries the *Haenyeo* free-divers in Jeju Island, Korea, an almost exclusively female group, have pursued a profession of controlled marine harvesting in a system of collaborative economic activity and have maintained their profession;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that their skills, tools, labour songs, shamanistic belief system, practice of collective economic activity, community reinvestment, apprenticeship and mutual aid, and above all, their unparalleled knowledge of marine ecology represent a unique body of indigenous wisdom and both tangible and intangible cultural heritage and render them “traditional wisdom carriers”;

NOTING that their practices include such environmental sustainability as reseeding the ocean’s shellfish population, controlling their harvest by diving without breathing apparatus and limiting the days and hours that they dive, and dedicating specific dives each month to cleaning the seabed of refuse, rendering them a 21st century conservation model of benign human cohabitation with nature;

RECOGNIZING the uniqueness of their marine stewardship and the contribution they have made to the conservation of local marine resources for centuries through sustainable harvesting with minimal acknowledgment to date on the global stage;

CONCERNED that their population has dramatically decreased from a registered 23,081 in 1965 (21.2% of the total female population in Jeju Island) to 4,995 in 2010 (2.1% of the total female population), and that the majority (97.5%) of these divers are now over 50 years of age, indicating that inter-generational transmission has essentially diminished;

ALARMED that the coastal pollution in conjunction with the aquaculture industry has led to reduced yields and decreased economic prospects for this female workforce, and that these and other environmental and social changes brought about by modern society have negatively impacted upon the Jeju *Haenyeo* community to such a degree that this traditional culture of living sustainably in harmony with nature is imminently facing extinction;

CONSIDERING and building upon a number of related resolutions adopted at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) which focused on the rights and sustainability of indigenous peoples, including Resolution 4.049 *Supporting Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas*, Resolution 4.052 *Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, and seeking specific actions from the Director General and other parties on Resolution 4.055 *Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN's policy and Programme*, Resolution 4.056 *Rights-based approaches to conservation*, Resolution 4.058 *Conservation and poverty reduction*, and most notably, Resolution 4.067 *Advancing island conservation and sustainable livelihoods*;

RECOGNIZING that IUCN supports the principles expressed in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Biodiversity and Climate Change Programme;

NOTING that Jeju Island is a unique site in the world to have received UNESCO's designation in all of the three Natural Science categories: Biosphere Reserve, Natural World Heritage site, and Global Geopark, and that Jeju Special Self-Governing Province of Korea has an established endeavour to further achieve UNESCO's recognition for the Jeju *Haenyeo*, as well as multiple local efforts for their role in preservation; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that the United Nations *Millennium Development Goals* include foci of environmental sustainability, gender equality and global poverty elimination, and that the UN has a primary focus on Rural Women's Empowerment, which was highlighted at the 56th Commission on the Status of Women (New York, 2012);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES all IUCN Members, partners and organizations of the conservation community at large to acknowledge and investigate the history, scientific importance, present condition and unique cultural value of Jeju *Haenyeo*, including in the Korean peninsula, in order to assist in the development of comprehensive plans for their preservation; and
2. REQUESTS IUCN Members and partners to endorse, support, participate in, and advocate the development of policies and practices which will help to protect and enhance the aforementioned community, at local, regional and central government levels in Korea as well as internationally.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-083-EN
Advancing the role of nature-based solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation and their potential to contribute to the global climate change regulatory regime

RECALLING Resolution 2.16 *Climate change, biodiversity, and IUCN's Overall Programme*, Resolution 2.17 *Climate and energy* and Recommendation 2.94 *Climate change mitigation and land use* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 3.057 *Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action* and Recommendation 3.084 *Ratification of the Kyoto Protocol of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 4.075 *Climate change mitigation targets and actions for biodiversity conservation* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which urges Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to conclude negotiations on an effective, comprehensive and equitable climate change regime post-2012 and for the regime to include, among others, the integration of ecological and social considerations, including the value of ecosystems;

RECALLING Resolution 4.077 on *Climate change and human rights*, also adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress;

REITERATING the concerns expressed in Resolution 4.075, *viz.* that a global temperature increase of more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels would cause, with a very high probability, severe impacts for ecosystems and livelihoods, and moreover that the rate of change of temperature affects the ability of ecosystems and livelihoods to adapt;

RECOGNIZING that the third Programme Area of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016, Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food and development*,

concerns the application of IUCN’s knowledge to sustainable development, empowerment and poverty reduction;

WELCOMING the outcomes of the UNFCCC 2010 Cancun and 2011 Durban Conferences of the Parties, including progress on the Adaptation Framework, the mechanism for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in developing Countries (REDD+), and the establishment of a Green Climate Fund to provide assistance to developing countries in their mitigation and adaptation efforts; and agreement to develop a new instrument with legal force under the Convention, applicable to all Parties;

REMAINING DEEPLY CONCERNED, however, about the significant gap between the aggregate effect of the mitigation pledges up to 2020 made by these Parties and the emission pathways needed to secure a likely probability of holding the increase in global average temperature below 2°C or 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels¹;

NOTING that the Parties to the UNFCCC decided that the process shall raise the level of ambition and shall be informed, *inter alia*, by the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPPC) and by the outcome of the 2013–2015 review on the adequacy of the long-term 2°C global goal, on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge, including in relation to temperature rises of 1.5 °C;

FURTHER WELCOMING the decision by the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol that the second commitment period under the Protocol would start at 1 January 2013;

EMPHASIZING the value of nature-based solutions to both climate change mitigation and adaptation, and NOTING widespread acceptance of the role of biodiversity in ecosystem processes and the mainstreaming of the concept of ecosystem services; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the Convention on Biological Diversity’s (CBD) Decision X/2 on the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets, in particular Target 15: “by 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration,

including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its Session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- a. in collaboration with IUCN Commissions and Members, further develop and improve a strategy for IUCN’s sustained policy input into the UNFCCC process and related fora including the REDD+ Partnership and the Nairobi work programme;
- b. promote coherent and prioritized action throughout the Union to advance nature-based solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation, including at national, regional and local level;
- c. in collaboration with IUCN Commissions, National and Regional Committees and Members, undertake a study to establish to what extent nature-based solutions to climate change can contribute to closing the “emissions gap” between global commitments and action needed to prevent dangerous climate change; and to widely circulate this study, including to the UNFCCC;
- d. support, in collaboration with IUCN Commissions, National and Regional Committees and Members, “early action” for the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation at national, regional and local level; and
- e. develop key knowledge products that will contribute to the work of the IPPC and of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES); and in developing these products, draw upon, *inter alia*, regional information collected in the course of IUCN’s project activities.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

¹ Assessed at 5-9 GtCO₂e (depending on the policies implemented in addition to the pledges) in *The Emissions Gap Report*, UNEP, November 2010. www.unep.org/publications/ebooks/emissionsgapreport

WCC-2012-Res-084-EN Promoting ecosystem-based adaptation

RECALLING Resolution 2.16 *Climate change, biodiversity, and IUCN's Overall Programme*, adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), which requests the Director General to promote activities for ecosystem resilience to climate change, including through: buffer zones and migratory corridors; ecosystem restoration, conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems; protection of species, and maintenance of forest quality;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 4.075 *Climate change mitigation targets and actions for biodiversity conservation* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which urges Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to conclude negotiations on an effective, comprehensive and equitable climate change regime post-2012, and for the regime to include, among others, the integration of ecological and social considerations, including the value of ecosystems;

NOTING the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Decision VII/15 and Decision VIII/30, which refer to the role of ecosystem goods and services in adaptation;

FURTHER NOTING CBD Decision X/33, which makes direct reference to ecosystem-based approaches for adaptation, inviting Parties to recognize that ecosystems can be managed to limit climate change impacts on biodiversity and to help people adapt to the adverse effects of climate change;

FURTHER NOTING the report of the CBD's Second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change 'Connecting Biodiversity and Climate Change';

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the CBD Decision X/2 on the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets, in particular Target 15;

EMPHASIZING the value of nature-based solutions to climate change, the role of biodiversity in ecosystem

processes, and the increasing importance attached to and mainstreaming of the concept of ecosystem services;

RECOGNIZING that ecosystem-based adaptation can be applied to both (1) assisting natural adaptation by species and ecosystems, and (2) facilitating adaptation by people to the unavoidable impacts of climate change;

NOTING that ecosystem-based adaptation is widely recognized as an adaptation option, and is included in National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) of Least Developed Countries and Adaptation Plans and Strategies of other countries;

NOTING that the UNFCCC's Cancun Adaptation Framework invites Parties to enhance action on adaptation through, *inter alia*, building resilience of socio-economic and ecological systems through sustainable management of natural resources;

NOTING that the outcomes of the 17th Conference of the Parties to UNFCCC agreed, *inter alia*, to pursue work on ecosystem-based adaptation in the context of the Nairobi work programme¹; and

FURTHER NOTING that in promoting the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, ecosystem-based adaptation provides policy coherence with other national and international commitments;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. ENDORSES the definition of ecosystem-based adaptation provided in the report of the CBD's Second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change 'Connecting Biodiversity and Climate Change' (2009), i.e. "Ecosystem-based adaptation is the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to help people to adapt to the adverse effects of climate change";
2. RECOGNIZES that an ecosystem-based approach to climate change adaptation is also relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of species;
3. CALLS ON IUCN Members and other interested parties to promote ecosystem-based adaptation in

¹ Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change.

their climate change adaptation work, including through conservation and sustainable management actions that protect and restore the resilience and adaptive capacities of ecosystems;

4. ACKNOWLEDGES that ecosystem-based adaptation is best implemented as part of an overall adaptation strategy that takes into account the multiple social, economic and cultural co-benefits for local communities;
5. CALLS on donor countries and financial institutions to recognize ecosystem-based adaptation as a sustainable and potentially cost-effective adaptation option, which can complement or substitute for other modes of adaptation and which is readily available to the rural poor; and
6. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that ecosystem-based adaptation is effectively deployed as a nature-based solution within the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* and in particular by:
 - a. promoting ecosystem-based activities that are country driven, aligned to national or sub-national priorities, gender sensitive, and inclusive of local stakeholders;
 - b. exploring in depth the linkages between ecosystem-based adaptation and ecosystem conservation, water, disaster risk reduction and the marine environment; and
 - c. encouraging the dissemination of knowledge products on lessons learned from ecosystem-based activities and projects.

WCC-2012-Res-085-EN **Climate change justice and equity considerations**

NOTING that IUCN provides a platform for governments, NGOs and the private sector to discuss programmes, policies and projects for climate change adaptation and mitigation;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT Resolution 4.076 on *Biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation in policies and strategies* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), as well as related Resolutions;

REITERATING its support for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as the primary vehicle for international collaboration and action to address climate change and its impacts;

ACKNOWLEDGING that climate change raises difficult issues of justice, particularly with respect to the distribution of burdens and benefits among poor and wealthy nations; and

CONCERNED that inadequate targeting of adaptation assistance to poor nations, or to poor people in poor nations, could be detrimental to addressing climate change effects;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON IUCN Members to commit to such adaptive measures that minimize loss and damage and promote the Green Climate Fund and similar funds, including packages to move towards a green economic development;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to promote economic justice and equity considerations in the global agreement on climate change (concerning the impacts and mitigation of climate change); and
3. RECOMMENDS IUCN Members to include principles of equity and justice in climate change adaptation amongst natural resource-dependent communities in the developing world.

State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

WCC-2012-Res-086-EN **Integrating protected areas into climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies**

RECOGNIZING that one of the three Programme Areas for the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* is *Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food and development*;

NOTING that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* advances ecosystem-based adaptation and ecosystem-based mitigation as two principal nature-based solutions to climate change, with the aim of influencing specific sectoral

policies and demonstrating the effectiveness of these solutions on the ground;

FURTHER NOTING that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* does not identify contributions made by protected areas to specific approaches and results related to generating knowledge and developing solutions related to *Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food, development* and does not include programme development initiatives related to protected areas and climate change;

RECOGNIZING that the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and its partners, through the publication *Natural Solutions: Protected Areas Helping People Cope with Climate Change* and related initiatives, has improved understanding of the contribution of effectively managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas as effective nature-based solutions for meeting challenges associated with climate change; and

RECALLING that Resolution 4.076 *Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation in National Policies and Strategies* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) requested the IUCN Director General to support the development of national strategies that address the impacts of climate change on biodiversity through adequate integrated landscape and seascape management and effective protected area systems by, *inter alia*, developing guidelines and case studies of best practice in consultation with Commissions;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. WELCOMES the work of the WCPA and its partners in improving understanding of the contribution of effectively managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas to ecosystem-based climate change adaptation and mitigation;
2. AFFIRMS that efforts aimed at expanding the global protected areas system enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services;
3. CALLS UPON all IUCN constituencies to support governments and other stakeholders in implementing actions related to strengthening the contribution of protected area networks to addressing climate

change impacts, increasing resilience to climate change, and contributing to climate change mitigation;

4. FURTHER CALLS UPON all IUCN constituencies to support the Director General in implementing the initiatives enumerated below;
5. REQUESTS the Director General to work in close cooperation with the IUCN Commissions, particularly WCPA and all global thematic programmes, along with international terrestrial and marine protected area organizations, indigenous peoples, learned societies, sectoral management bodies, industries, and non-government organizations to:
 - a. develop guidelines and case studies of on-the-ground best practices for integrating the establishment, expansion, ecological restoration and effective management of protected area networks into national, sub-national, and sectoral policies and strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation; and
 - b. undertake research and analysis, develop assessment methodologies and implement tools and strategies for:
 - i. assessing, qualitatively and quantitatively, the current and potential contribution of existing protected areas and protected area networks to ecosystem-based climate change adaptation and mitigation;
 - ii. expanding the protected area system in a way that takes advantage of opportunities for conserving biodiversity and ecosystem services, contributing to human well-being, protecting and enhancing carbon stocks, maximizing the potential of natural carbon sequestration processes through healthy ecosystems, and providing climate change adaptation benefits; and
 - iii. managing protected areas, including ecological restoration of areas that are important for biodiversity conservation, the conservation of associated protected area values, and the maintenance and restoration of carbon stocks, such that climate change mitigation and adaptation and biodiversity conservation and associated benefits of protected areas are maximized; and

6. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General to include the actions enumerated above as specific approaches that will be undertaken as part of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* related to *Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food and development*.

WCC-2012-Res-087-EN **Energy and conservation**

NOTING that 2012 is the UN International Year of Sustainable Energy for All and that the significant role of IUCN in designing global policy has been recognized through the appointment of IUCN's Director General as a member of the UN Secretary General's High Level Group on Sustainable Energy for All;

MINDFUL of the fundamental importance of access to affordable energy to alleviate poverty and achieve safe livelihoods;

NOTING that energy future affects all people, women and men, youth and elderly, and that women and children are, in many cases, the ones who stand to benefit the most from the introduction of sustainable and renewable energy services;

RECOGNIZING that over 1.3 billion people are without access to electricity and 2.7 billion rely on biomass for cooking¹, with severe health consequences;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that renewable energy² has a critical role in the transition to a green economy²;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the current share of fossil fuels (oil, coal and gas) in the global energy mix is 81% and is responsible for 65% of all greenhouse gas emissions globally¹, and that through the combined effects of improved standards of living and population growth global energy demand is projected to increase by 40% between 2009 and 2035¹;

CONVINCED that one of the most important contributions to reaching energy-related goals to mitigate climate

change, reducing pollution and public health hazards, and addressing energy poverty, comes from more efficient use of energy, with pricing regimes that reflect the true environmental costs of different sources of energy;

ACKNOWLEDGING that even in scenarios that include effective energy efficiency measures, all energy sources including fossil fuels are likely to be part of the global energy mix for the foreseeable future;

CONCERNED that due to declining conventional supplies that become increasingly difficult to access, a growing share of fossil fuels is projected to come from unconventional sources (e.g. oil sands and shale gas) with potentially significant but as yet unquantified ecosystem impacts, therefore the need for a precautionary approach is important;

NOTING that in order to have a 50% chance of meeting the goal to limit the increase in the average global temperature to two degrees Celsius (Cancun Agreements, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP16³), (a goal which is unlikely to be reached and would already lead to severe environmental, economic and social consequences), the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix must at least double from its share of 13% in 2009 to 27% by 2035, even with effective energy efficiency measures¹;

SUPPORTIVE of the more than 100 countries with renewable energy policies in place⁴, and recognizing that the implementation of such policies, alongside energy efficiency measures and nature-based solutions for mitigation and adaptation, is imperative to avoid dangerous climate change and its effects;

MINDFUL that all energy sources – including renewable energy – and associated production and transmission infrastructure have potential negative environmental and social impacts, and therefore impact assessments and careful planning to avoid, minimize and manage these impacts are essential;

CONCERNED that current discourses on existing and new energy sources and technologies that are regarded

¹ IEA (2011) *World Energy Outlook 2011*. International Energy Agency.

² "Renewable energy that is derived from natural processes that are replenished constantly (...) Included in the definition is energy generated from solar, wind, biofuels, geothermal, hydropower, and ocean resources". IEA. (2011). *Renewables Information 2011*. International Energy Agency.

³ <http://cancun.unfccc.int/>

⁴ REN21 (2012). *Renewables 2012: Global Status Report*. Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century.

as ‘clean’ and/or renewable typically focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions without fully accounting for biodiversity and livelihood impacts;

FURTHER CONCERNED that energy security is inextricably linked to food and water security that must be addressed together but are often treated as separate issues,

RECALLING IUCN Recommendation 12 *Energy and conservation* adopted by the 12th IUCN General Assembly (Kinshasa, 1975) which recommends “that governments foster large-scale public understanding and balanced discussion of the wide range of energy choices available, public awareness of natural limits to man’s use of energy, and public readiness to engage in ways of life compatible with these principles”;

RECALLING IUCN Resolution 15/9 *Renewable Energy* adopted by the 15th IUCN General Assembly (Christchurch, 1981) that highlights “the harnessing of some renewable forms of energy may not be benign in the effects on the natural environment ... and urges national and international agencies to ensure that the environmental impact of any energy developments are assessed before decisions are taken to proceed and, when such decisions are taken, that these developments take account of the need to ensure that their design and implementation give adequate attention to ecological processes, living resources and landscape”;

RECALLING that the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) adopted Resolution 3.059 *IUCN’s energy-related work relevant to biodiversity conservation*, which builds on Resolution 2.17 *Climate and energy* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), and asks IUCN to advance “ecologically-sound energy systems for sustainable development, as a necessary and core part of the biodiversity conservation objectives of the Union”, and that the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) adopted Resolution 4.081 *Equitable access to energy* which requests IUCN Members to inform national and sub-national policy and investment decisions for increasing access to energy, as well as Resolutions 4.082 on *Sustainable biomass-based energy* and 4.083 on *Industrial agrofuel production* particularly highlighting negative impacts on biodiversity and food security;

RECALLING the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP10 Decision X/33 *Biodiversity and climate change* which urged Parties, other governments, and relevant

international and other organizations to *inter alia*: in planning and implementing effective climate change mitigation and adaptation activities, including renewable energies, take into account impacts on biodiversity and the provision of ecosystem services and avoid the conversion or degradation of areas important for biodiversity through: (i) considering traditional knowledge, including the full involvement of indigenous and local communities; (ii) building on a scientifically credible knowledge base; (iii) considering components of biodiversity important for its conservation and sustainable use; (iv) applying the ecosystem approach; and (v) developing ecosystem and species vulnerability assessments; and

REALIZING that there are increasing investments in renewable and unconventional fossil fuel energy production, and that governments are implementing new renewable energy mandates and policies, there is a need for IUCN to advise governments and the business sector to take into account impacts on biodiversity and the provision of ecosystem services, and in an integrated manner along with considerations for food and water security, sustainable natural resource use and livelihoods;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON governments and the business sector to:
 - a. recognize that all energy sources – including renewable energy – and associated production and transmission infrastructure have potentially negative environmental and social impacts, and therefore assessments and careful planning to avoid, minimize and manage these impacts, in particular to biodiversity and livelihoods, are essential;
 - b. recognize that deciding between energy sources must take into consideration the inextricable linkages between energy, food and water security;
 - c. adopt a precautionary approach for the development of unconventional fossil fuel sources;
 - d. adopt ecosystem-based approaches – as defined and urged by the CBD – for any energy development, including renewable energies, to ensure their long-term viability and resilience; and
 - e. collaborate on rapidly scaling up decentralized energy solutions that provide universal access to

clean energy alternatives, and to involve and empower women and youth in the design and implementation of sustainable energy systems;

2. Specifically URGES governments to:
 - a. ensure policies uphold commitments to international conventions and agreements;
 - b. ensure energy policy coherence with biodiversity, livelihood, food and water security and energy access policies, by energy ministries coordinating with other relevant ministries including those responsible for environment and planning;
 - c. undertake strategic Social and Environmental Impact Assessment (SEIA) to understand how multiple energy policies and developments affect landscapes and seascapes, particularly with respect to impacts on biodiversity and livelihoods; and
 - d. remove subsidies for energy options that constitute high environmental and social risks and promote opportunities for effective and efficient renewable options;
3. Specifically URGES the business sector to:
 - a. direct investments to projects that not only reduce greenhouse gas emissions but also favour biodiversity conservation, including sustaining and restoring ecosystems, and improve access to energy; and
 - b. undertake relevant integrated SEIA, including full life-cycle assessments of direct and indirect impacts, and incorporate these into project planning and execution, and use industry best practices when designing, constructing, operating and decommissioning energy developments;
4. CALLS ON IUCN Members and Commissions (in particular the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)) to:
 - a. work with the energy sector to avoid and effectively manage the environmental and social impacts of energy options, and to help the sector and the companies therein to understand, avoid,

minimize and manage the associated risks and opportunities for biodiversity conservation, livelihoods and improving access to energy; and

- b. identify ways that nature can provide solutions to the energy challenge, within ecological limits; and
5. CALLS ON the Director General to, with regard to the relevant areas of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*:
 - a. build on the achievements of the thematic programme area Naturally Energizing the Future under the IUCN Programme 2009–2012 when implementing the IUCN Programme 2013–2016;
 - b. advise governments and the business sector about the risks and opportunities for biodiversity conservation, livelihoods and improving access to energy in relation to all energy sources;
 - c. develop principles and guidelines for the business sector to integrate biodiversity considerations at the assessment and design phases of energy projects, particularly large-scale energy projects, but also multiple small-scale energy projects; and
 - d. promote nature-based solutions to access to energy, energy efficiency, renewable energy and the application of ecosystem-based approaches (as defined by the CBD) for sustainable energy development to all concerned stakeholders – especially with regard to all renewable energy sources, which are based on natural processes and therefore depend on the long-term viability and resilience of ecosystems.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-088-EN Responsible renewable energy sources

RECALLING that the mission of the IUCN is to “influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature

and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable”;

CONSCIOUS that access to energy sources is important to human development;

RECOGNIZING that demand for energy is growing in many parts of the world;

RECALLING that the world is facing problems resulting from global warming, a consequence of the greenhouse gases produced by the use of fossil fuels;

RECOGNIZING the important role of renewable energy sources in replacing fossil fuels in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

RECALLING that the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) adopted Resolution 4.081 *Equitable access to energy* which expressed the need to diversify energy supply (...) developing cleaner, healthy, more efficient, socially acceptable and environmentally sound technologies;

ALSO RECALLING that the same Congress adopted Resolutions 4.082 *Sustainable biomass-based energy* and 4.083 *Industrial agrofuel production* in which concern was expressed over the environmental and social impacts resulting from the use of biofuels;

CONCERNED that industrial biofuel production is:

- a. causing serious deforestation and degradation of forests, which are replaced by monocultures for biofuel production;
- b. forcing people to leave their lands and removing their capacity to produce the foods that they need to survive; and
- c. responsible for the increase in greenhouse gas emissions during different phases of the production cycle of the aforesaid biofuels; and

RECOGNIZING the potential risk to biodiversity from development of renewable energy technologies and the importance of mitigating direct negative impacts on habitats and species where they occur;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. RECOMMENDS that governments:
 - a. conduct analyses of the potential social and environmental impacts, and the impacts on human rights, throughout the life cycle of large scale biofuel productions and other renewable energy technologies;
 - b. conduct environmental impact assessments on renewable energy technologies, in accordance with the legislation in force in each country;
 - c. assess the effects of proposed renewable energy projects, including effects on protected natural areas of regional, national and international importance such as the European Natura 2000 sites, and on habitats of especially sensitive and vulnerable species; undertake effective mitigation measures, which may include avoidance, and enforce actions in cases where national regulations have not been adhered to; and
 - d. include in their energy plans the decentralization of renewable energy source production systems in order to avoid the large scale infrastructure associated with centralized systems, thus reducing social and ecological impacts;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to promote, on the basis of IUCN data, the compilation of a report to be made available to Members, including an assessment of the environmental and social impacts which, to date, have been caused by the production and use of biofuels on a global scale;
3. URGES governments to take forward new first and second generation biofuel production projects and other renewable energy projects which are safe and sustainable; and
4. REQUESTS governments to consider the importance of protected spaces and to avoid setting up large space energy projects within them.

State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

WCC-2012-Res-089-EN

Dams and hydraulic infrastructure

RECALLING that IUCN (then known as the World Conservation Union), together with the World Bank, helped to establish the World Commission on Dams (WCD) in May 1998 in response to the escalating local and international controversies over large dams;

RECALLING that Resolution 2.19 *Responding to the recommendations from the World Commission on Dams* and Recommendation 3.087 *Financial institutions and the World Commission on Dams recommendations* adopted by the 2nd and 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congresses (Amman, 2000 and Bangkok, 2004, respectively) took note of the global review of large dams conducted by the World Commission on Dams (WCD), and recommended comprehensive assessments of major dam projects to balance environmental, social and economic needs in line with the seven strategic priorities¹ published by the WCD in 2000;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the WCD continues to be a reference point, but that WCD recommendations are not accepted by all actors; and recognizing other sets of internationally published policies produced by different parties to the dams debate with particular purposes or constituencies in mind, particularly: (i) the Safeguard Policies of the World Bank; (ii) the Performance Standards of the International Finance Corporation; (iii) the Equator Principles; (iv) the Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol; and (v) the Rapid Basin-wide Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Tool; and looking to convene actors to construct further steps taken in common which constitute good practice and build on elements of the priorities of the WCD;

RECALLING that the existing IUCN policy on dams is established by preceding Resolutions of the IUCN General Assembly and sessions of the World Conservation Congress, specifically: Resolutions 19.28 *Environmental Impact Assessment* and 19.29: *Dam construction, irrigation and water diversions* (adopted in Buenos Aires, 1994); Recommendation 1.98 *Environmentally sustainable development of the Mekong River Basin* (Montreal, 1996); Resolutions 2.19 *Responding to the recommendations from the World Commission on*

Dams, 2.34 *Multilateral and bilateral financial institutions and projects impacting on biodiversity and natural features* and 2.58 *Ecological management issues relating to large dams* (Amman, 2000); Resolution 3.061 *IUCN's interaction with the private sector* and Recommendations 3.087 *Financial institutions and the World Commission on Dams recommendations* and 3.110 *Promoting responsible management of water resources in the Mekong Region* (Bangkok, 2004); and Resolutions 4.052 *Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, 4.087 *Impacts of infrastructure and extractive industries on protected areas*, and 4.091 *Strategic environmental assessment of public policies, plans and programmes as an instrument for conserving biodiversity* (Barcelona, 2008);

AWARE of the need to consolidate and increase water storage capacity in the face of intensifying variations in water availability as a result of climate change, that demands for water and energy due to demographic growth and economic development are putting increasing pressure on available water resources with knock-on impacts on biodiversity, that interest in hydropower as a replacement for fossil fuels has increased considerably, and underscoring the importance of advancing sustainability in design, construction and operation of dams and management of reservoirs for generation of hydropower, irrigation, water storage, fisheries and other uses essential for local communities;

ACUTELY AWARE of the consequences and potential conflicts in disrupted lives/livelihoods and damaged environments where lesser standards of diligence and performance take effect, including failure to take adequate measures to follow the hierarchical process to avoid, mitigate or compensate for negative impacts; and highlighting the urgency of efforts to eliminate such lesser standards from dam and hydraulic infrastructure projects where the option to avoid built infrastructure does not exist;

COGNIZANT of evolving financial flows to developing countries, including funding alternatives to overseas development assistance from OECD countries (sovereign funds, funding from non-OECD countries as grants and loans, and finance from other sources including carbon-offsets) which offer significant opportunities for funding infrastructure projects;

¹ 1) Gaining Public Acceptance, 2) Comprehensive Options Assessment, 3) Addressing Existing Dams, 4) Sustaining Rivers and Livelihoods, 5) Recognizing Entitlements and Sharing Benefits, 6) Ensuring Compliance, 7) Sharing Rivers for Peace, Development and Security.

CONSCIOUS of the constant need to promote participatory decision-making processes which identify water management options and infrastructure alternatives that avoid negative impacts on river and wetland ecosystems and on the livelihoods of affected populations, including support to processes where affected indigenous peoples can express their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any water infrastructure project affecting their lands or territories and other resources and which ensure that, where such impacts cannot be avoided, measures to mitigate or compensate for negative project impacts are adopted, in-line with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines;

RECALLING the natural storage functions of groundwater, as well as wetlands and surface waters – each components of the natural infrastructure of river basins, alongside built infrastructure alternatives (dams, reservoirs, irrigation systems, levees and canals);

UNDERLINING that the functioning of built as well as natural water infrastructure relies on ecosystem services, as do the livelihoods of societies and peoples, especially the poor, and that key industry sectors and governments are often not fully aware of options for investment in management and development of water resources that rely on natural infrastructure;

RECOGNIZING that good practice can afford project-affected populations with viable alternatives to existing livelihoods, based on measures protecting ecosystems and species that may improve local populations' development prospects, provided that no relocation related to water infrastructure projects shall take place without the free, prior and informed consent of the peoples concerned and following agreement regarding just and fair compensation, and that appropriate measures should be put in place to mitigate adverse environmental, economic, social, cultural or spiritual impacts arising from water infrastructure projects;

ADOPTING, from environmental management and sustainability assessment initiatives, and adapting as appropriate, the concept of 'continuous improvement' whereby lessons from past or current practices are incorporated into future development as part of a sustained and systematic process of learning, to help achieve progressive advances in sustainability performance of dam and hydraulic infrastructure projects;

CONSCIOUS of the value of assessment tools and protocols in bringing together different actors in dialogue around dam and hydraulic infrastructure projects, and acknowledging the body of internationally published policies now available, which offer alternative sets of standards on which systems for monitoring improvements in the sustainability performance of dams and infrastructure may be based, encompassing environmental and social, as well as technical and financial criteria;

IDENTIFYING as a common step which may be taken by States, industry, civil society and other actors, and where the option to avoid construction is impossible, endorsement of the concept of continuous improvement and its application to site identification, planning, design, construction and operation of dams and hydraulic infrastructure, and supporting them in their efforts to attain good standards in dam and infrastructure siting, design, construction and operation; and

REAFFIRMING IUCN's role of mobilizing its membership, convening and empowering stakeholders, building partnerships, creating and providing knowledge and analysis, fostering innovation, supporting advocacy for increased equity in the use of natural resources and ecosystem services, and working to advance nature-based solutions;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON governments of all States, including (but not limited to) State Members of the Union, to commit to promoting and supporting the concept of 'continuous improvement' so as to maintain advancement in sustainability policy and practice applying to large dam and hydraulic infrastructure projects, whether projects in their own territory or in the territory of another State or States (where, for example, a government is contributing finance or other support to dams or hydraulic infrastructure projects in that/those other jurisdictions) by:
 - a. choosing an international policy: by identifying the policy on the basis of which improvements in sustainability performance will be assessed, being an internationally-published and recognized policy, and by publicly declaring adherence to the objectives and operational principles, and requirements of the chosen international policy around existing or proposed dam and hydraulic infrastructure projects;

- b. defining a process for monitoring: by determining or defining the process – including catchment, regional, national, or international planning processes – which is to be applied in order to assess and monitor sustainability performance and to monitor direct and indirect impacts, such as applying a basin-wide understanding and approach, using an independent observer where possible;
 - c. identifying responsible institutions: by identifying the institutions (national, regional and international) responsible for implementing and overseeing the assessment and monitoring process, as well as the procedures and principles for ensuring transparency, accountability and participation (and, to those ends, measures to strengthen institutional capacity, where appropriate);
 - d. using legal and comprehensive concession agreements (such as contracts or licenses), which will be made public, and which will cover the respective responsibilities and obligations of the parties involved in dam-building projects, not least in respect of social (resettlement, livelihood development of the resettlers, etc.) and environmental (water quality issues in reservoirs and downstream, fisheries impacts, climate change implications of greenhouse gas production etc.) requirements;
 - e. determining/declaring a means of benchmarking continuous improvement: by determining and publicly identifying the screening, scoring/rating, benchmarking or other methods or frameworks for assessment, including measures in line with the chosen policy to protect particular categories of habitat or populations;
 - f. establishing open reporting for disclosure of conclusions of assessments: by establishing and operating regular reporting of the sustainability performance assessment and monitoring process, conducted in a transparent, accountable and participatory manner, including publishing the reports and making disclosure of the findings, conclusions and recommendations from the assessments to promptly put them into the public domain; and
 - g. collaborating with neighbouring and basin States: by working in collaboration with other neighbouring and basin States as well as international river basin agencies;
2. INVITES industry, supported by public and private financing institutions, to commit to continuous improvement in sustainability policy and practice of large dam and hydraulic infrastructure projects by carrying out assessment processes, adopting monitoring, screening, scoring/rating or other methods or frameworks for assessment and benchmarking, based on an internationally published policy and reflecting those in key performance indicators in plans and reports;
 3. RECOMMENDS that civil society organizations and other actors support sustained and systematic processes of lesson-learning from large dam and hydraulic infrastructure practice, in a solutions-oriented approach, to achieve continuous improvements in sustainability performance, for the needs and benefit of all actors, including indigenous peoples and local communities, with particular attention to the most vulnerable groups and to gender equity, as well as acting as independent observers of the assessment methods, and monitoring and reporting processes conducted by States, industry and financial institutions, including the transparency, accountability and participation aspects of those methods and processes; and
 4. RESOLVES that IUCN, through its Members, Commissions and Secretariat, actively promotes and supports such improvements in sustainability policy and practice by States, industry and financial institutions, by:
 - a. acting as an independent and neutral convener of actors at global, regional and national levels to support and promote the concept of continuous improvement in large dams and hydraulic infrastructure sustainability policy and practice;
 - b. compiling and bringing to bear, including by a review and updating of the World Commission on Dams Report, using a participatory approach, knowledge to contribute to the putting into place by States, industry and financial institutions, of the sustainability performance assessment, monitoring and reporting processes, including advising, as appropriate, on assessment frameworks, screening and scoring/rating methods, information exchange and appraisal, monitoring and reporting tools;

- c. mobilizing IUCN Members and Commissions with identified and credible experience in the provision of technical support and advice where requested and actively seek invitations to join formal processes around dam and hydraulic infrastructure options, including identifying entry points to engage in regional to national policy work on water and dams in river basins;
- d. coordinating actions at basin/local level for testing nature-based solutions to sustainability challenges relating to large dams and hydraulic infrastructure projects, including credible non-dam options, and where required focus on local development around reservoirs, e.g. through secured access to land, rules for sustainable natural resource management and fair access to benefits created;
- e. strengthening the capacity of responsible institutions in developing countries (in support of the implementation of this Resolution), including within the Union on EIA/SEA processes and procedures; and
- f. contributing, during the implementation of the above assessment, monitoring and reporting processes, to continuous learning, dissemination and communicating results and impacts through multi-stakeholder dialogue.

The State Member Turkey provided the following statement for the record:

“The Republic of Turkey objects to any references made to the report of the World Commission on Dams”.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-090-EN Exploration and exploitation of unconventional fossil fuels

NOTING the rapid and unprecedented expansion of exploration and exploitation of unconventional fossil fuels, including, *inter alia*, shale gas, tight gas coal seam gas, coal liquefaction and coal gasification;

NOTING that hydraulic fracturing is a method of resource extraction that involves injecting, at an extremely high pressure, a mixture of water, sand, and a mix of chemicals to break up rock formations otherwise impermeable to the flow of fuels;

CONCERNED that hydraulic fracturing to release natural gas, petroleum or other substances for extraction has negative impacts on the environment, including causing seismic phenomena, such as earthquakes and landslides, and pollution of the air, soils, surface water and groundwater;

CONCERNED that unconventional fossil fuel activities result in the extraction, use and contamination of large quantities of fresh water, reducing the availability of clean, safe water for local communities, food production and natural ecosystems;

CONCERNED that the construction of numerous gas wells, pipelines and associated infrastructure can result in the removal, fragmentation and degradation of extensive areas of natural habitat, including forests and woodlands;

CONSIDERING the potential for serious unintended consequences associated with unconventional exploration and exploitation methods on the natural environment, agricultural resources and on local populations;

ACKNOWLEDGING the gaps in and inconsistencies between States’ laws regulating oil and gas exploration and exploitation activities;

CONCERNED that the body of research on the impacts of hydraulic fracturing on the environment and relevant legal mechanisms is limited;

CONSIDERING that the world is facing global climate change and that the large-scale exploitation of fossil fuels will accentuate its impact on the planet, undermining the commitments made by the international community; and

NOTING the decisions by France and Bulgaria to forbid the exploitation of shale gas through hydraulic fracturing and the suspension of numerous projects in Germany, the United Kingdom, Romania and Quebec, whilst awaiting complementary studies;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON States to:
 - a. prohibit hydraulic fracturing unless the following measures to protect human health and the environment are first enacted:
 - i. unconditional prohibition in the vicinity of major drinking water supplies, in areas of seismic faults, drinking water shortages and high conservation value (HCV);
 - ii. specifications for pipeline construction and wastewater repositories to prevent leakage of chemical and radioactive materials and methane under all foreseeable contingencies;
 - iii. disclosure of chemicals used, at least to the regulatory authorities;
 - iv. prohibiting of the transmission of water to treatment plants lacking the ability to remove toxic and radioactive materials;
 - v. specifications for road transport of wastewater with adequate safeguards against leakage in the event of accidents or driver negligence, including appropriate training in safe handling of materials;
 - vi. requirements for regular testing and monitoring of drinking water supplies;
 - vii. procedures for foreseeable accidents and equipment necessary to handle such events at each site;
 - viii. repeal of the exemption of operations from environmental laws;
 - ix. enforcement of regulations with severe penalties for failure to abide while hiring and adequately training enforcers;
 - x. strict liability for damages caused by operations while requiring a fund or insurance to compensate all persons and communities that suffer damages resulting from operations;
 - xi. assistance to developing countries enabling them to adopt and enforce these regulatory measures; and
 - xii. measures paid for by a tax on the revenues from operation;
 - b. consistent with the preceding paragraph, reevaluate and strengthen the regulation and monitoring of existing unconventional fossil fuel activities to prevent adverse impacts on the environment and local communities;
 - c. cease to issue new permits for the exploration or exploitation of unconventional fossil fuels until new techniques and practices that avoid adverse impacts on the environment and local communities have been assessed and then approved through independent scientific review;
 - d. ensure the necessary transparency and dialogue, in particular with environmental stakeholders regarding their countries' energy choices; and
 - e. strengthen energy conservation policies and support for the development of renewable energy sources as the main alternatives to the exploitation of fossil fuels;
 2. ASKS the Director General to commission the development of a report on the impacts of the exploitation of unconventional fossil fuels on biodiversity, ecosystems, climate and local communities; and
 3. REQUESTS the IUCN Environmental Law Programme to coordinate a comparative study of the various legal regimes governing the exploration and exploitation of unconventional fossil fuels and to provide guidance on best practices and draft legislation or regulations.
- State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

WCC-2012-Res-091-EN
Solar cooking and its contribution to healthy and resilient ecosystems and communities

NOTING that 2012 has been designated as the United Nations International Year of Sustainable Energy for All;

RECOGNIZING that 2.7 billion people, women in particular, currently cook over biomass fires or stoves, with

significant negative consequences for human health (1.9 million deaths per year), household economics, deforestation, ecosystem degradation and climate change;

ACKNOWLEDGING that even taking into account both the warming and cooling effects of the various emissions from cooking fires, several studies suggest that the combined emissions from household cooking fires and stoves may have a net warming effect equivalent to millions of tonnes of CO₂ annually, as well as one quarter of global emissions of black carbon;

RECOGNIZING the urgent need for ecologically sustainable, healthier, reliable, safer cooking options for much of the world, and aware that an array of technologies exist and are being further developed to fulfil this need;

NOTING that the widespread adoption of better cookstove technologies is hindered by supply side and demand side constraints, as well as policy barriers;

NOTING that the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (initiated by the UN Foundation and the Shell Foundation) has set a target of replacing open fires with 100 million clean cookstoves by 2020, with a primary emphasis on clean-burning biomass cookstoves to improve human health;

RECOGNIZING that solar thermal cooking (non-photo-voltaic) requires no fuel other than sunlight, including no use of wood or biomass;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that cooking with clean solar ovens produces zero pollution or carbon emissions, being healthy for people and the atmosphere;

NOTING that solar thermal cooking can help communities, women in particular, adapt to changing climates that may reduce the availability of wood and other biomass traditionally used for cooking;

RECALLING that Recommendation 12.12 *Energy and Conservation* adopted by the 12th IUCN General Assembly (Kinshasa, 1975) recommends “that governments foster large-scale public understanding and balanced discussion of the wide range of energy choices available, public awareness of natural limits to man’s use of energy, and public readiness to engage in ways of life compatible with these principles”;

ALSO RECALLING that Resolution 4.082 *Sustainable biomass-based energy* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) highlights the potentially negative impacts of biomass-based energy on biodiversity and food security;

NOTING that the Sustainable Energy Initiative of IUCN promotes energy solutions that are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable; and

ALSO NOTING that increased use of sustainable solar thermal cooking contributes to all three of the Global Programme Areas in the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016: Valuing and Conserving Nature, Effective and Equitable Governance of Nature’s Use, and Deploying Nature-based Solutions to Global Challenges in Climate, Food and Development*;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON IUCN Members and governments to:
 - a. explore the appropriate applications of solar cooking in their own countries, including expanding research into improving the technology and its adoption and adding solar cooking to their own renewable energy policies;
 - b. disseminate widely the report referenced in paragraph 2c below concerning research and current use of solar cooking; and
 - c. promote in international fora in which Members participate, the inclusion of solar thermal energy as part of a complete and sustainable solution for clean cooking where it can contribute to healthy, resilient ecosystems and communities;
2. CALLS ON the Director General to:
 - a. promote the inclusion of solar thermal energy as part of a complete and sustainable solution for clean cooking and integrate it into the Sustainable Energy priority and other relevant Programme Areas of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*;
 - b. examine the possible contributions of expanding the use of solar cooking for healthy and resilient ecosystems, including forested and arid lands, and report to the next IUCN World Conservation Congress; and

- c. consider the reports from IUCN Members on solar cooking research and use, and compile these into a global report on the *Global State of Solar Cooking and Its Contribution to Healthy and Resilient Ecosystems and Communities*, including women and children, to be submitted to the next IUCN World Conservation Congress for review;
3. CALLS ON IUCN Members and Commissions, in particular the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), to:
 - a. consider the ways in which replacing biomass-fuelled cooking fires and cookstoves with solar ovens and other renewable energy cooking options can contribute to their mandates, particularly, biodiversity conservation, ecosystem health, improving livelihoods and mitigating climate change; and
 - b. contribute to the Report on the *Global State of Solar Cooking and Its Contribution to Healthy and Resilient Ecosystems and Communities*; and
 4. CALLS ON IUCN Members participating in the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves to:
 - a. encourage the Global Alliance to increase research, distribution and use of non-biomass cookstoves, such as solar ovens and stoves, as part of the Alliance objectives, and to participate in these activities as part of their own contribution to the Alliance's efforts; and
 - b. ensure that any of the global cookstove standards agreed include criteria appropriate for determining the effectiveness of non-biomass as well as biomass stoves, and for measuring all impacts of various types of cookstoves, including economic, ecosystem, human health and atmospheric impacts.

WCC-2012-Res-092-EN

Promoting and supporting community resource management and conservation as a foundation for sustainable development

RECALLING that already in 1975 IUCN Members, through Resolution 12.5 *Protection of Traditional ways of Life* adopted by the 12th IUCN General Assembly (Kinshasa, 1975), promoted recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples in conservation areas;

RECALLING Resolution 17.28 *National and Regional Conservation Strategies* adopted by the 17th IUCN General Assembly (San José, 1988) which recognized that indigenous peoples have a long and rich history of knowledge and experience in the sustainable use of their environment, which has often been excluded from economic development strategies as well as conservation strategies and activities;

MINDFUL of Resolution 15.7 *The Role of Traditional Life Styles and Local People in Conservation and Development* adopted by the 15th IUCN General Assembly (Christchurch, 1981), which considers “the still existing very large reservoir of traditional knowledge and experience within local cultures” and recommends fostering “further research into the ecology of traditional life styles”, and “provide the means for local people who maintain ecologically sound practices to play a primary role in all stages of development in the area they identify with, so that they can participate and benefit directly, in a manner which is consistent with their values, time frames and decision making processes”;

ALSO RECALLING the *IUCN Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources* at the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), which concluded that use of wild living resources, if sustainable, is an important conservation tool because the social and economic benefits derived from such use provide incentives for people to conserve them;

AWARE of Resolution 19.22 *Indigenous People* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994), and Resolution 19.23 *Importance of Community Based Approaches* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994), which emphasizes the importance of indigenous and traditional knowledge and urges IUCN to make this a cross-cutting theme of its programmes, and

urges IUCN to build strong partnerships with local organizations to further community-based conservation;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 3.012 *Governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which urged IUCN to serve in a leadership role in relation to governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development;

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 4.047 *Empowering local communities to conserve and manage natural resources in Africa*, which “called on African governments to confer legal rights on local people to establish institutions for communal conservation and management of natural resources”, and Resolution 4.049 *Supporting Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conservation Areas*, both of which were adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

MINDFUL of Resolutions 4.055 *Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN’s policy and Programme* and 4.099 *Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which promote the consideration of cultural values and traditions as key elements of successful conservation;

FURTHER RECALLING the aim of the 9th Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

NOTING ways for a better integration of indigenous peoples’ issues into the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*;

RECALLING the outcome of the Symposium on “The Relevance of Community-based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) to the Conservation and Sustainable Use of CITES-listed Species in Exporting Countries” (Vienna, Austria, May 2011);

NOTING that currently, a range of terms are in use when referring to conservation and sustainable development programmes carried out by local communities (e.g. community-based natural resource management, community conservation, participatory forest management, sustainable resource management, integrated conservation and development, and decentralized land and resource management) and it may thus be timely to devise common terminology that reflects the variety of relevant activities carried out by local communities; wherever possible and

allowing for the legal system in force, ‘community resource management’ (CRM) may be an appropriate generic description;

ACKNOWLEDGING that, while community resource management is not a universal panacea for all terrestrial species and ecosystem problems, for many rural areas of the world it could provide a solution to the classic problem of the Tragedy of the Commons; through collective management and self-interest, local communities can fulfil a role in protecting natural resources which is beyond the capacity of governments or international treaties;

EMPHASIZING that community resource management involving terrestrial species has proven to be most successful where legal rights have been conferred on local peoples;

RECOGNIZING that both consumptive and non-consumptive use, where sustainable and linked to community resource management programmes, can be an effective instrument to conserve terrestrial biological diversity;

NOTING that adaptive management, carried out by the communities themselves, is both a necessary and appropriate methodology for implementing and monitoring community resource use;

ACKNOWLEDGING that good governance, appropriate legislation and even-handed enforcement are essential to ensure that community resource management programmes prosper and are not undermined by illegal and/or unsustainable exploitation of living natural resources; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that conservation outcomes and income generation are only two measures of success of terrestrial community resource management programmes, with others being civic development and education, greater empowerment and participation in democratic processes, shifts to more positive attitudes and increased tolerance to wildlife, as well as a greater sense of pride in community identity and cultural values;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and Secretariat to work with Members and governments to:
 - a. facilitate and enhance a broad exchange of information on current community resource

management programmes and systems, their levels of success, or reasons for failure, to take place amongst practitioners, relevant interest groups and international conservation and development organizations, and that emphasis should be placed on capacity building to contribute to the further development of community resource management programmes;

- b. develop and implement broad policy coherence among Multilateral Environmental Agreements and conservation organizations which would be beneficial to conservation of terrestrial biodiversity through community resource management programmes;
 - c. recognize the various forms and names of community conservation, such as *Al-Hima* (الحِمَا), *Mahjar*, *Agdal*, *Qoroq*, *Adat* or any similar systems of community-based management present in West Asia and North Africa, as a holistic approach that empowers local and traditional knowledge, culture and heritage, in addition to conservation of natural resources and a boost to livelihoods; and
 - d. work together with IUCN Programmes and Commissions to revitalize community-based management systems, such as the *Al-Hima* (الحِمَا) and others;
2. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions to recognize and promote the aforementioned community-based natural resource management and conservation systems as traditional community-based management systems that support the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources by the local community, through adopting and applying local and traditional knowledge, and through customary institutions and regulations; and
3. CALLS ON IUCN State Members and NGOs to assist and promote all of the preceding activities on indigenous peoples' issues in the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*.

WCC-2012-Res-093-EN

Prioritizing community-based natural resource management for social and ecological resilience

REITERATING the deep concerns that the essential conditions of life for present and future generations of human and natural communities are highly threatened by the impacts of environmental change, including climate change, natural disasters, conflict and insecurity, expressed in previous IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations, including *inter alia*:

- a. Resolution 19.41 *Armed Conflict and the Environment* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);
- b. Resolution 2.83 *Armed Conflicts in Natural Areas* adopted by the 2nd World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);
- c. Resolution 17.15 *The International Decade of Natural Disaster Reduction* adopted by the 17th IUCN General Assembly (San José, 1988);
- d. Resolution 2.95 *Drought and Flood Mitigation* adopted by the 2nd World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);
- e. Resolution 4.078 *Appeal for action to address global environmental change* adopted by the 4th World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008); and
- f. Resolution 4.077 *Climate change and human rights* adopted by the 4th World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

ALARMED that many of the world's major armed conflicts are coinciding with biodiversity hotspots and endangered cultures;

RECOGNIZING that natural disasters and armed conflicts are often interlinked phenomena that can complicate recovery strategies for human and ecological communities;

GRAVELY CONCERNED that climate change is a risk multiplier that conflates the impacts of environmental change, disasters and conflict;

NOTING that the severity of these threats impacts disproportionately on marginalized communities including, *inter alia*, women and children, people with disabilities, minority groups, rural populations, and indigenous peoples and some of the world's most critical ecosystems;

UNDERSTANDING that social and ecological resilience includes community-based disaster risk reduction, non-violent socio-environmental conflict management, human and environmental security, recognition of the collective rights of indigenous peoples, protection of biological and cultural diversity, long-term integrity of ecosystem services, and just peace;

EMPHASIZING that top-down, external or centralized approaches to conservation, security and international aid can suppress communities' abilities to propose their own solutions and strategies for sustainable recovery and resilience to catastrophic events, armed conflict and insecurity, particularly within humanitarian and governmental programming;

RECOGNIZING the role that adaptive community-based natural resource management has in influencing the nature and severity of armed conflicts, disasters and insecurity, as well as in promoting environmental peace building and strengthening social and ecological resilience;

AFFIRMING previous IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations that have promoted community-based approaches to conservation and natural resource management:

- a. Resolution 19.23 *The Importance of Community-Based Approaches* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);
- b. Resolution 3.049 *Community Conserved Areas* adopted by the 3rd World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);
- c. Resolution 4.047 *Empowering local communities to conserve and manage natural resources in Africa* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);
- d. Resolution 4.109 *Funding programmes for small-scale civil society projects for global biodiversity conservation* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

- e. Resolution 3.022 *Endorsement of the Earth Charter* (Bangkok, 2004); and
- f. Resolution 3.046 *Conservation in regions in violent conflict of West Asia – strengthening IUCN's presence to protect the natural and human environment* (Bangkok, 2004), recalling principles 23, 24 and 25 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992); and

REAFFIRMING Resolution 15.2 *Conservation and Peace* adopted by the 15th IUCN General Assembly (Auckland, 1981) that “peace is a contributory condition to the conservation of nature, just as conservation itself contributes to peace through the proper and ecologically sound use of natural resources”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, South Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS UPON the international community, aid and humanitarian agencies, all IUCN Members and other organizations to recognize and promote the rights of communities to exercise self-determination in the formulation of policies and projects affecting their environment and security;
2. REQUESTS the Director General and all members of IUCN to prioritize and promote community-based approaches to disaster risk reduction, conflict management, and integrated conservation and development, so as to strengthen social and ecological resilience;
3. REQUESTS the Director General and the IUCN Commission on Environment, Economics and Social Policy (CEESP), to support community governance frameworks on matters regarding disaster risk reduction, integrated conservation and development, and conflict management; and
4. CALLS ON the Director General and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL), to identify and support customary and traditional legal systems, legal and policy frameworks, relevant international Conventions, institutions and procedures that can secure the rights of local people in the context of community-based natural resources management for social and ecological resilience.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-094-EN **Respecting, recognizing and supporting Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas**

AWARE that a considerable part of the Earth's biological and cultural diversity is concentrated in the customary territories and areas of indigenous peoples and traditional communities, including both mobile and sedentary peoples;

ACKNOWLEDGING the significant role that such Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCAs) play in the global preservation, sustainable use, and restoration of biodiversity, natural resources, ecosystem functions and cultural (including linguistic and spiritual) values, in the prevention of natural disasters and in local adaptation to global change, including climate;

UNDERSTANDING the intrinsic value and irreplaceable nature of our global biocultural heritage for future survival and well-being;

STRESSING that ICCAs embrace customary and contemporary collective efforts for sustainable livelihoods, culturally sound development and the practice of *buen vivir* among indigenous peoples and traditional and local communities around the world;

CONCERNED that the commercialization of life, militarization of economies, inequitable "development", massive infrastructure and large-scale, unsustainable extraction and use of renewable and non-renewable resources pose enormous threats to the rights and livelihoods of indigenous peoples and traditional and local communities and to the unique biocultural diversity embedded in their territories and areas;

ALSO CONCERNED that indigenous peoples and traditional and local communities are often disproportionately affected by the costs of imposed development and conservation measures, including dispossession from customary territories and areas, exclusion from decision-making processes, and lack of free, prior and informed consent before activities are undertaken that affect them;

AWARE that lack of respect and inadequate or inappropriate recognition and support for ICCAs by governments,

conservation organizations and donors, among others, undermine their integrity and conservation effectiveness and violate a range of procedural and substantive rights;

CELEBRATING the 2007 adoption of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) by the United Nations General Assembly and the endorsement by IUCN of UNDRIP;

RECALLING that the *Durban Action Plan* of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) called for global action to recognize and support ICCAs and thus secure the rights of indigenous peoples, including mobile indigenous peoples, in relation to natural resources and biodiversity conservation;

REAFFIRMING Resolutions 4.049 *Supporting Indigenous Conservation Territories and Other Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas*, 4.050 *Recognition of Indigenous Conservation Territories*, 4.052 *Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, 4.053 *Mobile indigenous peoples and biodiversity conservation*, 4.056 *Rights-based approaches to conservation*, and Recommendation 4.127 *Indigenous peoples' rights in the management of protected areas fully or partially in the territories of indigenous peoples*, all adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

EMPHASIZING that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* (PoWPA) in 2004, including its Programme Element 2 on *Governance, participation, equity and benefit-sharing* and 13 suggested activities of relevance to ICCAs;

HIGHLIGHTING the adoption of Decision X/31, paragraphs 31–32 on fair and equitable sharing of costs and benefits, full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and traditional and local communities in governance, and recognition of ICCAs as a type of protected area governance at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the CBD;

STRESSING the essential role that ICCAs can play towards fulfilling Aichi Targets 11, 14, and 18 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* as either fully recognized protected areas or "other effective area-based conservation measures"; and

WELCOMING the important advances made by some governments, international organizations, and donors to respect and appropriately recognize and support ICCAs;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS UPON all IUCN Members, Commission members, Secretariat and Council to respect and appropriately recognize and support ICCAs by promoting, adopting and fully implementing laws, policies and programmes that:
 - a. recognize and uphold indigenous peoples' rights to self-determination, self-governance, full and effective participation in decisions that affect them, equitable sharing of costs and benefits, and other essential rights and responsibilities enshrined in UNDRIP, ILO Convention No. 169 Concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples, and other international human rights instruments;
 - b. recognize indigenous peoples' and traditional and local communities governance of and rights to the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned, occupied or otherwise used or acquired;
 - c. recognize and engage accordingly with customary laws, institutions, protocols and decision-making processes and practices, also by using indigenous and local languages, as relevant;
 - d. refer to indigenous peoples as "indigenous peoples", in accordance with UNDRIP and their right to self-identification;
 - e. recognize and support ICCAs in situations where they overlap with protected area or other designations, including through customary mechanisms for conflict prevention, management and resolution;
 - f. encourage and strengthen the capacities of indigenous peoples and traditional and local communities to monitor, document and assess ICCAs and all values therein;
 - g. uphold the intrinsic natural and cultural values present in ICCAs; and
 - h. support the CBD Secretariat and Parties in relevant regional and sub-regional capacity-building initiatives, in particular those concerning the implementation, monitoring, evaluation and revision of Element 2 of the *Programme of Work on*

Protected Areas and of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans;

2. URGES the IUCN Council, the Director General and Commissions to strengthen support to the CBD Secretariat, through appropriate mechanisms and collaboration, such as with the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and the ICCA Consortium, to enhance the commitment and capacity of the Parties to the CBD to:
 - a. strengthen international, national and sub-national environmental and other laws and policies and their implementation in accordance with international human rights standards, particularly UNDRIP;
 - b. respect and appropriately recognize and support ICCAs in the implementation of all aspects of the CBD, including but not limited to the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*, Articles 8(j) and 10(c), and Aichi Targets 11, 14 and 18, without impinging upon customary governance and management systems;
 - c. utilize and further develop and support available resources such as the Global ICCA Registry, hosted by UNEP-WCMC, on conservation by indigenous peoples and traditional and local communities; and
 - d. promote the increase of contributions to the CBD Voluntary Fund to support the participation of indigenous peoples and traditional and local communities in relevant decision-making processes;
3. FURTHER URGES the IUCN Council, Director General, Commissions and the Secretariat in particular to call upon global financing mechanisms, including but not limited to the Global Environment Facility, the UN Indigenous Peoples Partnership, official development assistance, LifeWeb, and international financial institutions and lenders, to establish new or strengthen existing policies, programmes, mechanisms and procedures to ensure appropriate recognition of and support for ICCAs and associated rights and responsibilities in all aspects of their funding processes; and
4. REQUESTS the Director General, given the impending CBD COP11, to take timely and forceful action

on the previous paragraphs in IUCN's direct communication liaison initiatives with the CBD Secretariat and Parties.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-095-EN Traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local peasant communities in the Andes and the Amazon Rainforest as a mechanism for adaptation to climate change

OBSERVING that climate change affects the most vulnerable populations in the Andes and the Amazon Rainforest, especially with regard to their productive and subsistence activities related to farming and the management of natural resources, especially biodiversity;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the fact that there is a global approach to the identification of the different mechanisms for adapting to climate change in order to lessen the vulnerability and increase the resilience of the affected populations and ecosystems;

RECOGNIZING that, over the course of history, indigenous peoples and local communities have developed knowledge and practices, which in many cases have allowed them to adapt successfully to climatic variations;

BEARING IN MIND that this knowledge is a cultural legacy, which forms part of the identity of the indigenous peoples and local communities, who want to build their own means of development;

CONSIDERING that there are relevant, frequent coincidences between local perceptions and the available scientific knowledge on the effects of climate change, and that the complementarity of traditional knowledge and scientific knowledge may help indigenous peoples and local communities adapt successfully to climate change;

ALSO TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that this knowledge, and these innovations and practices, can be taken as references by society in general to find better alternatives for adapting to climate change, highlighting the fact that, at the same time, the approval and participation of the

owners both of this knowledge and of these innovations and practices are required, as is the promotion of the principle that the benefits derived from their use should be shared;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT Article 8(j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in which the Contracting Parties engage to “respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and use of biological diversity”; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the fact that, according to Article 10(c) of the CBD, the Contracting Parties engage to “protect and encourage customary use of biological resources in accordance with traditional and cultural practices that are compatible with conservation or sustainable use requirements”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the institutions and agencies of the national States to promote the research, recovery and use of traditional knowledge and practices as a strategy for adaptation to climate change and to include it in their public policies; and
2. ASKS the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) to ensure that traditional knowledge and practices are included in the comprehensive inventory of tools to combat climate change comprehensively, in other words, as part of a strategy that includes biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-096-EN Recognizing the indigenous territories as conservation areas in the Amazon Basin

CONSIDERING that the Amazon Basin is the largest tropical forest ecosystem in the world, covering an area of 7.8 million km², and that it holds the greatest terrestrial biodiversity on the planet, for which it is a region of strategic global importance;

BEARING IN MIND that the Amazon is shared by more than 390 indigenous peoples who have inhabited it since time immemorial, including more than 60 peoples living in voluntary isolation;

CONSIDERING that the Amazonian indigenous peoples have conserved and continue to conserve the ecosystems and biodiversity of their ancestral territories as a guarantee of their physical and cultural existence;

OBSERVING that the indigenous Amazonian territories act as vital carbon stocks and hold a high concentration of biodiversity, that they contain biomass of high value for regulating the global climate and that they guarantee the food and medicinal security of the indigenous peoples and humanity as a whole;

BEARING IN MIND that the Amazonian indigenous territories are formed of the tropical forests in which indigenous peoples live out their daily lives, and that their social and cultural significance is thus as important as their environmental significance and importance;

FURTHER BEARING IN MIND that the indigenous peoples in isolation or initial contact live in the most intact and best conserved tropical forests of the Amazon Basin;

CONCERNED that the Amazonian indigenous territories are under constant environmental threat from extractive activities, logging concessions and the constant pressure of colonization, all of which are endangering indigenous territorial rights and ecosystem integrity; and

CONSIDERING that the Amazon's future depends on maintaining the ecological processes that enable climate change pressure and natural resource demands to be resisted, processes in which the indigenous territories play an important role in conserving biodiversity and as a strategy to face up to climate change;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS that the Director General:
 - a. in collaboration with the IUCN Members working in the Amazon, and in particular the Coordinadora de las *Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica* (COICA), strengthens the implementation in the Amazon region of Resolution 4.049

Supporting Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conservation Areas, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), including the state of progress of national policies and regulations relevant to protecting indigenous territories and the inclusion of this theme in its Members' programme and project implementation; and

- b. works, in cooperation with IUCN Members, the governments of the Amazon Basin, indigenous organizations and other relevant organizations, as appropriate, on a regional initiative to protect the Amazonian indigenous territories as priority spaces for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and for maintaining and developing indigenous cultures, based on an integral management of their territories for their well-being, in the context of a strategy of climate change adaptation and sustainable development based on activities that produce lower greenhouse gas emissions;

2. CALLS on IUCN Members active in the Amazon region to support this initiative and join forces in a coordinated manner, with the active participation of the indigenous organizations;
3. INVITES the governments of the Amazon Basin, in particular, to harmonize their efforts to protect the indigenous territories and to work jointly on this initiative with IUCN; and
4. REQUESTS international cooperation agencies to support this initiative, which will benefit not only the indigenous peoples but all inhabitants of the region and planet.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-097-EN Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

RECALLING IUCN's adoption at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, through Resolution

4.052 *Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (Barcelona, 2008);

GRATIFIED that a number of States and NGOs have endorsed the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* after the World Conservation Congress urged wide adoption of the *Declaration*;

COMMENDING the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the IUCN Director General for their productive endeavours to design the “Whakatane Mechanism,” a multi-stakeholder approach for resolving human rights conflicts in protected areas, which implements Resolutions 4.052 and 4.056 *Rights-based approaches to conservation*, and Recommendation 4.127 *Indigenous peoples’ rights in the management of protected areas fully or partially in the territories of indigenous peoples*;

NOTING that two inter-Commission structures have been established to promote the rights of indigenous peoples furthering the mission of IUCN, namely the Theme on Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Equity and Protected Areas (TILCEPA) with the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and CEESP, and the Specialist Group on Indigenous Peoples, Customary & Environmental Laws and Human Rights (SPICEH) with CEESP and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL);

RECOGNIZING that since the last World Conservation Congress IUCN has presented regular progress reports to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) concerning implementation of the *Declaration* in all its components;

WELCOMING the work being developed through the “Whakatane Mechanism” as a significant contribution to the Programme’s “rights-based and equitable conservation” undertakings and One Programme approach; and

AWARE also of the ongoing deliberations of the UNPFII, which in May of 2012 again examined the so-called “doctrine of discovery” as a discredited rationale for denying both the human rights of indigenous peoples and their rights as now enshrined in the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS that the IUCN President, Council, Director General and Commissions develop a policy and

strategy for ensuring that the principles of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* are observed throughout the work of the Union; and

2. REQUESTS, as directed in Resolution 4.052 and as funding permits, that the Council establish a task-force to examine the application of the *Declaration* to every aspect of the IUCN Programme (including Commission mandates), policies and practices and to make recommendations that guarantee its implementation in the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, especially with respect to the Programme’s focus on “rights-based” nature conservation.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-098-EN

The human right to water and sanitation

AWARE that humans depend on ecosystems and natural resources for their survival and to meet their basic needs such as food, housing and health;

ALSO AWARE that water is fundamental for life and that it should be made accessible and affordable in sufficient quantity and quality for safe drinking, bathing, cleaning, cooking and sanitation;

RECALLING that human rights are internationally recognized and generally enforceable standards which are universal and inalienable, interdependent and indivisible, equal and non-discriminatory;

ALSO RECALLING that the right to water and sanitation can be seen as a component of other existing fundamental human rights (right to life, health, food, self-determination, adequate standard of living, housing, education);

ACKNOWLEDGING the numerous provisions in international law which recognize the need to ensure physical accessibility, safe quality and quantity of water in order to secure other human rights, such as the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/292 on the human right to water and sanitation, and General Comment 15 of the United Nations Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Committee;

AWARE that the international community set out the objective of halving by 2015 “the proportion of people who are unable to reach, or to afford, safe drinking water” in paragraph 19 of the Declaration establishing the United Nation’s *Millennium Development Goals* and of halving by 2015 the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation (World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, 2002);

ALSO AWARE of international conventions which explicitly recognize the need to ensure the human right to water and non-discrimination against the most vulnerable and marginalized groups of society, in particular women, especially in rural areas, as reflected in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW, 1979) and children as included in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989);

CONSCIOUS of the explicit recognition of the human right to water regionally, such as in the European Council of Environmental Law (ECEL) Resolution on the right to water (2000), and nationally, such as in the Constitutions of Bolivia, Ecuador and Uruguay, in particular in relation to indigenous communities;

CONSIDERING that human rights cannot be fully secured in a degraded or polluted environment and that the right to water which focuses on an environmental resource, not only supports the establishment of already accepted human rights but also environmental principles;

CONVINCED therefore that the recognition of the right to water should have a positive impact on the respect of international environmental provisions that relate to the protection and management of water (mismanagement and/or depletion of surface and groundwater resources);

OBSERVING that agriculture and industrial production require huge quantities of water and that such activities are not components of the human right to water (which covers basic human needs), appropriate ecosystem management has an important role in the provision of water for safe drinking, bathing, cleaning, cooking and sanitation;

EMPHASIZING that water management should take into account the fulfilment of basic human needs to meaningfully strengthen and uphold any right to water and sanitation;

ALSO EMPHASIZING that at local level, ‘nature-based’ solutions to water management are often easiest, cheaper, most cost effective, and replicable for implementation by local communities;

EMPHASIZING FURTHER that water governance capacity should be understood as the competence of a society to ensure the development of sustainable water resources and the implementation of effective water management by means of transparent, coherent, and cost effective policy law and institutions (e.g. for progress on safe water supply and sanitation services, for integrated water resource management, etc.);

CONVINCED that due to the interdependence of natural resources and in order to promote biological diversity and resilience to climate change, maintaining safe water supplies relies on the health of land and ecosystems and thus requires the integrated management of water, land and coastal areas;

ALSO CONVINCED of the vital role of ecosystem services in securing access to and maintaining the quality and quantity of water (e.g. wetlands can store and filter water and forests help to regulate water flow);

RECOGNIZING the *IUCN Policy on Conservation and Human Rights for Sustainable Development* and the substantial work done by IUCN:

- a. on building capacity for water management and good governance of natural resources;
- b. on demonstrating implementation of sustainable water management, including support for improved arrangements for water governance; and
- c. in particular, on work towards the adoption of a rights-based approach (RBA) as an underlying strategy for conservation action throughout the Union, e.g. need for equity as there continues to be major disparities in terms of access to water amongst regions;

CONCERNED that water is becoming a scarce resource and that in light of global challenges, such as climate change, growing population, increased consumption, recurrent contamination and pollution of water sources, mismanagement and the development of industrial infrastructure, the distribution of water is increasingly unequal, which in turn also exacerbates poverty;

NOTING that according to current data, 884 million people do not have access to the UN recommended amount of freshwater per person per day (20–50 litres) that is necessary for meeting basic needs (drinking, cooking, cleaning, etc.);

FURTHER NOTING that according to the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply and Sanitation, despite improvements in access to safe drinking water, (decrease from 1.2 billion to 884 million people without access) the number of people who still lack access to basic sanitation has increased (2.4 to 2.6 billion, one billion of these being children); and

COMMITTED to IUCN’s vision of “a just world that values and conserves nature” and mission to ensure that “any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON IUCN’s governmental and non-governmental Members as well as non-member States and non-State actors to:
 - a. recognize the value of working towards the realization of the right to water and sanitation for sustainable development and in view of securing water resources for future generations, ensuring access to safe and affordable drinking water and basic sanitation for all citizens;
 - b. respect, protect, promote and fulfil the human right to water by, *inter alia*: establishing effective policies and strategies; promoting the realization of the procedural human right to water (right to information, just administrative action, public participation, access to courts of justice to obtain redress against violations, injuries or damages carried out by private multinational companies);
 - c. ensure governments support access to water of sufficient quality and quantity;
 - d. provide financial resources, for research, capacity building and technology transfer to assist countries to provide safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all;
 - e. multiply efforts to implement existing commitments as set out in relevant international, regional and national instruments;
 - f. recognize the importance of ecosystem services to the viability of programmes for the access to water for basic needs and sanitation by national and local governments;
 - g. promote understanding of responsibilities and synergies between the human right to water and the conservation of water for the needs of nature; and
 - h. strengthen the capacity of society to manage water resources through appropriate legal and institutional frameworks as well as effective policies (water governance capacity); and
2. REQUESTS the Director General in collaboration with IUCN Commissions, Members and other relevant partners in line with the One Programme approach, to:
 - a. develop knowledge products which promote the fulfilment and the practical implementation of the right to water to be considered at the next IUCN World Conservation Congress;
 - b. work towards delivering action on the ground, giving special attention to the integrated management of water resources, land and coastal ecosystems; and
 - c. strengthen governance arrangements by:
 - i. engaging the private sector to recognize the right to water and sanitation, and to assist in its achievement;
 - ii. implementing the provisions set forth in this recommendation in light of the *IUCN Policy on Conservation and Human Rights for Sustainable Development* ;
 - iii. enhancing coordination, consensus and capacity building on activities or programmes which relate to rights;
 - iv. promoting and reinforcing water governance capacity at all levels (local, such as the community-based level, to national) as a means of empowering and enabling people to implement the human right to water and sanitation services;

- v. providing effective access to justice and courts; and
- vi. promoting adequate information and democratic participation within the process of governing and managing water resources and services.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-099-EN IUCN Policy on Conservation and Human Rights for Sustainable Development

RECALLING that the IUCN Council and the Director General, in collaboration with the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) and other Commissions, IUCN Members, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, and other relevant partners, were called upon in Resolution 4.056 to “[...] develop a comprehensive IUCN Policy on Conservation and Human Rights, including guidance on rights-based approaches to conservation, to be tabled for adoption at the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress; [...]”;

AWARE of IUCN Resolutions relating to rights and equity, including Resolution 3.015 *Conserving nature and reducing poverty by linking human rights and the environment* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and Resolutions 4.052 *Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, and 4.056 *Rights-based approaches to conservation*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

ALSO AWARE of IUCN Resolutions relating to rights and protected areas, such as Resolution 1.053 *Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), Resolution 3.055 *Indigenous peoples, protected areas and the CBD Programme of Work* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and Resolution 4.048 *Indigenous peoples, protected areas and implementation of the Durban Accord* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

ALSO AWARE of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) and the numerous provisions in international, regional conventions or national laws which recognize the inter-linkages between human rights and environmental protection, including but not limited to the *Stockholm Declaration* (1972), the *World Charter for Nature* (1982), the ILO Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (1989), the *Rio Declaration* (1992), the *Aarhus Convention* (1998) or the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (2007);

WELCOMING the substantial work done on rights-based approaches to date by WCEL, CEESP, the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (ELC) and the IUCN Senior Social Policy Advisor in collaboration with IUCN Regional Offices and IUCN Members;

WELCOMING in particular the establishment of a joint WCEL-CEESP Specialist Group on Indigenous Peoples, Customary and Environmental Laws, and Human Rights which was created in spirit of the One Programme approach;

NOTING the ‘rights-based approach to conservation internet portal’ which provides an important tool and platform for collecting and sharing information and experiences about worldwide initiatives which promote the integration of human rights considerations within conservation practices;

RECOGNIZING IUCN’s commitment to the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights (CIHR), a consortium of international conservation organizations that seek to improve the practice of conservation by promoting integration of human rights in conservation policy and practice; and

CONCERNED that for the fulfilment of its mission, IUCN has a responsibility to promote transparency and develop tools to address and be accountable for the social effects of its activities and to mainstream rights-based approaches to conservation as a cross-cutting principle within its work;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. ADOPTS the IUCN *Policy on Conservation and Human Rights for Sustainable Development* contained in the Annex to this Resolution;

2. CALLS ON IUCN’s governmental and non-governmental Members as well as non-member States and non-State actors, to:
 - a. recognize the value of rights-based approaches to conservation for sustainable development, in particular to:
 - i. promote the understanding that adopting a rights-based approach implies acknowledging not only the rights of all parties (including indigenous and local communities) under both positive and customary law, but also their duties; and
 - ii. acknowledge the importance of taking such rights-based approaches into account as a basic underlying strategy for any conservation action;
 - b. develop their own policies on conservation and human rights for sustainable development which are adjusted to their particular needs and situations and in line with the IUCN policy contained in the Annex to this Resolution, thus including strong accountability tools and mechanisms;
 - c. develop mechanisms/tools for implementing human rights policies in conservation planning and practice; and
 - d. disseminate any lessons learnt through interactive tools, such as the IUCN ‘rights-based approach to conservation internet portal’, and by encouraging dialogues and the exchange of information; and
3. REQUESTS the Director General in collaboration with IUCN Commissions, Members and other relevant partners, to:
 - a. ensure that the IUCN *Policy on Human Rights and Conservation for Sustainable Development* as included in the Annex to this Resolution is implemented within all policies, programmes and activities of the Union;
 - b. develop arrangements and processes that ensure accountability concerning the implementation of the policy;
 - c. support and actively engage in the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights;
 - d. assist IUCN Members and partners as appropriate in the development and implementation of their own rights policies; and
 - e. enhance coordination, consensus and capacity building on activities or programmes which relate to rights.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

ANNEX: IUCN Policy on Conservation and Human Rights for Sustainable Development

In line with, and as a reflection of, IUCN’s vision of a just world that values and conserves nature, this statement is an overarching policy for IUCN to consider and integrate human rights issues into its work, including but not limited to, the development and implementation of rights-based approaches (RBAs) within its projects and programmes. By referring to the need for the equitable utilization of natural resources, IUCN’s mission explicitly recognizes the importance and value of fairness, impartiality and respect for rights in the practice of conservation.

Introduction

This policy statement aims to reinforce the Union’s social policies by offering a comprehensive framework laying out the rights-related foundations of social equity and justice. It calls for IUCN to work towards ensuring that rights are respected for the sustainable and equitable use, management, governance, and conservation of natural resources.

This statement builds on the IUCN Mission and rights-related resolutions and policies adopted by IUCN World Conservation Congresses such as the IUCN policy on gender¹ and policy on social equity² which respectively recognize that there is a need for a “mainstreaming strategy

¹ IUCN Policy on Gender (Presented at the 48th meeting of the IUCN Council 27–29 April 1998).

² IUCN Policy on Social Equity in Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources (2nd World Conservation Congress, 2000)

to integrate a gender perspective in a broad socio-cultural context, into IUCN's Policies, Programmes and Projects" and for "an effective and coherent strategy to ensure conservation does not accentuate or perpetuate existing social, economic and cultural inequities and inequalities".

IUCN began incorporating rights issues into its programme as early as 1975³. More recently, Resolution 3.015 *Conserving nature and reducing poverty by linking human rights and the environment* adopted during the 3rd World Conservation Congress in 2004 welcomed the identification of human rights issues as cross-cutting themes across the Environmental Law Programme. In 2008 during the 4th World Conservation Congress the IUCN Council and Director General were called upon by Resolution 4.056 *Rights-based approaches to conservation* to "promote the analysis of rights-based approaches as a cross-cutting principle within IUCN and its membership"⁴, and to "undertake further work to support and guide IUCN on the implementation of policies and actions reflecting a rights-based approach to conservation"⁵. The Resolution calls on the IUCN Council and Director General, in collaboration with CEESP, WCEL and others to "develop a comprehensive Policy on Conservation and Human Rights, including guidance on rights-based approaches to conservation, to be tabled for adoption at the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress"⁶.

In addition, IUCN is also a founding member of the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights (CIHR), a consortium of international conservation organisations established in 2009 to seek to improve the practice of conservation by promoting the integration of human rights in conservation policy and practice. IUCN has signed the CIHR framework, a common, initial framework of principles and management practices.

Linkages between rights and conservation

Conservation activities have the potential to clash with or infringe upon human rights. Failure to respect, ensure and fulfil internationally and domestically guaranteed or customary rights can be a trigger for environmental

destruction and degradation as people can be forced to engage in unsustainable practices for their survival. Likewise, conservation can achieve short-term success through measures that fail to respect human rights such as forced resettlements.

Rights-based approaches (RBAs) can be seen as one of the tools to make rights and conservation mutually reinforcing. RBAs can be considered as the integration of rights considerations within any policy, project, programme or initiative.

Scope of the policy

This policy builds upon past and ongoing IUCN efforts related to RBA, by reflecting the highest international standards of human rights protection and describing the mechanisms (safeguards and action points) by which IUCN will uphold those standards, because respect for nature and respect for people are inextricably linked.

It addresses human rights, which are the rights that all people are entitled to regardless of nationality, sex, origin, race, religion, language, political association or other, and which are protected and recognized in international and national laws, and rights in a broader sense, which may not be internationally or nationally recognized and protected, such as many of the customary rights of indigenous peoples or local communities (e.g. tenure rights).

This policy calls for a strengthening of procedures within IUCN to promote and monitor compliance with the mechanisms developed in this policy, and for the adequate allocation of resources for the implementation of such mechanisms throughout IUCN Component Programmes.

Furthermore, IUCN is committed to work with all stakeholders on the integration of rights and conservation issues. IUCN is particularly committed to engage with its membership. Considering the diversity of its members – from small NGOs to national governments – IUCN acknowledges that one size cannot fit all.

³ A Resolution adopted during the 12th IUCN General Assembly in Kinshasa in 1975 relates to indigenous people's rights to land in the context of land displacements for conservation purposes. Furthermore, Resolution 1.53 focuses on "Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas" (1st World Conservation Congress, Montreal, 1996).

⁴ Resolution 4.056 Point 3. (a).

⁵ Resolution 4.056 Point 3. (d).

⁶ Resolution 4.056 Point 3. (b).

Mainstreaming Respect for Rights across the Union

Rights are cross-cutting issues and are essential to the concepts of equity and sustainability. As such, the respect, protection and fulfilment of rights within the context of nature conservation will contribute to realizing IUCN's mission, the fulfilment of IUCN's position on Accountability and Values¹ which underlines, *inter alia*, the need for ethical behaviour, transparency, equality, and inclusiveness and will strongly support the realization of IUCN's current and future programmes.

Guiding principles

While mainstreaming respect for rights within its activities, IUCN should be guided by the following principles which seek to:

- Respect, protect, promote and fulfil all procedural and substantive rights, including environmental and customary rights, for just and equitable conservation;
- Promote the implementation of the provisions of international conventions and policy processes which respect human rights in all approaches to conservation, whether multilateral environmental agreements such as the Convention on Biological Diversity or human rights instruments such as the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) – e.g. the right of indigenous peoples to engage in their traditional cultural practices but also, amongst others, rights to the ownership and use of territory and natural resources, self governance and self determination as embedded in UNDRIP. Whilst the UNDRIP is an instrument of 'soft' international law, it represents nonetheless a strong moral position on the part of its signatory states and should inspire major conservation actors such as IUCN;
- Take into account the multiple recommendations of the Vth World Parks Congress and the 2003 WCPA *Durban Action Plan* which refer to rights and which IUCN has endorsed concerning protected areas, including the acknowledgement of rights to the restitution of lands taken without free, prior and informed consent and the right to full and effective participation in protected area governance and management, in particular the targets under the Durban Action Plan's outcome 5;
- Consider and realize the rights of people that can be affected in development and conservation activities such as women, indigenous peoples and other most vulnerable groups and who could, at the same time, benefit from rights-inclusive and socially sensitive development measures (such approaches may provide tools to secure/address issues related to cultural conservation and diversity, community-based conservation in the context of (new) protected areas, the protection of the customary rights of local communities vis-à-vis the state, and the restitution of forfeited rights);
- Work towards ensuring the respect for, and seeking further protection and the realization of, general livelihood and human well-being considerations always keeping in mind gender balance as an essential component;
- Focus on the roles and corresponding responsibilities of duty-bearers, rights-holders and all other actors involved, for the integration of these considerations at every possible level of a conservation process. Indeed, adopting approaches that respect rights should be based on the principle that communities are not merely stakeholders whose views governmental and conservation agencies may take into account, but are rights-holders to whom implementing agencies have statutory obligations²;
- Promote transparency and develop tools to address and be accountable for the social effects of IUCN's work. Accountability is critical for the governance of any natural resource management system, providing the regulatory feedback that prevents over-use of natural resources and abuse of people;
- Ensure that IUCN programmes, projects, and activities undertaken, sponsored or supported by the IUCN, are assessed using international human rights standards. Such measures should include social, environmental,

⁷ <http://www.iucn.org/about/values/>

⁸ Jonas, H., Shrumm H., Bavikatte K., *Biocultural Community Protocols and Conservation Pluralism*, Policy Matters n°17, Exploring the right to diversity in conservation law, policy, and practice, October 2010.

and human rights impact assessments prior to any project implementation;

- In line with UNDRIP standards, require free, prior and informed consent when IUCN projects, activities, and/or initiatives take place on indigenous peoples' lands and territories and/or impact natural and cultural resources, sites, assets etc.;
- Apply the principles developed by the IUCN Environmental Law Centre in the Annex to IUCN Resolution 4.056 *Rights-based approaches to conservation* (adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress, Barcelona, 2008), as the basis for the further development of tools/methods to promote fair and equitable conservation action.

Action plan

To implement the above principles, the following action plan should direct the work of the Union in mainstreaming respect for rights within IUCN projects and programmes. The implementation of the action plan should be facilitated by the IUCN Secretariat (in particular the Environmental Law Centre (ELC), the Global Policy Unit (GPU), the Social Policy Unit (SPU), the Gender Programme, and others) in close collaboration with IUCN Commissions (in particular the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL), the Commission on Environmental and Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)) and Members.

In this context, IUCN should take the following actions:

1. Mainstream respect for rights within the Union by:

- a. developing and updating guidance on rights-related issues, such as that provided by the step-wise approach for the integration of RBA within IUCN projects³;
- b. developing specific recommendations to the IUCN Component Programmes based on the

principles set out in this policy and on the lessons learnt on the implementation and monitoring of RBAs; and

- c. mainstreaming the principles set out in this policy by following the guidance and recommendations which will be developed under points a. and b. above.

2. Set up institutional arrangements for accountability on compliance with this policy by:

- a. establishing a focal point in charge of taking appropriate measures to ensure the respect and implementation of this policy, including but not limited to:
 - i. the development of rights-related safeguards for IUCN project design and management, including a focus on gender equity and equality;
 - ii. the production of periodic reports on compliance with IUCN's rights-related safeguards (including reports to IUCN Council as well as to the general public); and
 - iii. an internal process which would address allegations of IUCN non-compliance with this policy by investigating such situations and recommending measures for redress; and
- b. establishing a group composed of focal points to be identified in all IUCN Component Programmes which will be in charge of supporting the focal point in the implementation of his/her mandate, in particular through:
 - i. the provision of technical expertise in the development of rights-related safeguards;
 - ii. the development of reports on the activities of each office in relation to the implementation of this policy; and

⁹ The step-wise approach is a methodology which includes the following steps: 1. Undertake a situation analysis, 2. Provide information, 3. Ensure participation, 4. Take reasoned decisions, 5. Monitor and evaluate the application of an RBA, 6. Enforce rights.

- iii. investigations of cases of alleged non-compliance.

3. Build capacity within IUCN by:

- a. developing training materials, tools and mechanisms for IUCN Component Programmes to implement this policy; and
- b. using the RBA portal as a platform for sharing lessons learnt and as a tool for better dissemination of information on rights and conservation related issues.

4. Support IUCN members by:

- a. actively engaging with the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights (CIHR); and
- b. supporting the integration of rights in their conservation programmes.

**WCC-2012-Res-100-EN
Incorporation of the Rights of Nature as the organizational focal point in IUCN's decision making**

NOTING that countries are increasingly incorporating the Rights of Nature or of Mother Earth into their regulatory frameworks as a new paradigm for societies that recognize the right of nature and its constituent elements to exist and continually regenerate themselves;

RECOGNIZING that Ecuador is the first country in the world to incorporate the Rights of Nature into its Constitution as part of the legal, political and economic instrument of the State, which establishes in Article 71 “Nature or *Pacha Mama* [Mother Earth], where life is reproduced and exists, has the right for that existence to be respected entirely and for its life cycles, structure, functions and evolutionary processes to be maintained and regenerated”;

RECALLING that the Peoples' World Conference on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth held in Cochabamba, Bolivia, in April 2010, resulted in a *Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth*, announced and supported by indigenous peoples and social movements, who, as representatives of an active civil society call on their governments and the United Nations to include this

topic in key debates such as those on climate change and biodiversity;

NOTING that global economies, especially those of developed countries, maintain production and consumption patterns that do not consider the limits of our planet, and that this has led not only to the incalculable loss of cultural diversity and any associated knowledge, but also to biodiversity loss, deterioration of ecosystems, environmental pollution, a decline in the quality and quantity of available water and a worsening of the problems related to global warming;

ALSO NOTING that, in addition to seriously impacting the environment, the current production and consumption model has shown itself to be inadequate when it comes to combating poverty and improving the quality of life of most of the world's population;

CONSIDERING that in order to maintain the current production and consumption levels, many countries have increased their ecological footprint through the use of resources and lands beyond their borders, whilst other countries, especially those whose economies are based on the extraction of natural resources or the production of goods to meet foreign demand – often sumptuary – are sacrificing their natural heritage in order to do so, and that this has highlighted the differences and gaps between rich and poor countries;

NOTING that the quality of life of current and future generations depends not only on the health of nature, its constituent elements, functions and ecosystem services, but also on their capacity to regenerate;

ALARMED at the central importance given to economic growth in countries' policies and decision-making processes to economic growth, with little respect for the cycles and characteristics of nature, and, from an ethical point of view, without any promotion of humanity's shared responsibility in relation to the natural heritage; and

CONCERNED because the welfare of human beings is basically measured in terms of the level of a country's income or economic growth, without considering indicators that reveal how sustainable their economy actually is;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. RECOMMENDS to the Director General to initiate a process that considers the Rights of Nature as a fundamental and absolute key element for planning, action and assessment at all levels and in all areas of intervention including in all decisions taken with regard to IUCN's plans, programmes and projects as well as in IUCN policy on rights;
2. URGES the Director General to initiate a dialogue for designing and implementing a strategy for dissemination, communication and advocacy concerning the Rights of Nature;
3. URGES IUCN Members to contribute to this effort by bringing forward their national experiences concerning the Rights of Nature as part of the process of developing a Universal Declaration of the Rights of Nature that contributes to a new philosophy of human well-being; and
4. INVITES the Director General and IUCN Members to promote the development of a Universal Declaration of the Rights of Nature, as a first step towards reconciliation between human beings and the Earth as the basis of our lives, as well as the foundations of a new civilizing pact.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-101-EN Child's right to connect with nature and to a healthy environment

OBSERVING that there is a significant decline in the quality and quantity of children's direct experience with the natural world as a result of global developments such as urbanization (already 50% of the world population lives in cities and this will be 70% in 2050 according to predictions of the United Nations), biodiversity loss, deforestation, industrialization and environmental degradation;

RECOGNIZING that there is a widely shared concern about the increasing disconnection of people and especially children from nature, and the adverse consequences for both healthy child development ('nature deficit disorder') as well as responsible stewardship for nature and the environment in the future;

BUILDING ON Resolution 4.105 *Communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) in conservation* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which acknowledges the vital importance of connecting children and nature, and states that "connecting children to nature as part of their everyday lives in meaningful ways tends to be a precursor to their growing up as adults with passion and commitment to work actively in support of conservation of the environment and natural resources" and in addition requests the IUCN Director General to assist the IUCN membership in reconnecting people, especially children, and nature as a priority in order to assure responsible stewardship of the environment for the generations to come;

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the significant consequences of increasing environmental problems such as climate change, species extinction and degradation of ecosystems, for the lives and development of children, the most vulnerable group of society in this respect, and for their future;

CONVINCED that children, since they are an inalienable part of nature, not only have the right to a healthy environment, but also to a connection with nature and to the gifts of nature for their physical and psychological health and ability to learn and create, and that until they have these rights they will not bear responsibility for nature and the environment;

ALSO CONVINCED that growing up in a healthy environment and connecting children with nature is of such a fundamental importance for both children and the (future of) the conservation of nature and the protection of the environment, that it should be recognized and codified internationally as a human right for children;

WELCOMING the identification of human rights issues as a cross-cutting issue within IUCN and the IUCN Rights Based Approach mandate based on Resolution 4.056 *Rights-based approaches to conservation* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

FURTHER WELCOMING the significant and substantial work done by the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (ELC) in collaboration with the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL), aiming to further develop the concept of a rights-based approach to conservation, among others in the publication *Conservation with Justice: a rights-based approach*;

NOTING that the concept of a child's right to connect with nature and a healthy environment fits with the Rights Based Approach to conservation, since it contributes positively to the valuation and conservation of nature and to the realization of existing children's rights – such as the right to life and development, health, an adequate standard of living and the right to engage in play;

RECALLING that links between human rights and the environment have been recognized in Article 1 of the *Aarhus Convention* (1998), and in several United Nations policy instruments, among others the *Stockholm Declaration* (1972), the *World Charter for Nature* (1982), the *Rio Declaration* (1992) and *Agenda 21*, the *Millennium Development Goals*, in particular Goal 7 on ensuring environmental sustainability, as well as in *The Earth Charter*: a 'peoples' document which provides an ethical framework for sustainable development;

ALSO RECALLING the explicit recognition of a human right to water and sanitation as part of other existing human rights in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/292 of 28 July 2010 and in General Comment No 15 (2002) of the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

AWARE of the recent appointment of an independent expert on human rights and the environment by the United Nations Human Rights Council in its resolution HRC/19/L.8/Rev.1 of 20 March 2012;

EMPHASIZING that the relatively new concept of the right to connect with nature is known and recognized for indigenous peoples in article 25 of the UN *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (2007): "Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, water and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generation in this regard", and that their right to a healthy environment is recognized in Article 29;

FURTHER EMPHASIZING that the Convention on the Rights of the Child contains specific anchors on which the child's right to connect with nature and a healthy environment could be based: Article 29 (1e) on the development of respect for the natural environment as an aim of the child's education and Article 24 (2c and e) on the child's right to health which refers to clean drinking water, the dangers and risks of environmental pollution and environmental sanitation;

CONSCIOUS of the potential of children as agents of change to which Principle 21 of the *Rio Declaration* refers: "The creativity, ideals and courage of the youth should be mobilized to forge a global partnership in order to achieve sustainable development and ensure a better future for all" in conjunction with IUCN Resolution 4.098 *Intergenerational partnerships: fostering ethical leadership for a just, sustainable and peaceful world* adopted at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

CONSIDERING the explicit recognition of a human right to a healthy environment regionally, such as in the *African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights* and the *American Convention on Human Rights*, and nationally in multiple national constitutions; and

CONCLUDING HOWEVER, that a human right for children to connect with nature and to a healthy environment has not yet been internationally recognized nor codified in any legally binding United Nations (human rights) treaty, like the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. ENDORSES the child's right to nature and a healthy environment, which includes *inter alia*:
 - a. the child's inherent right to connect with nature in a meaningful way, as a substantial part of his or her everyday life and healthy development, and to enjoy, maintain and strengthen this connection through the direct and ongoing experience of nature;
 - b. the child's right to live in an environment that is not harmful to his or her health or well-being, and to the assurance of the conservation of nature and the protection of the environment, for the benefit of present and future generations; and
 - c. the child's right to be equipped for the responsibility to help address the environmental challenges he or she will unfortunately be confronted with, and to help realize a sustainable world that values nature and where people live in harmony with nature;

2. CALLS ON IUCN’s governmental and non-governmental Members, its Permanent Observer Mission to the United Nations and the Director General to:
 - a. promote and actively contribute to the international acknowledgement and codification of the child’s right to nature and a healthy environment within the United Nations human rights framework, preferably in an additional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child; and
 - b. help introduce the draft text “The child’s right to nature and a healthy environment” on the agenda of the United Nations Human Rights Council; and
3. REQUESTS the Director General in collaboration with the Secretariat and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL), within the scope of their mandates, to:
 - a. contribute to the further development and knowledge of the legal concept: the child’s right to nature and a healthy development as part of the rights-based approach to conservation; and
 - b. advise on the draft text “The child’s right to nature and a healthy environment” and provide guidance on the aims to be achieved and actions to be undertaken in order to have this right recognized and codified within the framework of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-102-EN

Human rights and access to natural resources in Latin America

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that although Latin America is a region extremely rich in natural resources, the availability of and access to natural resources for human use are not always equitable;

RECOGNIZING that, despite substantial progress, water resources are at risk of pollution through the mismanagement of wastewater, and, according to the State of the Region Report for Central America (2011), the lack of regulation of productive activities;

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that access to water and land are basic requirements for food safety, especially for the most deprived communities;

CONSIDERING the growing number of social and environmental conflicts resulting from disputes over access to water and land, through the development of activities such as open-pit metal mining, oil and gas production, and due to large-scale hydroelectric and tourism projects;

CONCERNED about the data generated by the Observatory of Mining Conflicts in Latin America, which up to 2011 recorded a total of 35 mining conflicts in Mesoamerica, involving 42 communities;

CONCERNED by the large number of hydroelectric projects planned or in construction within binational basins, protected or indigenous areas, and in areas rich in biodiversity and agricultural production;

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that mining, oil and gas, and hydroelectric projects have made or will make considerable impacts on key ecosystems and have led to substantial movements of thousands of peasants and indigenous peoples in the Latin American region;

RECOGNIZING the importance of electricity generation, oil and gas production and metal production projects throughout the world, but also the high biodiversity in the Latin American region and its vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and the high risks of natural disasters;

RECALLING Resolution 4.056 *Rights-based approaches to conservation* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

REITERATING THE SUPPORT for the *Rio Declaration* and *Agenda 21* approved by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), of 1992; and for the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* adopted by the General Assembly on 13 September 2007; and the recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples with regard to the sustainable development objectives in the United Nations Development Group *Guidelines on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues* of 2008; and

HIGHLIGHTING Principle 10 of the *Rio Declaration*, which states that, “Environmental issues are best handled with the 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 awareness and participation by making information widely available. Effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy, shall be provided”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON government and non-government Members, and on the IUCN Commissions and the Director General to:
 - a. promote among the IUCN Commissions and international cooperation, assessments of the impact of mining, oil and gas, and hydroelectric projects on human populations, livelihoods and ecosystems, especially in tropical zones that are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and social and environmental disasters; and
 - b. produce tools and support activities for monitoring the soil and water at a community level, with a view to attaining the above-mentioned objectives;
2. URGES Latin American governments to guarantee the human rights of both the indigenous peoples and settlements with regard to access to water and land, carrying out the necessary evaluations over a wide area in connection to possible mining, oil and gas or hydroelectric projects in order to provide information for decision making, giving priority to the use of natural resources for human well-being and food safety; and
3. CALLS ON the Director General to:
 - a. identify possible donors interested in supporting the development of skills in Latin American countries through workshops and the production of educational material covering subjects such as:
 - i. national and international regulations regarding human rights and their link to the environment, including Principle 10 of the *Rio Declaration*;

- ii. the possible impacts of mining, oil and gas, and hydroelectric projects and best mitigation practices, thereby supporting the consultation and assessment/approval processes for these projects; and
 - iii. the key, comprehensible contents that the Environmental Impact Assessments of mining and hydroelectric projects should contain; and
- b. promote the exchange of information and experiences among the communities affected or potentially affected by mining, oil and gas, or hydroelectric projects through media such as networks, blogs and regional meetings.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-103-EN
Supporting, promoting and strengthening local agri-food systems

OBSERVING that, we are in a globalized environment which is characterized by profound and rapid change, and which is facing great challenges in the quest for sustainable development, including the fight against climate change, biodiversity conservation, prevention of food health crises, and the need to provide the resources necessary for a growing population that is increasingly concentrated in urban and metropolitan centres;

CONSCIOUS of the growing pressures to which metropolitan and periurban spaces are subjected, especially in the Mediterranean where urban expansion and the development of new infrastructures pose a significant threat for agricultural and natural areas and, by extension, for the balance between urban, periurban and rural areas;

RECOGNIZING that the changes in periurban areas, not only in terms of space or soil use but also at social, economic, political and administrative levels, give rise to new tensions and expectations;

NOTING the need to work at regional level, and not only in spaces subject to protection measures, and RECOGNIZING the role of the land-use matrix in the preservation of biodiversity and its contribution to the provision of environmental services;

WISHING to propose and promote new land-use visions and new processes of creating land-use projects in those periurban spaces for the purpose of strengthening social cohesion and environmental balance, and to enable those new areas under construction to anticipate the effects of changes and to build a better future for themselves;

ASSUMING that policies are necessary, and essential, not only for protection but also for appreciation and the symbolic sense of taking ownership on the part of citizens, but also for the promotion and management of the natural and agrarian parts of those emerging periurban areas;

CONVINCED that Local Agri-food Systems, by relocating food and its functions, which are not only nutritional but also economic, social, environmental and cultural, to the centre of the living space of citizens in the areas in question, can assist in:

- a. a democratization of food according to a principle of social equity, guaranteeing access for all (in terms of availability, diversity, quality and fair prices) to food that is healthy, balanced and appetizing, as far as possible on the basis of local production and the creativity of communities;
- b. the promotion of food that is a true vehicle of universal values, as the inalienable right of every human being to live with dignity and in a good state of health, the right of every person to enjoy an environment with a quality of life and cultural transmission and creation;
- c. the promotion of food with nutritional qualities appropriate to preserving the health of all;
- d. a worldwide reduction in the ecological footprint and an improvement in the environmental situation through the development of local distribution channels and appreciation of the links between farming and the environment;
- e. a consolidation of the values, functions and environmental services of the land-use matrix of these new periurban areas, among them the maintenance of biodiversity and, in the case of agrarian areas, agrobiodiversity;
- f. a consolidation of the local socio-economic fabric and a better safeguarding of local resources, including natural resources, and incomes with support for

local consumption, production and organization of the processing and sale of local products;

- g. appreciation of an 'economy of daily life' in which woman play a key role;
- h. closer links of partnership and solidarity among inhabitants of shared living spaces, and lessons in collective management;
- i. the emergence of a sense of belonging to an area for a society which includes and recognizes the role and place of each person in relation to food;
- j. creation of a land-use project through the consolidation of practices and activities which belong to the area of the project and which will be able to contribute to strengthening the protection, appreciation and management of the land-use matrix and the area's environmental services; and
- k. the opening of emerging periurban areas to the outside world, developing inter-area and regional cooperation, solidarity and the exchange of knowledge and best practice between areas as a means of enrichment and innovation for land-use projects; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the following frameworks which provide elements that assist in the development and strengthening of Local Agri-food Systems: *International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*, adopted 3 November 2001 at the 31st session of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Conference; IUCN Congress Resolutions such as 3.012 *Governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development*, 3.017 *Promoting food sovereignty to conserve biodiversity and end hunger* and 3.063 *Cities and conservation*, adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), as well as Recommendation 4.128 *Setting up networks of protected urban and periurban natural areas*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008); the Opinion of the Committee of the Regions (2011/ C 104/1), published in the Official Journal of the European Union on the occasion of the 88th plenary session, in favour of promoting Local Food Systems in the territories of the Member States of the European Union; and the *European Charter on Local Governance and Food* signed in Barcelona in November 2011 by nine European local and regional authorities and adopted by, among others, the Arco Latino Association;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. INVITES local authorities to develop Local Agri-food Systems in their areas of intervention, establishing and applying political strategies and action plans at local level; and
2. CALLS ON the Director General to:
 - a. support local authorities in the initiation and development of food policies integrated with other policies (land-use planning, environmental, health, social, cultural, agricultural) in order to foster and coordinate the operation of Local Agri-food Systems underpinned by numerous distribution channel initiatives for local agri-food products and to create a Local Food Strategy;
 - b. defend, support and encourage the creation and strengthening of covenants between authorities (at all levels) and actors in Local Agri-food Systems to facilitate the creation of regional governance around food as a means of guaranteeing food production, the preservation of biodiversity and sustainable land-use management in an uncertain and complicated environment; and
 - c. facilitate the sharing and exchange of tools, methods and best practices that strengthen the participatory approach, across the regions involved in this type of strategy.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-104-EN
Food security, ecosystem restoration and climate change

OBSERVING that the deforestation and degradation of land in the entire equatorial belt, notably in Central America, reduces food security and access to clean water for human consumption, affects the lands belonging to indigenous peoples, as well as biodiversity, and increases vulnerability to climate change;

CONSIDERING that the demand for food increases with growth in the world's population;

CONSIDERING that the accumulated knowledge, practices and experience in relation to the sustainable production of food and the restoration of degraded ecosystems are now accessible;

RECOGNIZING that the knowledge and the practice of traditional cropping systems such as the so-called 'Guama Model', which includes 'alley cropping' with plants of the genus *Inga* (family Fabaceae), or similar have, among others the following applications:

- a. the production of basic grains, vegetables, and in general 'clean' crops or those that do not require shade to ensure the variety of food species;
- b. the generation of family income by producing shade over crops such as cocoa, coffee, black pepper etc.; and
- c. the establishment of biological corridors for the restoration of ecosystems with native species, which improves the microclimate and the conditions required for the reestablishment of fauna populations such as invertebrates, reptiles, mammals, and birds);

RECOGNIZING that these applications include important aspects such as:

- a. the stabilization of deforestation;
- b. the restoration of soil productivity;
- c. the restoration of sources of water;
- d. adaptation and resilience to climate change;
- e. the mitigation of carbon emissions; and
- f. the reduction of vulnerability to the risk of disasters;

RECOGNIZING that the implementation of these types of initiative will require sufficient funding for dissemination, the development of skills, and the provision of supplies; and

CONCERNED because there is a need for urgent action, and for the formation of coalitions and alliances, in order to obtain results;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the Director General, the IUCN Commissions, Members and Council, especially within the equatorial belt, to use available resources as well as any others that can be raised, to strengthen work on food security, ecosystem restoration and the promotion of traditional, indigenous practices for managing natural resources, as follows:
 - a. establishing the current situation and trends for expansion of the agricultural and logging frontier in countries of the equatorial belt, using satellite technology and other available technologies to create corresponding maps that reveal the seriousness of deforestation and environmental degradation; and
 - b. defining the impact of the expansion of deforestation on indigenous peoples' territories, with special focus on their land rights;
2. RECOMMENDS that the Director General and the IUCN Commissions, Members and Council, especially within the equatorial belt, begin to take action at a community level with a global vision regarding:
 - a. the establishment of land-use planning in areas where deforestation is expanding, defining the potential use of the land and the integrated management of micro-basins;
 - b. the establishment of initiatives for food security and land and ecosystem restoration bearing in mind the Guama Model, and other similar models; and
 - c. the establishment of management for water-supplying micro-basins; and
3. URGES the Director General and the IUCN Commissions, Members and Council, especially within the equatorial belt, to establish alliances with governmental and non-governmental institutions, and with international cooperation, to become more effective in terms of results, using impact indicators in the drive for sustainable food security, the restoration of natural ecosystems and the use of traditional practices for managing natural resources and the protection of lands inhabited by indigenous peoples.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-105-EN

Conserving cultures and nature for food security

MINDFUL of the fact that more than 13% of the world's population is malnourished;

NOTING that the global energy crisis is causing millions of hectares of fertile land and forest to be shifted to mono-cropping for the production of agrofuels, leading to a loss of biodiversity and of indigenous peoples' livelihoods and traditional cultures in the southern hemisphere;

OBSERVING that the effects of climate change, combined with changes in land use and the waste and contamination of water caused by extraction and agro-industrial companies along with consumption habits, are putting the poorest sectors of the planet's population in a position of increasing vulnerability;

RECOGNIZING the key relationship between ecosystems (biodiversity) and the livelihoods of those human populations that will be affected by climate change, for which reason adaptation and mitigation measures will be necessary; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the loss of biodiversity and local ancestral knowledge is gradually undermining knowledge bases concerning species management and, thus, food security;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

URGES the Director General:

- a. in the 2013–2016 IUCN Programme Area *Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food and development*, to allocate financial, technical and institutional resources to promote comprehensive intervention measures aimed at reducing the vulnerability of livelihoods to the effects of land-use change and climate change, with the aim of improving food security and access to water on the part of the poorest sectors of society;
- b. in the 2013–2016 IUCN Programme Area *Valuing and conserving nature*, to allocate financial, technical and institutional resources to implement and promote applied research focused on recovering and enhancing ancestral and current knowledge of

biodiversity management for food security, and to deepen, extend and disseminate knowledge on the importance of halting land-use change and protecting water for human consumption, food security and nature; and

- c. in the 2013–2016 IUCN Programme Area on *Effective and equitable governance of nature's use*:
- i. to publicly condemn all attempts to transform forests or lands intended for food production over to the production of agro- or biofuels;
 - ii. to publicly denounce all activities on the part of transnational companies that may endanger safe water supply for local people; and
 - iii. to urge the world's governments to take all political and regulatory action necessary to prioritize food security over and above the production of agrofuels, and to prioritize water for human consumption, food security and nature over and above its industrial use.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-106-EN

Safeguarding the contribution of wild living resources and ecosystems to food security

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the significant challenge of feeding a global population of nine billion by 2050, particularly as more than one billion people, 70% of whom live in rural areas, still live below the poverty line and strive daily to find the minimum amounts of food to sustain their lives;

STRESSING SUPPORT for global commitments to the *Millennium Development Goals*, including the goal of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger (MDG 1);

NOTING WITH CONCERN the impacts of volatile commodity and food prices in undermining the nutritional status and food security of the poor and vulnerable, as well as sustainable development and poverty reduction more broadly for developing countries;

NOTING that industrial-scale food systems tend to be characterized by growing carbon and ecological footprints, high water demands and use of agrochemicals that damage the health of wildlife and humans, and that agri-food corporations exert significant control over food commodities, agricultural inputs, and global markets;

RECOGNIZING that food security depends on the availability, access to and utilization of food, as well as the stability of the food system (as defined in the 2010 Updated Comprehensive Framework for Action of the United Nations High Level Taskforce on the Global Food Security Crisis);

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that an approach to food security that extends beyond growing, gathering and catching food, taking into account wider livelihood and ecosystem considerations, is necessary to provide long-term resilience, security and development opportunities for men and women;

ACKNOWLEDGING the fundamental role biodiversity and ecosystem services play in achieving food and nutrition security, as also recognized by the above-mentioned Updated Comprehensive Framework for Action, and the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity through the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* (and Aichi Targets 2, 3, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 18);

STRESSING that gender and food security are closely interrelated given that in many societies women play the main role in the provision, access and utilization of food and in assuring nutritional standards for children, and yet they often suffer greater vulnerability than men due to a lack of access to production inputs, support services, land, facilities and decision-making processes over the resources needed to ensure food security at household level;

CONVINCED that achieving food security in the world is not only a matter of assisting the vulnerable, but is above all an ethical imperative determined by the right of everybody to be free from hunger and to live in dignity, and therefore requires strong approaches of social equity and support to the realization of human rights, including the right to food;

NOTING that the IUCN Congress has adopted several resolutions highlighting the links between ecosystems and food security and providing a mandate and guidance to

IUCN to contribute, from its Mission, to the objective of eliminating food insecurity and hunger in the world;

RECALLING in particular Resolution 3.014 *Poverty reduction, food security and conservation* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), that called for IUCN initiatives and actions to be “concentrated, as a priority, on ensuring tangible contributions from biodiversity conservation to equitable food security, within the framework of the strategic areas proposed by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in application of Principle 20 of the *Rio Declaration* (Rio de Janeiro, 1992)”;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 3.017 *Promoting food sovereignty to conserve biodiversity and end hunger* also adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which urged all IUCN Members, Commissions and the Director General to “give due consideration to policies in support of food sovereignty as they relate to achieving the Mission and Vision of IUCN and to their application in all stages of biodiversity conservation, natural resource management and poverty eradication”;

REITERATING the guidance provided in Resolution 2.29 *Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild and Living Resources* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) which highlights the necessity of minimizing losses from biodiversity when wild living resources are used and that enhancing sustainability of such resources requires on-going improved management;

CONVINCED that a wide range of approaches are needed to meet the food security objectives in differing national contexts of countries affected by ecosystem degradation, food insecurity and hunger;

ALARMED by the insufficient recognition in food security and national development strategies of wild living resources and ecosystems in contributing to the food security of rural and coastal communities, considering, for instance, that 25–30% of the income of forest-dependent communities comes from forests and forest products, and forest goods and services are valued at least at an estimated US\$130 billion a year;

STRESSING also that fisheries and aquaculture provide the primary source of animal protein for a billion people worldwide and recalling agreement at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) to “Maintain or restore stocks to levels that can produce the

maximum sustainable yield with the aim of achieving these goals for depleted stocks on an urgent basis and where possible not later than 2015”;

HIGHLIGHTING that if the use of wild living resources or ecosystems as a contribution to food systems is not sustainable the resultant decline in biodiversity will ultimately undermine people’s food security;

CONFIRMING the need to address the problems of ecosystem degradation and food insecurity using a system-wide approach that integrates all relevant ecosystems and the goods and services they provide, including water ecosystems, as requested by Resolution 4.065 *Freshwater biodiversity conservation, protected areas, and management of transboundary waters* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) which called for integrated river basin management that supports sustainable solutions for improving access to affordable food, energy, water and sanitation, especially for the poorest communities; and

EMPHASIZING ALSO the importance of including indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities in decision-making processes which affect their rights, lifestyles, capacity, and access to traditional lands and natural resources which are critical for their food security and nutritional requirements;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES governments, civil society, United Nations agencies, development and humanitarian agencies, the private sector and the media to recognize the role of sustainable management and conservation of wild living resources and ecosystems, including marine ecosystems, in achieving the four dimensions of food security (availability, access, utilization and stability), and to implement an ecosystem-based approach to complement and enhance sustainability in food security strategies;
2. CALLS on IUCN Members, Commissions and the Director General to:
 - a. advocate for increased equity and sustainability in the use of natural resources and ecosystem services between small-holder farming and fishing systems and industrial large-scale food production, with a particular focus on the importance of safeguarding the integrity of local food systems;

- b. contribute to initiatives and cooperation frameworks aimed at reducing the impacts of illegal, unreported and unregulated fisheries, and to strengthen the governance of the seas, fisheries resources and coastal territories, including through encouraging full application of the *FAO International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas* and implementation of the 1995 *Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries* and its related International Plans of Action, in order to secure rights of access to marine and coastal resources for communities that depend on them; and
 - c. raise awareness concerning the need to manage carefully the expansion of industrial agricultural land in such a way as to avoid compromising the integrity of sites of high biodiversity value and corridors essential for maintaining wildlife, not least the many natural systems that act as important sources of wild food for local communities;
3. CALLS on IUCN Commissions, in collaboration with the Secretariat, and other relevant partners, to develop state-of-the art knowledge concerning the role and extent of ecosystem goods and services at landscape, river basin and seascape level in supporting the four dimensions of food security;
 4. REQUESTS the Director General to proactively build partnerships within the food security community to:
 - a. in close collaboration with the IUCN Commissions, document, quantify and widely disseminate the scope and extent of the direct contribution of wild species and natural ecosystems to the food security of both local and indigenous, rural and coastal communities;
 - b. demonstrate actions that improve food security through ecosystem management, incorporating the promotion of social and gender equity, to strengthen the provision of ecosystem goods and services;
 - c. advocate appropriate policy change at national, regional and global levels, such that food security is enhanced while sound ecosystem stewardship is rewarded through the sustainable and equitable production and distribution of food; and
 - d. advance understanding, knowledge and learning as to how to better conserve and sustainably manage wild species for food and nutritional needs, safeguard key centres of diversity of wild crop relatives, assist in recovery of wild species used for food where these have been depleted and apply sustainable, locally-controlled conservation and management regimes; and
5. REQUESTS the Director General to use IUCN's convening ability to work with all relevant actors to identify options that reconcile the competing demands of small-scale and large-scale food production systems and to ensure that all are underpinned by principles of ecosystem sustainability and social equity.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-107-EN Addressing the impacts of environmentally unsustainable industrial-scale agricultural and animal husbandry enterprises on climate change, food security and biodiversity

NOTING the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* which states “people, communities, governments and private actors are underutilizing the potential power of nature and the solutions it can provide to global challenges in fields such as climate change, food security, social and economic development. IUCN terms these *nature-based solutions*”;

RECALLING many previous Resolutions and Recommendations recognizing climate change as a threat to people and biodiversity that requires immediate action for mitigation and adaptation, including Resolution 2.16 *Climate change, biodiversity, and IUCN's Overall Programme* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), World Parks Congress Recommendation V.5 *Climate Change and Protected Areas* adopted at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), Resolutions 3.057 *Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action* and 3.084 *Ratification of the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and Resolutions 4.075 *Climate change mitigation targets and actions for biodiversity conservation* (Barcelona,

2008) and 4.076 *Biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation in national policies and strategies* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

RECOGNIZING that environmentally unsustainable industrial-scale agricultural and animal husbandry enterprises are operations based on chemical-intensive monocultures and genetically modified organisms, displace forestlands and other natural areas, interrupt ecological networks and threaten biodiversity, take over indigenous peoples' community lands, and are leading to the loss of traditional knowledge about sustainable agricultural practices;

EMPHASIZING the importance of Resolution 3.017 *Promoting food sovereignty to conserve biodiversity and end hunger* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) on food security that states "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 as large-scale monoculture systems";

RECALLING Resolution 4.083 *Industrial agrofuel production* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) on social and environmental problems caused by industrial-scale production of agrofuels;

RECOGNIZING the linkages between the conservation of indigenous lands and populations and the protection of food security and biodiversity, recognized in Resolutions 3.017, 3.049 *Community Conserved Areas* and 3.056 *Indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation and conservation of nature in the Amazon region and Chaco* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and Resolutions 4.049 *Supporting Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas*, 4.050 *Recognition of Indigenous Conservation Territories*, 4.052 *Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* and 4.53 *Mobile indigenous peoples and biodiversity conservation* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

CONCERNED that environmentally unsustainable industrial-scale agricultural and animal husbandry enterprises use vast quantities of water and that contaminants from industrial agriculture, including manure, antibiotics, and chemical pesticides and fertilizers, run off into watersheds and pollute drinking water and already-jeopardized freshwater resources;

ALARMED that global demand for meat is already one of the principal contributors to global greenhouse gas emissions, with livestock-generated CH₄ (methane), N₂O (nitrous oxide) and CO₂ (carbon dioxide) accounting for about one-fifth of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide;

CONCERNED as well that the industrial production of meat by means of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), high-density confinement of animals in a severely concentrated area, uses and pollutes more water than all other industrial and municipal water uses combined, causes inhumane treatment of animals, and poses numerous threats to the environment and human health, including air and water pollution, infectious diseases of both animals and humans with increased risk of pandemic influenza, mounting antibiotic resistance, and decreased quality of life for communities located in CAFO areas;

RECOGNIZING that environmentally unsustainable industrial-scale agricultural and animal husbandry enterprises pose serious threats to the global climate, biodiversity, sustainability, the survival of indigenous populations and their knowledge of traditional agriculture and the health of human and animal populations;

GRAVELY CONCERNED that these problems threaten to increase dramatically as human global population, currently projected to grow to nine billion by 2050, drives increased demand for food and energy, and increasing pressure to resort to unsustainable industrial agriculture to meet these needs; and

CONVINCED that to conserve the diversity and integrity of nature, ensure that natural resources are used sustainably, and mitigate the effects of climate change, there is an urgent need for the international community to promote a worldwide shift to sustainable agriculture by providing assistance to farmers and communities and by developing regulations that will eliminate practices that have led to the problems caused by industrial agriculture;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, DIRECTS IUCN Commissions, and CALLS ON IUCN Members to promote a worldwide shift to sustainable agriculture by advocating for an appropriate mix of nature-based and environmentally sound technological solutions to the global challenges of climate change, food security, social and economic well-being;

2. CALLS ON IUCN and its Commissions in collaboration with Members, to advocate for the effective and appropriate regulation of environmentally unsustainable industrial-scale agricultural and animal husbandry enterprises and to provide technical assistance and incentives for conversion to practices of sustainable agriculture which will build resilience to the impacts of climate, restore the productivity of soils, and improve food security for the people of the world;
3. REQUESTS that IUCN collaboratively supports leadership in sharing information and knowledge on appropriate means of ensuring that agricultural practices have minimal adverse impacts on the environment and human health; and
4. REQUESTS that IUCN collaborates with other institutions such as FAO and IISD on holding a series of regional conferences in areas where there are conflicts between environmentally unsustainable industrial-scale agricultural and animal husbandry enterprises and nature-based agricultural practices. Such conferences will present recommendations that address the impacts of these practices on climate change, biodiversity, sustainability, food security, environmental degradation, indigenous populations, and human and animal health, and how healthy and restored ecosystems can make cost-effective contributions to meeting global challenges of climate change, food security, and economic and social development, and highlight practical solutions and cases demonstrating efforts at reducing the negative impacts.

State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

WCC-2012-Res-108-EN **The green economy and corporate, social and environmental responsibility**

NOTING that the structural cause of global climate change and major environmental problems is the consumer development model, which threatens to destroy the bases of human subsistence;

CONSIDERING that several global forums and institutions, such as the IUCN World Conservation Congress, Rio+20 – United Nations Conference on Sustainable

Development, etc., have defined the green economy as an important topic, which is of relevance to conservation;

BEARING IN MIND that the proper approach to a green economy must be based on economic activities that respect and maintain the integrity of ecosystems, and that therefore there are biodiversity values that cannot be quantified in economic terms;

BEARING IN MIND that business should play a vital role in driving countries' transitions to a green economy, it is important that governments use policy tools such as regulation and taxation to create the conditions under which business will minimize ecological impact, innovate, invest and grow in a sustainable way, which includes enabling business to take a leadership role through a range of actions, such as corporate social and environmental responsibility and signing up to voluntary agreements;

CONSIDERING that for several years the Corporate Social and Environmental Responsibility (CSER) programmes have been used increasingly frequently, as voluntary measures to improve social and environmental behaviour, and in order to create an alternative to environmental management based on competitiveness;

CONCERNED because these CSER programmes have become a mechanism taken advantage of by some companies with negative social and environmental behaviour, who do not comply with environmental regulations, to clean up their image; and

BEARING IN MIND that the CSER tools should never replace compliance with regulations regarding the conservation of the environment and natural resources;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. RECOMMENDS that the IUCN Council and the Director General do not sign any agreement with companies if they do not comply with the social and environmental regulations of their countries of origin, irrespectively of where they do business;
2. RECOMMENDS that the constituencies of IUCN, the Council and the Director General promote the green economy as a means to address global climate and environmental problems;
3. URGES governments to incentivize business through regulation and wider policy tools to minimize their

ecological impact, but also to encourage business to engage in credible CSER in order to avoid ‘green-washing’;

4. URGES governments to design the necessary institutional and legal mechanisms to allow economic activities to adequately internalize environmental costs and, similarly, to design economic development indicators that adequately incorporate the concepts of quality of life and a good life; and
5. RECOMMENDS that civil society should ensure that the green economy, in order to respond to conservation, respects the balance and conservation of ecosystems.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-109-EN Green growth as a sustainable strategy for nature conservation and economic development

RECALLING that “Green Growth means fostering economic growth and development while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which our well-being relies. To do this, it must catalyse investment and innovation which will underpin sustained growth and give rise to new economic opportunities” (*Toward Green Growth*. OECD, 2011);

CONSIDERING that as mankind continues to expand its activities for economic growth, the global community has been faced with the issues of exhaustion of natural resources and environmental damage. Ultimately these problems will lead to increased societal costs, restricted economic growth, and impaired sustainability. Green Growth, as one of the alternative paradigms to solve these challenges, is a strategy through which sustainable development can be supported and societal benefits enhanced;

ACKNOWLEDGING that after recognizing these challenges, a number of countries have accepted ‘Green Growth’ for sustainable development. The Republic of Korea adopted ‘Low Carbon Green Growth’ in August 2008 as a national vision and strategy;

NOTING that, in the context of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, there is common ground to be found between the IUCN ‘Greening the Economy’ and Korean Green Growth Mandates that both promote significant investments in ecosystem services; and

RECOGNIZING that green growth can be a useful means for economic opportunities based on natural resources, a key target area for IUCN initiatives. In addition, continued links between the IUCN vision and goals and those pursued by green growth, all of which endeavour to advance the value and conservation of natural resources, will serve to strengthen current sustainability efforts;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- a. positively consider green growth in implementing the values and conservation of natural resources worldwide, which IUCN continues to pursue;
- b. support green growth, which seeks to provide economic opportunities through the conservation and sustainable utilization of natural resources while assuring sustainable economic development;
- c. improve the values and conservation of natural resources in conjunction with green growth, by considering the following:
 - i. prepare political and systematic foundations of green growth which will serve as a basis to address the diverse characteristics and realities of each country and/or region;
 - ii. prepare an evaluation tool to regularly measure and review the implementation of green growth based on the conservation of natural resources; and
 - iii. prepare strategies to deliver green growth in connection with efforts to value and conserve natural resources by ensuring participatory processes;
- d. endeavour to achieve political cooperation with the related nations and organizations for research and development and information sharing, and endeavour to establish continued cooperative relationships and partnerships with international organizations; and

- e. communicate the above, especially in relation to green growth, to Members so that they may fully recognize them.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-110-EN Biodiversity offsets and related compensatory approaches

NOTING that mining and logging practices, infrastructure development and the expansion of primary production for food, fibre and fuel through land conversion are often a major cause of the loss of biodiversity through habitat loss and degradation;

ACKNOWLEDGING that such practices remain central to many countries' economic development and poverty reduction strategies and that governments are facing the challenge of how to align economic development with the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services;

RECOGNIZING the growing use of biodiversity offsets, by governments, by companies undertaking biodiversity offsets voluntarily for business reasons, by banks and investors requiring biodiversity offsets as a condition to access credit, and by civil society encouraging developers to undertake biodiversity offsets;

UNDERSTANDING that the best practice of biodiversity offsets is to address the residual impacts only after the full mitigation hierarchy is applied;

RECOGNIZING that, although biodiversity offsets are already a part of the legal framework of several countries, including wetland and conservation banking in the USA and habitat compensation requirements in Australia, Canada and the European Union, global and regional guidelines for application by the private sector are still in development;

RECOGNIZING that although these schemes differ in their features and implementation around the world, they share an aim to mitigate biodiversity loss by allowing activities that destroy or degrade biodiversity in one place to be compensated by conservation in another location;

NOTING the work and products, developed by the Business and Biodiversity Offset Programme, including its proposed 'Standard on Biodiversity Offsets';

NOTING the contribution of the private sector in development and implementation of biodiversity offsets approaches;

NOTING that the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Decision X/21 *Business engagement* requests the Executive Secretary "to encourage the development and application of tools and mechanisms that can further facilitate the engagement of businesses in integrating biodiversity concerns into their work...", including offsets;

NOTING also that biodiversity offset mechanisms are one of the six areas designated for further development as an innovative means of mobilizing resources for the implementation of the CBD, identified in CBD Decision IX/11;

ALSO NOTING that Ramsar Resolution X.12 "encourages decision makers, especially business leaders, to develop and adopt policies, strategies and operational approaches...which avoid, remedy or as a last option 'offset' adverse impacts on wetland ecosystems, including considering the potential benefits that could be derived from the Business and Biodiversity Offsets Programme...";

NOTING that there are increasing scientific and policy questions being asked about the ecological validity and practical effectiveness of biodiversity offset schemes and related mechanisms, in particular in critical habitat, and that there is increasing work in this area involving the IUCN Secretariat and Members, plus increasing demand from all sectors for IUCN's advice on biodiversity offsets and related mechanisms; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that the effectiveness of biodiversity offsets in practice is dependent on the existence of an enabling policy environment including, *inter alia*, good governance, the rule of law, and accountable government and corporate institutions;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

CALLS ON the Director General to:

- a. establish a working group to develop an IUCN general policy on biodiversity offsets. The working group

will also consider the desirability of IUCN developing global biodiversity offset guidelines. The working group's membership and mode of operating will be based on the One Programme approach involving relevant experts, including from the Secretariat, Members and Commissions. It should arrive at its recommendations following consideration of:

- i. an evidence-based analysis of existing offset schemes and standards to identify the conceptual weaknesses and strengths and the opportunities and risks associated with the practical implementation of biodiversity offsets;
 - ii. scientific literature and expertise to ensure that policy is solidly grounded in robust ecological principles;
 - iii. modes of implementation given different national and regional contexts cognizant that biodiversity offset schemes need to specify, among other things, (i) an appropriate conceptual framework(s), (ii) metrics and other methodologies, and (iii) governance and financing mechanisms including means of verification with respect to delivering no net loss, or preferably net positive, outcomes for biodiversity;
 - iv. the theoretical and practical meaning and utility of the terms 'no net loss' and 'net positive impacts' in the context of biodiversity conservation; and
 - v. the particular scientific and practical challenges of applying the full mitigation hierarchy to address the impact of activities in critical habitat;
- b. the working group should expedite the preparation of recommendations for consideration by the IUCN Council by no later than end of 2014; and
 - c. as a parallel activity, continue to contribute to the current state of knowledge about the practical implementation of biodiversity offsets by (a) undertaking project work with partners, IUCN Members and Commissions and (b) the sharing of experiences.

WCC-2012-Res-111-EN

A critical review of biodiversity benefits of alternative livelihood projects

RECOGNIZING the potential importance of alternative livelihood projects in meeting the Aichi Targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the *Millennium Development Goals*;

ACKNOWLEDGING that alternative livelihood projects can make significant contributions to human socioeconomic development;

APPRECIATING that alternative livelihood projects are widely implemented with a goal of improving the status of biodiversity;

CONSIDERING the significant funds that have been committed to developing alternative livelihood projects globally;

CONCERNED that a systematic review of alternative livelihood projects has not been undertaken to determine the extent to which they are meeting their goals for both people and biodiversity, thus reducing the possibility to learn from past successes and failures when designing new projects; and

DETERMINED to understand the impacts of alternative livelihood projects on species, ecosystems and people;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. APPLAUDS the efforts of IUCN Members to integrate the needs of people and biodiversity in their programmes;
2. URGES IUCN Members to rigorously measure the impacts of alternative livelihood projects on species, ecosystems and people, and disseminate the results; and
3. REQUESTS that the Director General, in collaboration with Commissions, IUCN Members and donors, develops best practice guidelines for alternative livelihood projects to ensure sustainable benefits to species, ecosystems and people.

WCC-2012-Res-112-EN **Developing the concept of biodiversity security**

NOTING that many States are taking steps to secure their supplies of essential commodities such as food, water and energy through mechanisms such as trading arrangements, new technologies, infrastructure development and others;

AWARE that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* promotes nature-based solutions to global challenges, with a major emphasis on the relationships between biodiversity conservation, food production, water supplies and human security;

NOTING that the project on *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)* has shown that ecosystem services provide benefits of vast value, comprising those that can be quantified and those that cannot;

CONCERNED that while all people depend on ecosystems and biodiversity, those communities that are poor and most reliant on natural products and processes are especially vulnerable to the disruption of ecosystems and loss of biodiversity;

AWARE that species richness, abundance, distribution and presence in functioning communities underlie all ecosystem services;

ALSO AWARE that remedial or preventive actions taken now against ecosystem deterioration and biodiversity loss will prove less costly than future restoration of ecosystem services;

NOTING that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* cites evidence that halting the loss and degradation of natural systems has the potential to contribute more than one-third of the projected necessary mitigation to reduce the impacts of climate change by 2030; and

RECOGNIZING that biodiversity is an essential element for securing supplies of food, water and energy, but that additional scientific research is needed to better understand the relationship between biodiversity and secure ecosystems and their services;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. RECOGNIZES that biodiversity is the basis for all ecosystem services, and is essential for efforts to achieve security in food and water and often in energy;
2. CALLS ON IUCN Members, Council, Commissions and the Director General to develop the concept of biodiversity security because of its direct relevance to the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, and to identify practical ways to incorporate the concept of biodiversity security within the overall goal of environmental security; and
3. REQUESTS the Director General to report to the next IUCN World Conservation Congress on progress of the abovementioned process and its contribution to meeting the Aichi Targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and to disseminate results to other agencies as appropriate.

WCC-2012-Res-113-EN **Management of secondary environmental damage from natural disasters**

MINDFUL OF the significant impact on human life and the environment of natural disasters such as earthquakes, tsunamis, storms, landslides, floods, volcanic eruptions and other disasters;

RECALLING that damage caused by disasters to human beings and the environment can come from the secondary damage through industrial accidents after a natural disaster;

UNDERSTANDING that we cannot stop a natural disaster itself; however, we can prevent, prepare and respond to the secondary environmental damage from a natural disaster in order to reduce the frequency and severity of the damage;

AWARE that many industrial zones and nuclear power plant complexes are located on watercourses exposed to flooding or coastal zones vulnerable to storms or tsunamis;

AFFIRMING that all prevention measures to reduce serious adverse effects of secondary industrial accidents by natural disasters on human beings and the environment are necessary;

ENCOURAGING the promotion of rational, economic and efficient use of preventive, preparedness and response measures to enable environmentally sound and sustainable economic development;

AWARE of the necessity of a natural disaster action system through a manual for disaster emergency response, disaster recovery and ecological restoration;

EMPHASIZING restoration research through consistent monitoring regarding environmental damage by natural disasters;

CONSCIOUS of the role played in this respect by governments, non-governmental organizations and the public;

AFFIRMING the importance of public access to information on natural disasters and subsequent industrial accidents, and subsequent measures;

NOTING that secondary damage to the environment influences areas outside a single nation's domestic jurisdiction;

AFFIRMING the need to promote active international cooperation among the States concerned before, during and after an accident, to enhance appropriate policies and to coordinate action at all appropriate levels for the prevention of, preparedness for, and response to, the trans-boundary effects of natural disasters and subsequent industrial accidents;

RECALLING the significant adverse impact of the Fukushima nuclear accident to human well-being and ecosystem services;

NOTING that the Republic of Korea, Japan and China reached common recognition in May 2011 after the Fukushima accident to start discussion on establishing an early notification framework in case of an emergency, exchange of experts, and to contemplate an exchange of information regarding the analysis and forecast of air-flow trajectory on a real-time basis in case of a nuclear accident;

DESIRING consensus on the role of international governmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations based on new global governance in the international environmental regime; and

RECOGNIZING the importance of the early and prompt notification rule regarding natural disasters and subsequent industrial accidents, and subsequent measures for the management or mitigation of the damage;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea 6–15 September 2012:

1. AFFIRMS that urgent action is necessary for the prevention and post-management of secondary environmental damage from natural disasters;
2. CALLS ON government agencies to:
 - a. review their prevention and post-management systems for secondary environmental damage from natural disasters;
 - b. make a manual for disaster emergency response, disaster recovery and ecological restoration;
 - c. cooperate with other countries in the appropriate region that could be affected in the case of natural disasters and industrial accidents resulting from natural disasters, including the establishment of regional agreements for early and prompt notification and consultations;
 - d. cooperate for the exchange of experts regarding disaster emergency response and ecosystem monitoring action; and
 - e. recognize the right of the public to access the information provided by affected countries, taking into account also the non-discriminatory rights of the foreign public;
3. CALLS ON non-governmental organizations to:
 - a. enhance public awareness of public access to environmental information related to natural disasters and secondary damage from natural disasters;
 - b. urge governments to develop and establish transparent and effective systems for access to relevant information; and
 - c. hold stakeholder meetings in regional groups for discussing systems for public access to relevant information;
4. CALLS ON the Director General to:
 - a. participate in monitoring projects in ecosystems destroyed by natural disaster;
 - b. include the issue of management of secondary environmental damage by natural disasters to biodiversity and ecological services when implementing the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*; and

- c. contribute to the work of relevant organizations to assess the vulnerability of protected areas to natural disaster and support the introduction of early notification systems; and
5. REQUESTS North East Asian countries, including the Republic of Korea, China and Japan, to discuss an early notification framework in the case of a nuclear accident and/or natural disaster, as the three countries decided on 22 May 2011, as a pilot programme for this Resolution.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-114-EN

Promotion of sustainable tourism, rural development and the value of natural heritage

CONSIDERING that the World Tourism Organization, together with other institutions linked to the world of business and nature conservation, define sustainable tourism as the type of “tourism that meets the needs of today’s tourists and host regions, while protecting and enhancing opportunities for the future”;

NOTING that well-managed sustainable tourism generates employment and provides financial benefits for the local population;

RECOGNIZING that sustainable tourism has a positive impact on society, the economy and the environment, by supporting goods produced in a sustainable manner, services beneficial to the local economy, and the conservation of the natural heritage;

RECOGNIZING that if the tourism sector is not developed using sustainable, responsible criteria, it can lead to many externalities, both environmental and socio-economic (the generation of waste, pollution, land use and fragmentation, biodiversity loss and the degradation of the geological heritage);

ASSUMING that rural parts of Spain are of great importance, since they account for 90% of the entire country and are inhabited by 20% of the population if periurban areas are excluded, and 35% if they are included (Spanish Law 45/2007 on the Sustainable Development of Rural Areas (LDSMR));

AWARE that it is in these areas that the greatest riches in terms of natural heritage are located, and that they also contain most of the cultural heritage; and

NOTING that Spain has the highest level of biodiversity in Europe, and also contains a substantial amount of its cultural diversity;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the Spanish Government, the autonomous governments and the local authorities to define and apply political strategies and action plans, which encourage the development of high-quality sustainable tourism that supports sustainable rural development and guarantees the conservation of biodiversity and geological diversity (geodiversity) as well as the protected areas included in the Natura 2000 Network;
2. CALLS ON the Director General, with regard to the relevant areas of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, to foster and support the improvement of competitiveness and new business initiatives in rural, natural, cultural, responsible, sustainable and eco-friendly tourism such as geotourism (geological tourism), coastal tourism, ethno-tourism, ornithological tourism (birdwatching), tourism devoted to whale-watching, butterfly watching, the observation of fauna in general, botanical tours, etc.;
3. CALLS ON the Director General to foster and support the development of training, awareness campaigns and environmental education in protected areas included in the Natura 2000 Network, in order to raise the awareness of companies, tourists and the local populations with regard to the importance of respecting nature and conserving biodiversity and geodiversity; and
4. CALLS on the Director General to foster and support the development of networks that establish synergies between entities, companies and professionals, in order to allow for the development of a green, socially responsible economy for the common good.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-115-EN Strengthening biocultural diversity and traditional ecological knowledge in the Asia-Pacific island region

RECOGNIZING that the rapid change seen in island ecosystems of the Asia-Pacific region, occasioned by the change in fishing grounds due to climate change and natural disasters such as mega-earthquakes and tsunamis, as well as due to excessive fishing activities and marine pollution, is leading to the decline of biocultural diversity;

RECALLING that Article 8j of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) highlights the importance of traditional knowledge related to the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and that IUCN has implemented related actions based on the idea that biodiversity and cultural diversity are interlinked;

CONSIDERING the need to make progress on discussions and actions about conservation models based on traditional ecological knowledge relevant to the wise use of biodiversity in island-coastal areas whose ecosystems are weakened by climate change and over-exploitation of resources, and where associated traditional cultures are affected by such changes in ecosystems; and

CONVINCED that the establishment of specialist groups within the IUCN Commissions would be a very useful step to advance the conservation of biocultural diversity in island-coastal areas of the Asia-Pacific region;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON Members of the United Nations, including IUCN State Members in the Asia-Pacific region, to support activities for conservation of biocultural diversity and traditional ecological knowledge in island-coastal regions based on its uniqueness and scarcity;
2. ENCOURAGES IUCN Members, local governments and NGOs, to recognize the importance of traditional ecological knowledge for the wise use of biological resources in island and coastal areas, and to engage in supporting the preservation of traditional knowledge and biocultural diversity;
3. REQUESTS the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (Island Ecosystems Thematic Group) to:

- a. advance the conservation of biocultural diversity and traditional ecological knowledge in island-coastal regions providing support for research activities related and carried out by institutes and NGOs; and
- b. explore the need for an international instrument within the United Nations for the conservation of biocultural diversity and traditional ecological knowledge in island-coastal regions, inviting IUCN State Members to engage in its promotion and support; and

4. URGES the Director General, under the Global Island Initiative, to pursue a focus on Asia-Pacific island biocultural diversity, led by specialists on policy and practice of island-coastal biocultural diversity conservation, including scientists specializing in humanities, in conjunction with related organizations such as the CBD and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-116-EN Support for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing

RECOGNIZING the central role played by IUCN in promoting the conservation of biological diversity by urging the development of a Convention on the Conservation of Biological Diversity;

RECALLING Resolution 18.28 *Convention on the Conservation of Biological Diversity* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990), which called upon all parties, international agencies and other bodies involved in the negotiating process, to devise an effective and comprehensive international legal instrument for the conservation of the world's biological diversity and urged negotiating parties to ensure that the Convention's primary focus be wild genetic resources and the conservation of biodiversity *in situ*;

REMINDED that Resolution 18.28 further urged negotiating parties to develop sound and adequate funding mechanisms for the successful implementation of the

Convention, “especially to favour less developed nations where the bulk of the world’s biological diversity exists, and to whom resources must be primarily and equitably directed”;

ACKNOWLEDGING Resolution 15.10 *Genetic Resources* adopted by the 15th IUCN General Assembly (Christchurch, 1981), which recognized that genetic material is part of mankind’s natural heritage and should therefore remain available to all nations, considered the conservation of genetic material essential for the maintenance and development of animal and plant resources for a large number of beneficial uses, and considered that States have a duty of stewardship towards the conservation of genetic resources;

NOTING that IUCN was instructed through Resolution 15.10 to undertake an analysis of the technical, legal, economic and financial matters relating to the conservation, accessibility and use of these resources “with the view to providing the basis for an international arrangement and for rules to implement it”;

MINDFUL of the important role of indigenous and local communities and their traditional knowledge in safeguarding and sustainably using biological resources and the genetic resources within them;

ALARMED at the continuously increasing loss of biodiversity in all its components, including species, ecosystems and genes;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, 2002, called for the negotiation of an international regime, within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources;

ACKNOWLEDGING AS WELL that the 7th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (CBD COP7) in 2004 mandated an Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing to elaborate and negotiate an international regime in order to effectively implement Articles 15 *Access to Genetic Resources* and 8(j) (concerning traditional knowledge) as well as the three objectives of the Convention;

WELCOMING the adoption at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological

Diversity (CBD COP10) in Nagoya, Japan, 2010, of the *Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising from their Utilization* (Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing – ABS) after six years of complicated negotiations;

WELCOMING AS WELL the adoption at COP10 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets;

NOTING that the Nagoya Protocol on ABS creates an international legal framework which provides for concrete measures, rules and procedures to implement the CBD’s third objective and is intended to provide benefits (monetary and/or non-monetary) to a Party providing genetic resources (that is the country of origin of such resources or a Party that has acquired the genetic resources in accordance with the CBD) from Parties utilizing the genetic resources;

ALSO NOTING that by promoting the use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and strengthening the opportunities for fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of these resources, the Nagoya Protocol on ABS creates incentives to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and further contribute to sustainable development, human well-being and poverty alleviation;

RECOGNIZING that the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* represents a comprehensive and flexible global framework aiming at halting biodiversity loss and NOTING that Aichi Target 16 calls for the Nagoya Protocol on ABS to be in force and operational, consistent with national legislation, by 2015;

RECALLING IUCN’s continuous support to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the advancement of its three objectives;

NOTING in particular the work carried out by IUCN’s Environmental Law Centre in the development of numerous studies providing technical guidance related to the legal aspects of access and benefit sharing; and

NOTING AS WELL the development of an IUCN *Explanatory Guide to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing*, to be launched at CBD COP11 (Hyderabad, India, 2012) that provides legal and policy guidance on the provisions of this complex instrument, thus furthering its understanding and ultimately its implementation at the national level;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. WELCOMES the adoption of the *Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising from their Utilization* to the Convention on Biological Diversity as a major step forward in the implementation of the Convention in general and its third objective in particular;
2. CALLS ON Parties to the CBD to ratify the Nagoya Protocol on ABS in order to provide for its entry into force at the earliest opportunity;
3. ENCOURAGES Parties as appropriate to take measures to ensure that prior informed consent, or approval and involvement, is obtained from indigenous and local communities who have an established right to grant access to these resources, if necessary through amendments to national ABS laws and regulations;
4. CALLS ON Parties to take measures to ensure that benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources held by indigenous and local communities are shared in a fair and equitable way with the communities concerned based on mutually agreed terms;
5. REQUESTS the Director General, through the IUCN Environmental Law Programme and the Global Policy Unit, and in close collaboration with IUCN Members and the six expert Commissions, in particular the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) and the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), to provide the necessary technical assistance to Parties and other stakeholders as appropriate, for the development of ABS laws, regulations and policies as a vital part of national ratification processes;
6. REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with IUCN Members and the six expert Commissions, to further support national ratification processes and the operationalization of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS by promoting awareness raising and capacity development initiatives directed at government officials, National Focal Points, Competent National Authorities, relevant stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations, indigenous and local communities, scientific and research organizations, and the private sector, among others, and including women; and

7. REQUESTS the Director General to encourage IUCN Thematic and Regional Programmes as well as Commissions to incorporate, as appropriate, within the results and activities planned in the framework of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, actions that support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-117-EN
Operationalization of the
Intergovernmental science-policy
Platform on Biodiversity and
Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

RECOGNIZING the need to enhance efficient science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services for human well-being and poverty eradication;

WELCOMING the establishment of the Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) in Panama City, Panama on 21 April 2012 and other outcomes of that plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for this Platform;

RECALLING that the Platform's objective is to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development;

MINDFUL of regional needs such as availability of documented scientific information, training and capacity development; and

RECOGNIZING the scientific independence of IPBES, and realizing the role to be played by various institutions, centres of excellence, independent researchers, scientists and governmental and non-governmental organizations;

The World Conservation Congress, at its Session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. ENCOURAGES IUCN State Members to support the functions of IPBES of knowledge generation, assessments, policy support and capacity building by

taking urgent action to ensure that the key steps for the operationalization of an effective and efficient entity are undertaken;

2. Urges governments and REQUESTS the Director General and other relevant organizations, to collaborate in their efforts to ensure relevant and appropriate capacity building and technology transfer for effective participation of developing countries, Small Island Developing States and countries with economies in transition; and
3. CALLS on IUCN Members and governments, to provide resources to support the implementation of the capacity building component of the IPBES work programme, considering that capacity building is a critical priority for the implementation of the IPBES work programme in many developing countries.

WCC-2012-Res-118-EN

A significant role for IUCN in the Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)

APPRECIATING that IUCN has long been a leader in generating knowledge about biodiversity and ecosystem services, has contributed to virtually all of the relevant global environmental assessments, including the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment* and its follow-up, has designed, alone or in collaboration with other organizations, numerous knowledge products to support policy development and implementation, including the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, the World Database on Protected Areas, the Global Invasive Species Database, and the ECOLLEX database, and has significantly contributed to building capacity for enhancing the science-policy interface on biodiversity and conservation related issues;

RECOGNIZING that IUCN works closely with a number of international organizations including United Nations (UN) agencies or programmes such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), scientific networks such as the International Council for Science (ICSU) and its current programmes, and with the full range of Multilateral Environmental

Agreements and their scientific subsidiary bodies including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention on Wetlands);

RECOGNIZING that IUCN is a science-policy interface organization that has been actively participating in discussions on the establishment of IPBES for several years and has devoted resources to help this establishment;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that IUCN brings a multi-stakeholder perspective to IPBES through its constituent Members, Commissions, National and Regional Committees, Secretariat and its considerable capacity to advance multidisciplinary work from the scientific and policy communities to advance thinking on biodiversity and ecosystem services;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that IUCN functions as a neutral convenor for governments, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, scientists and scientific bodies and other civil organizations; and

RECOGNIZING the benefits and effectiveness of building IPBES's structure, programme and work plan on existing initiatives and on effective involvement of IUCN;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. WELCOMES the establishment of IPBES as an authoritative mechanism to foster science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services and EXPRESSES APPRECIATION to those involved in its establishment including the many governments who have participated, as well as to UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and UNDP who are working together to provide support to the future Secretariat of IPBES and to the non-governmental organizations who have contributed to the process of establishment of IPBES;
2. AFFIRMS the interest of IUCN to play a significant role in IPBES based on its major assets; and REQUESTS the Director General to pursue this role with the governments and UN agencies involved

with IPBES, including support to the governance structures, particularly subsidiary bodies such as the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, regional structures, working groups and external review groups, and provision and management of scientific data and knowledge;

3. EMPHASIZES the necessity for IPBES to build on existing initiatives and ongoing work, including those conducted by IUCN and other organizations, particularly related to assessments of status and trends of species, protected areas, ecosystem management relevant for water and food security, climate change mitigation and adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and natural resource governance;
4. NOTES the scientific expertise of IUCN's Commissions and involvement of its government and non-governmental Members dedicated to biodiversity which IUCN can contribute to the future work programme of IPBES;
5. URGES IPBES members to provide the platform with a strong set of operational modalities including an ambitious and robust work programme for the first years of its implementation, supported by adequate funding, and to ensure that it responds to the needs expressed not only by governments but also by civil society, including the scientific community, conservation NGOs and the business sector;
6. ENCOURAGES IUCN Members, Councillors, IUCN National and Regional Committees, IUCN Commissions and the Secretariat to engage actively in IPBES as providers of knowledge and expertise and potential beneficiaries of its outputs; this involvement could take the form of, *inter alia*, nominating experts, proactively proposing tools and methodologies, offering data and knowledge, developing capacities of policy makers for the best use of IPBES knowledge and services, and disseminating and communicating IPBES activities and outputs; and
7. REQUESTS the Director General to make use of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* as the opportunity to establish early cooperation between the Secretariat, IUCN Members, Commissions, National and Regional Committees, and IPBES in areas where their respective programmes of work support each other, and to report to the next World Conservation Congress.

WCC-2012-Res-119-EN Collaborative Partnership on Wildlife

AWARE of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* as a framework for assisting governments, indigenous and local communities, officials, resource managers, the private sector and other stakeholders to ensure that their use of and decisions on biological diversity will not lead to its long-term decline;

RECALLING that the mission of IUCN is "to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable";

NOTING the CBD Executive Secretary's Notification of 19 January 2012 on *Soliciting expressions of interest for participating in a collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management* to "explore options for the development of a collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management to enhance cooperation and coordination for implementation of the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat" and document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/29 on *Options for the development of a collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management* made available by the CBD Secretariat for the attention of Parties at the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CBD COP11);

EXPRESSING CONCERN that the programmes of international organizations, conventions and other stakeholders in the wildlife sector frequently face scarce resources, often covering individual issues in isolation and suffering from a lack of coordination, all of which result in poor public visibility and under-utilized knowledge and expertise in many fora; and

RECOGNIZING a variety of wildlife management-related issues to be addressed, such as species conservation, wildlife welfare, food security, animal and human health, climate change, knowledge management, and the non-existence of an appropriate global platform to coordinate these issues;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6-15 September 2012:

1. SUPPORTS the initiative of establishing a voluntary Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPSWM), initially among Multilateral Environmental Agreements, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations with demonstrated

contributions to the sustainable management of wildlife, which incorporates conservation, health and livelihood dimensions and with a Programme of Work initially focused on the enhancement of cooperation and coordination for implementation of the Recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat as proposed to CBD COP11;

2. REQUESTS the Director General to support the establishment of such a global voluntary partnership, in close collaboration with relevant Members, in particular the Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group (SULi) and TRAFFIC, and to participate in its activities when established;
3. ENCOURAGES the partners to share their professional knowledge and expertise, to utilize their networks, and as a consequence to assist in the implementation of wildlife-related conventions and generate added value and an integrated approach to the solution of existing and arising problems related to wildlife; and
4. FURTHER ENCOURAGES Parties to the CBD to support at COP11 paragraphs 25. (a) to (g) of section III. *Proposed Way Forward* in the above-referenced document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/29.

WCC-2012-Res-120-EN Biodiversity conservation for development in the South through South-South cooperation

ACKNOWLEDGING that biodiversity is critical for economic and social development as well as poverty reduction and that the loss of biodiversity undermines sustainable growth of developing countries;

NOTING that the South hosts the majority of the Earth's biodiversity while facing significant sustainable development challenges and an urgent need for increased investment and new interventions to conserve biodiversity;

ALSO NOTING that an integral vision for South-South cooperation on biodiversity conservation for development is urgently necessary;

RECALLING Decision 25 of the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), encouraging developing

country Parties to engage in South-South cooperation on the issue of biodiversity, complemented and supported by North-South cooperation, and to incorporate biodiversity concerns in regional and sub-regional cooperation agreements and associated activities, and encourage Parties to establish, as appropriate, multi-stakeholder collaborative partnerships among Parties to address biodiversity concerns at regional, sub-regional, national and sub-national levels;

WELCOMING CBD Decision X/23 encouraging Parties, including governments, regional and international organizations to further contribute to the development of an Action Plan for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development and establishment of multi-stakeholder collaborative partnerships;

RECOGNIZING the support of the G-77 and China in preparing a *Multi-Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development*, and the support of the Republic of Korea, through its National Institute of Biological Resources, to host an expert meeting, May 18–20, 2011, to further discuss the modalities of South-South and triangular cooperation and the roadmap towards the possible adoption of a Plan at CBD COP11; and

CONSIDERING that South-South cooperation is necessary for the implementation of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and that countries in the South need to enhance South-South and triangular cooperation with appropriate solutions intended for developing countries' economic development as a complementary approach to traditional North-South cooperation;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS on all developing nations to recognize the importance of strengthening policies linking cooperation with national development and planning processes by enhancing and expanding their mechanisms to share experience, information and technologies and mobilize resources among themselves;
2. REQUESTS developed nations in the North to enhance investment on transfer of technology and capacity building in developing nations in the South;
3. URGES all stakeholders to implement CBD Decision X/23 *Multi-Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development* in the context of nationally determined priorities, capacities and needs;

4. CALLS on the scientific community to step up research on effective approaches to biodiversity conservation and to make their findings more accessible to policy makers and the general public particularly in the developing world;
5. ENCOURAGES bilateral and multilateral agencies to strengthen their support for biodiversity conservation through their respective policies and operational programmes; and
6. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to strategically commit to:
 - a. initiating the formation of an Expert Group to develop innovative modalities on how IUCN can be mobilized to support the implementation of the *Multi-Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity Conservation for Development* as a priority action to realize the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets;
 - b. supporting the establishment of the South-South cooperation network/platform to engage IUCN Members and other stakeholders in facilitating multi-stakeholder collaborative partnerships, in exchanging knowledge on culturally and ecologically appropriate technologies and positioning IUCN as the knowledge clearing house to foster further cooperation within its constituency;
 - c. initiating the formation of an expert team to formulate and develop methodologies to evaluate, measure and report on the benefit and value of South-South cooperation in biodiversity conservation taking into account economic, social and cultural aspects in furtherance of regional, sub-regional and inter-regional South-South cooperation and collaboration;
 - d. facilitating raising of funds through different international funding mechanisms and in triangular cooperation with Members from developed countries to support effective programmes on South-South cooperation and improve on-ground activities; and
 - e. supporting the efforts of other parties in implementing South-South cooperation on biodiversity conservation for development.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-121-EN

Promoting external international responsibility with regard to impacts on global biodiversity

OBSERVING that the internationalization of the economy is common in many countries and regions of the world, and that national and regional government policies have increasing social, economic and environmental impacts on countries beyond their own geographical borders;

RECOGNIZING that although the calculation of the ecological footprint has been a strategy of great value in terms of communication, it has rarely helped reduce a country's impact on global biodiversity;

BEARING IN MIND the conclusions of recent studies, for example *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity* (TEEB), which propose an economic approach to the value of the natural heritage taking into account the costs and benefits of its degradation or conservation;

ASSUMING that the economic and social policies in most countries and regions, especially those with a high level of consumption of resources and energy, affect the condition of ecosystems and environmental services in the countries from which goods and energy are imported, but also have an impact on their ability to recover;

NOTING that these socio-economic policies rarely take into consideration the status of these goods and resources, whether they are being well managed or eroded by their countries of origin, or the fact that they are often located in biodiversity hotspots;

TAKING ACCOUNT OF the experience gained through the study *La responsabilitat exterior de Catalunya en la pèrdua de biodiversitat global* ("Catalonia's external responsibility for the loss of global biodiversity") (2010), and the major study carried out by the Inter-Departmental Ministerial Group on Biodiversity (IDMGB) on the United Kingdom's impact on international biodiversity (2008); and

SUMMING UP the contents of:

- a. the Thematic Programme of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) devoted to Economics, Trade and Incentive Measures;

- b. the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, specifically Target 3: “...incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied...”;
- c. the European Union Biodiversity Strategy up to 2020, which includes the goal of stepping up its contribution to averting global biodiversity loss; and
- d. the Earth Charter and principles of ecological responsibility, global interdependence and social well-being;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) to develop criteria and guidelines, including reference to relevant existing criteria, to calculate the impact of government policies in countries and regions on the biodiversity and incentives for conservation of the countries and regions that provide them with goods, energy resources and materials;
2. CALLS on States and sub-national governments, with a view to minimizing the negative impact and maximize the positive impact on global biodiversity, taking into account existing international obligations to consider environmental and social responsibility criteria in existing public policies or when developing public policies, and more specifically in: the import of goods and resources, the export of waste, bio-prospecting, the international trade in species, the internationalization of the economy, investment in third countries and the design of cooperation programmes;
3. CALLS on States and sub-national governments committed to implementing the CBD and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, to adopt, as appropriate, the perspective of international environmental responsibility when achieving their goals and in the development of biodiversity conservation and sustainability strategies and policies; and
4. URGES the Director General to highlight, in the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* and within the Programme Area *Effective and equitable governance of nature's use* the need to adopt the perspective of countries' international responsibility as set out in international environmental agreements and international law in terms of the loss of global biodiversity.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

**WCC-2012-Res-122-EN
Promotion of Innovative Financial
Mechanisms (IFM) for biodiversity –
World Conservation Congress (IUCN)**

RECALLING that financing sustainable development, either by means of implementation or funding strategies, was one of the major issues of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) which was held from 20 to 22 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) and which concluded with a statement entitled *The Future We Want* (the *Rio Declaration*);

WELCOMING the outcomes of the Rio Conference and steps to advance the issue at the international level, in particular, through the establishment of an intergovernmental process “to assess financing needs, to consider the effectiveness, consistency and synergies of existing instruments and frameworks and evaluate additional initiatives, with a view to preparing a report proposing options on an effective sustainable development financing strategy to facilitate the mobilization of resources and their effective use in achieving sustainable development objectives” (paragraphs 255 and 256 of the *Rio Declaration*);

RECALLING paragraph 267 of the *Rio Declaration* which recognizes that innovative financing can make a positive contribution to raising additional resources for development, and calling for a scaling-up of present initiatives;

RECALLING paragraph 200 of the *Rio Declaration* based on the commitment taken within the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), to substantially increasing resources from all sources in support of biodiversity;

RECALLING the work of the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development, the Permanent Secretariat of which is hosted by France, which defines Innovative Financial Mechanisms (IFM) as stable and predictable sources of funding, complementary to Official Development Assistance (ODA) and based on new partnerships between countries of different levels of development as well as on public-private partnerships;

RECALLING initiatives taken by the Leading Group for the promotion of options on IFM, including a tax on international financial transactions, proceeds of which could be used to finance sustainable development, including biodiversity;

WELCOMING the side event organized by the Leading Group in the margins of Rio+20, which gathered many high-level government officials and organizations in support of innovative financing towards sustainable development, and its environmental pillar;

RECALLING objective 20 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* adopted at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the CBD, which states “By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties”;

NOTING the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, which emphasizes the need for greater integration of biodiversity values in the economy to mobilize new and additional financial sources for conservation, in particular point 7 of Annex 1 *Solutions Based on Nature*, highlighting the potential to harness both public and private sources of funding for the conservation of biodiversity; and

RECALLING the objectives of Decision X/6 adopted at the CBD COP10, on the integration of biodiversity into related poverty eradication plans and strategies and development processes;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON IUCN Members and experts, in particular through the National Committees:
 - a. in line with the outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference and ongoing discussions within the CBD, to contribute to reflections on innovative financing options, as complementary fundraising tools for the effective implementation of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*; and
 - b. to enhance the identification of best practices complementing the work carried out within the

CBD, including the Quito Seminar on Scaling up Biodiversity Finance (6–9 March 2012) and the Montreal CBD Workshop on Financing Mechanisms for Biodiversity: Examining Opportunities and Challenges (12 May 2012); and

2. REQUESTS the Director General:
 - a. in light of the outcomes of Rio+20, to actively promote collaboration between the IUCN Secretariat and the Permanent Secretariat of the Leading Group on Innovative Financing for Development in order to enhance synergies between the two Secretariats, and foster a shared approach on innovative financing of the environmental pillar of sustainable development;
 - b. to consider joining the Leading Group, which, with the support and expertise of IUCN, could start a joint work programme in 2013 and establish a joint taskforce on IFM; and
 - c. in line with the ongoing discussions under the CBD, and in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat, to follow up the work of the Quito and Montreal Seminars: identification of best practices, development of potential safeguards and support to the work of the CBD in defining the scope of IFM.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-123-EN Advocating Private, Public, Community Partnerships (PPCPs) for sustainable development

RECALLING Resolutions 19.1 *The Strategy of IUCN – The World Conservation Union* and 19.23 *The Importance of Community-based Approaches* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);

NOTING that the building of partnerships is one of the great strengths of IUCN;

RECOGNIZING that the effective management of resources involves measures that acknowledge the rights and aspirations of different cultures and the conditions

of different environments and are specific to each of them;

UNDERSTANDING that many individuals and institutions have a stake in how natural resources are managed and need to be involved in decisions affecting such management and that the concerns of those who depend on using natural resources in traditional ways necessary for meeting their basic needs should have special weight in decisions affecting them;

RECALLING Resolution 3.061 *IUCN's interaction with the private sector* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004); and

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

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

REQUESTS the Director General, in consultation with IUCN Commissions and Members to:

- a. consider new and inclusive approaches that include local communities so as to achieve sustainable development when implementing the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*;
- b. consider Private, Public, Community Partnerships (PPCPs) in any current and future developments so as to achieve the MDGs and sustainable development; and
- c. consider capacity building as a major component of the innovative PPCP approach since community partnerships are critical.

WCC-2012-Res-124-EN Establishment of an International Commons Standard for conservation and governance of Commons

UNDERSTANDING that nature's benefits bestowed on humankind extend over ecosystem services like landscapes, water, air and biodiversity, and are not restricted to supporting the production of food, clothing, housing and materials;

AWARE that nature's benefits should be fairly and equitably distributed to all, including present and future generations who should use the natural resources in such a way as to ensure sustainability and contribute to reducing the impact of climate change;

CONCERNED that economic policies on industrialization and modernization based on market economy principles have impacted heavily on Commons thus decreasing nature's benefits bestowed upon low-income groups;

NOTING that socially alienated groups are often hindered from achieving environment-friendly economic development;

RECOGNIZING that a community-based economy developed in harmony with the market economy system, requires communal lands including village pastures, waterfronts, coastal areas and communal forests managed on the basis of trust, respect and understanding;

AWARE that regulation by government, developed to control the market-based economy, should be improved; that the ambiguous concept of Commons should be more concretely defined, that trust for the acquisition of Commons should be enhanced, and that the community-based economy should be revitalized;

MINDFUL that there is a need to help developing countries, civil society organizations (CSOs) and indigenous peoples to enhance their country's social capital in the areas of trust, cooperation, networking, customary law and traditional knowledge, as well as to utilize the community's common properties so as to achieve environment-friendly economic development;

RECOGNIZING that the fair and equitable sharing of nature's benefits is a fundamental right of humankind with a corresponding governance responsibility;

SUPPORTING indigenous peoples and local communities in their consideration of future generations, in their commitments to retain their customary and traditional authority and rights over communally owned Commons; and

NOTING that every government, standing proxy for the Public Trust, supports restoration of collapsed and fragmented local communities resulting from economic development and adopts flexible laws that allow indigenous peoples and local communities to achieve sustainable development;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to develop an International Commons Standard (ICS) for establishing criteria and categories of Commons, which differ among countries, for the purpose of enhancing property rights and ensuring stability of Commons; and
2. URGES international organizations, civil society organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities working with governments to conserve Commons and to build a harmonious social network to promote trust, respect and understanding among stakeholders, and to fulfil their role of monitoring rights violations related to Commons.

State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

**WCC-2012-Res-125-EN
Promotion of the Asia-Pacific
Biodiversity Observation Network
(AP-BON)**

ACKNOWLEDGING that biodiversity is very important for economic, social and sustainable development as well as poverty alleviation in developing countries;

NOTING that the degradation of nature and its structure and function ultimately affects the lives of future generations;

RECALLING Decision X/7 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10), which invited the Group on Earth Observation Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO BON), working through organizations including, *inter alia*, the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and IUCN, to publish an information document entitled *Adequacy of Biodiversity Observation Systems to support the 2020 Aichi Targets* for evaluating existing observation capabilities relevant to the targets contained in the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*;

ACKNOWLEDGING that observation and monitoring of the status of nature in biodiversity and ecosystem services are among the key tools in designing and implementing successful interventions toward conservation of

nature and sustainable use of natural resources in forests, grasslands, wetlands, agricultural lands, human dominated urban areas, coastal areas and oceans, deserts, alpine tundra, etc., at local, national, regional and global scale;

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING that integration of current activities on biodiversity observation in the Asia-Pacific region is one of the key activities in *Valuing and conserving nature*, which is one of the three Programme Areas of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*;

UNDERSTANDING that GEO BON was established under the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) with a view to developing a worldwide biodiversity observation network to collect, manage, share and analyze the data and information on the status and trends of the world's biodiversity, and enabling decision making in support of the conservation and improved management of natural resources and that Asia-Pacific Biodiversity Observation Network (AP-BON) was established as the regional network for biodiversity observation in the Asia-Pacific region with a similar mandate;

ACKNOWLEDGING the generous support from the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, for the AP-BON since 2009 and the kind sponsorship of the Ministry of Environment, Republic of Korea, in the proposal of this motion for the promotion of AP-BON;

UNDERSTANDING that this regional BON is being integrated from the national level BON activities including such countries as Japan (J-BON), the Republic of Korea (K-BON), Nepal (N-BON) and Bangladesh (B-BON), and that establishments of similar BON activities are being encouraged in other countries in the Asia-Pacific region;

EMPHASIZING that the networking activities of biodiversity observation will bring synergy in conservation of biological diversity at local, national, regional and global levels; and

FURTHER RECALLING that some gaps remaining among biodiversity observation networks could be bridged utilizing the frameworks of IUCN and the capacities of its Member networks in the Asia-Pacific region;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6 –15 September 2012:

1. URGES State and government agency Members of IUCN in the Asia-Pacific region to:

- a. support currently existing biodiversity observation network activities to be fully functional in their States;
 - b. encourage their activities to be linked with regional and global network activities through the AP-BON; and
 - c. encourage the establishment of a biodiversity observation network in those countries where one does not exist;
2. ENCOURAGES the non-governmental organization Members of IUCN in the Asia-Pacific region to:
- a. actively participate in the activities of the existing biodiversity observation networks;
 - b. work with other relevant stakeholders to create a biodiversity observation network in those States where one does not exist; and
 - c. try to link their activities with regional and global biodiversity observation network activities through the AP-BON;
3. ENCOURAGES governments in all countries in the Asia-Pacific Region to extend support to the biodiversity observation networks in their countries by:
- a. establishing its governance structure;
 - b. constructing network infrastructure to bring together the existing observation networks;
 - c. supporting research and monitoring activities; and
 - d. promoting outreach, education and capacity building activities;
4. REQUESTS the Director General to:
- a. encourage IUCN Members and Commissions to play a key role in facilitating the establishment and functioning of the biodiversity observation networks in the region as well as globally; and
 - b. promote capacity building within the network so that the network can generate valuable information on the status of species and ecosystems; and
5. INVITES the Director General and IUCN Commissions to utilize information generated by the

AP-BON in the process of listing of threatened and endangered species and the sustainable management of ecosystems and protected areas, as relevant.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-126-EN

The development of an Evaluation and Certification System for World Environmental Hubs

RECOGNIZING the importance of the role of local government in achieving IUCN's vision and goal as adopted in Resolution 2.5 *Regionalization of IUCN – The World Conservation Union* by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), Resolution 3.003 *Engagement by IUCN with local and regional government authorities* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), Resolutions 4.003 *Strengthening IUCN's National and Regional Committees*, 4.004 *Strengthening IUCN's institutional presence in South America*, and 4.008 *Including local and regional governmental authorities in the structure of the Union* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the need to extend opportunities for strengthening the conservation of nature by incorporating urban components, as adopted in Resolution 3.063 *Cities and conservation* by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) and Resolution 4.094 *Impetus and support for local and regional biodiversity conservation policies* by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) and the Memorandum of Understanding between IUCN and Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) signed in 2007;

CONCERNED that even though a wide range of activities by local governments over the world has resulted in model cases at regional level rather than at national level, numerous cases of environmental deterioration occur as a result of indiscriminate urban expansion undertaken by local governments;

RECALLING that IUCN's vision and goal can be achieved by promoting environmental policies at local level as an integrated framework for development covering environment, economy and society;

RECALLING that local authorities are in a unique position to promote sustainable development, in particular in the management of natural resources, sustainable production and consumption processes, including through their purchasing policies, and that sustainable public procurement as a concept is gaining ground in various parts of the world;

NOTING that the organizational activities of local governments, such as the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group and ICLEI, for the conservation of the world's environment would be enhanced through the development of an Evaluation and Certification System recognizing World Environmental Hubs at local level in harmony with the vision and goals of IUCN;

CONVINCED that the promotion of such an endeavour will guide future socioeconomic development towards ecologically and environmentally sustainable ecosystems and habitats;

ALSO CONVINCED that the effort to set up World Environmental Hubs can be implemented on the basis of inputs from IUCN Members, Commissions and Secretariat as adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) in Resolution 4.001 *Strengthening the links between IUCN Members, Commissions and Secretariat*;

FURTHER CONVINCED that this project would enable the Commissions to implement various relevant programmes as adopted in Resolution 4.002 *Coordination of the IUCN Programme* by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) to build capacity to achieve sustainable development, and the ability to solve problems related to globalization as adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) in Resolution 3.083 *Improving capacity to achieve sustainable development and address the consequences of globalization*, and to establish regional institutions and improve their capacity building ability as adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) in Resolution 4.004 *Strengthening IUCN's institutional presence in South America*; and

RECOGNIZING that Jeju, the host venue of the 2012 World Conservation Congress, is an ideal location for launching this endeavour since several steps have already been taken towards setting up an environmentally sustainable habitat, such as:

- a. three UNESCO-designated sites: Biosphere Reserve, Natural World Heritage site, and Global Geopark;

- b. four Ramsar Sites;
- c. the 2011 selection of Jeju as one of the New Seven Wonders of Nature, demonstrating that Jeju is a place where human beings and nature co-exist in harmony;
- d. the designation of Jeju by the Republic of Korea's Government as a model for climate change and environmental education, and for being carbon neutral; and
- e. the development of *The Comprehensive Programme for Promoting World Environmental Hub* in 2010, implemented since 2011;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, with assistance from organizations with expertise in developing certification systems, such as the International Standards Organization (ISO), and with support from IUCN Members, Commissions and the Secretariat, to work on the development and implementation of an evaluation and certification system for World Environmental Hubs;
2. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General to convene a Working Group on World Environmental Hubs composed of IUCN Members, relevant Commission members and other constituents such as national and local government organizations/representatives; and
3. URGES the Director General to host the first meeting of the Working Group in Jeju at the earliest opportunity and within available resources, together with the Government of the Republic of Korea and the Government of Jeju Special Self-Governing Province in order to prepare a concrete long-term roadmap and practical programmes for the Evaluation and Certification System for the establishment of World Environmental Hubs.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-127-EN
Islamic principles for conservation

EXPRESSING gratitude to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental

Law (WCEL) for encouraging and supporting the first and second editions of the *Islamic Principles for Conservation of the Natural Environment*;

WHEREAS these *Islamic Principles* were drafted by eminent scholars and serve as an important source of material for connecting Islam with environmental conservation and sustainable development;

CONSIDERING that the 185,000 copies of the first and second editions were published and distributed widely with the gracious assistance of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

NOTING that there have been numerous requests to produce a third revised edition taking into account the agreed international principles on the conservation of the environment and sustainable development since production of the second edition; and

APPRECIATIVE to the President-General of the Presidency of Meteorology and Environmental Protection of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for engaging in discussions to call a meeting to produce an amended and improved edition to ensure that the *Islamic Principles* are up to speed with contemporary developments;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6 –15 September 2012:

1. CALLS UPON IUCN to cooperate with the relevant partners in the drafting and publication of a third edition of the *Islamic Principles*; and
2. REQUESTS knowledgeable experts from IUCN Members and Commissions to present their comments and proposed amendments to the text of the second edition to the Chair of WCEL.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-128-EN Need for non-regression in environmental law and policy

ALARMED that the human ecological footprint exceeds global biocapacity and that the planetary boundaries of key processes in the Earth are being exceeded;

MINDFUL of the multiple threats that weigh on environmental policies and regulations, at international, regional, national and local levels, and that may lead, explicitly or by stealth, to diminished levels of protection of biodiversity and increased risks of pollution;

NOTING however that all current international environmental conventions, whether universal or regional, and most national environmental legislation, provide that States commit themselves to the continuous improvement of the environment and of the well-being of citizens along with social progress and poverty eradication;

OBSERVING therefore an international consensus on the need for legal measures to attain a high level of environmental protection and improvement in environmental quality;

CONVINCED that the principle of constant advancement of protected rights, and the non-regression of fundamental rights, must apply to the human right to a healthy environment;

CONSIDERING that human society has a collective responsibility not to harm the rights of future generations to life, dignity, health and sound environment, which includes a responsibility not to backslide on existing levels of environmental protection in policy and law;

RECOGNIZING that non-regression is a prerequisite for effectiveness of all sustainable development policies, laws and regulations;

CONVINCED of the need for measures to prevent all backsliding or regression on the level of environmental protection attained by each State according to its development status;

CONSIDERING that non-regression may be based on an express provision in the Constitution or legislation, as well as on case law;

TAKING NOTE of the European Parliament resolution of 29 September 2011 on developing a common European Union position ahead of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), which in paragraph 97 calls for the recognition of non-regression in the context of environmental protection as well as fundamental rights;

TAKING NOTE of the call by the International Organisation of La Francophonie, adopted in Lyon on 8 February

2012, urging recognition of the non-regression principle in environmental matters; and

TAKING NOTE of the Declaration on the Principle of Non-regression of Environmental Protection in Anticipation of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), adopted at the international colloquium organized by the Brazilian Senate in Brasilia on 29 March 2012;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES national governments to recognize that non-regression in their environmental policy and law is necessary for achieving sustainable development objectives except where flexibility enhances conservation; and
2. REQUESTS the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) to continue studying and promoting non-regression in environmental policy and law globally, in international law, regional law as well as national law.

State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

WCC-2012-Res-129-EN Courts and access to justice

ALARMED that four billion people on Earth live beyond the protection of the rule of law and have no access to justice to protect their environmental rights (UNDP, *Making the Law for Everyone*, 2008);

RECOGNIZING that access to justice is a fundamental principle of law, enshrined in Principle 10 of the 1992 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*;

AWARE that States provide access to justice through their judiciary and that the courts are fundamental to ensuring the rule of law and for the realization of rights to sustainable development and environmental conservation;

NOTING that many States have codified this right of access to justice through their national Constitutions or through adhering to the 1998 *Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Environmental Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters*;

WELCOMING the decisions of authorities in Australia, Brazil, China, India, Kenya, the Philippines and 50 other nations to establish more than 400 new environmental courts and tribunals, dedicated to ensuring access to justice and judicial decisions that enforce laws on nature conservation and protection of the environment;

GRATEFUL to the symposia and consultations conducted by the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL), many IUCN Members, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) over the past 15 years to build consensus at the national level to expand the judicial capacity regarding environmental laws;

CONCERNED that ensuring access to justice through these many new courts and tribunals, as well as through the environmental chambers within courts of general jurisdiction, necessitates measures that strengthen judicial capacity through exchanging best judicial practices among their judges and court administrators; and

TROUBLED that today there exists no international agency, institution or programme to provide on-going capacity building that sustains and enhances the capacity of courts to provide access to justice for environmental matters;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. Calls upon WCEL to continue its leadership, in cooperation with appropriate national and international authorities, to build the capacity of courts for environmental adjudication;
2. Invites all IUCN Members to collaborate with WCEL in undertaking appropriate measures to strengthen the best judicial practices in existing courts and tribunals and in any established in the future; and
3. Calls upon States to establish an autonomous international judicial institute on the environment, in partnership with national judicial institutes and other court administrative authorities, in order to sustain and enhance the capacity of the judiciary with respect to access to justice in environmental matters.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-130-EN ECOLEX – the gateway to environmental law

RECALLING IUCN Resolution 4.092 *Maintenance of ECOLEX: the gateway to environmental law* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

AWARE of the progress made in the development of ECOLEX since then, including the improvement of the system software, as well as the expansion of the various data sets by their respective custodian partners;

WELCOMING the decision and action taken by IUCN to recognize ECOLEX as one of its flagship Knowledge Products;

NOTING the inclusion of ECOLEX in the list of Voluntary Partnerships for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD ‘Rio+20’); and

CONVINCED that ECOLEX is a unique tool from which essential legal information can be obtained to assess the state of environmental and natural-resource law development globally, and that can inform individual research, plans and programmes with data on governance, policy and law;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the ECOLEX partners to intensify their efforts to promote the use of ECOLEX significantly beyond what has already been achieved, in particular by:
 - a. increasing online access of users, especially in developing countries and universities globally;
 - b. collaborating with institutions, programmes and projects which would benefit from cross-pollination with legal data, such as scientific/technical data on species and protected areas;
 - c. contributing to the efforts of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to develop information systems and platforms to share information facilitating synergies in their implementation, such as InforMEA, by establishing links from such systems directly to ECOLEX and vice versa;

- d. developing products based on ECOLEX data to produce analytical information, subject-based (e.g. wildlife law) or country-based (i.e. country profiles); and
 - e. seeking collaboration with publishers of regularly updated specialized electronic environmental law series; and
2. INVITES the Director General to continue and increase, as appropriate, IUCN support and contribution to ECOLEX, in particular by:
 - a. maintaining the role of IUCN as a key partner in ECOLEX, as custodian of two databases (treaties; policy and law literature);
 - b. maintaining the IUCN Environmental Law Centre’s (IUCN ELC) function as the ECOLEX Management Unit (MU) and enlarging its capacity; and
 - c. enlarging the capacity of the ELC and/or MU to take the lead in developing a node of biodiversity-related information on governance, policy and law for use by international institutions including the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), now co-located at the ELC, in Bonn (Germany).

WCC-2012-Res-131-EN International Covenant on Environment and Development

RECALLING IUCN Resolution 1.66 *Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), Recommendation 2.96 *Earth Charter and Draft International Covenant* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), Resolution 3.021 *International Covenant on Environment and Development* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), Resolution 4.101 *International Covenant on Environment and Development* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

NOTING the commitment of honorary contributors to periodically deliberate and draft updates to the provisions and explanatory text in accordance with the newest developments in the field;

RECOGNIZING cooperation between the International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL) and the IUCN Environmental Law Programme (ELP) to ensure that the fourth edition was published as soon as possible;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the fourth edition of the *Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development* was conveyed to the Member States of the United Nations on the occasion of the High-level Event on Biodiversity during the 65th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2010;

APPRECIATING the financial assistance of the Elizabeth Haub Foundations for Environmental Law and Policy who fully supported the implementation of this resolution;

MINDFUL of Recommendation 6 *Pact on Environment* adopted by the 3rd Worldwide Conference of Environmental Law NGOs and Lawyers urging:

- a. the UNGA to quickly consider the establishment of conditions for the adoption of the *Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development*; and
- b. the attention of the International Organisation of La Francophonie to the urgent need for a French translation;

NOTING the delivery of the Draft Covenant to the Chair of the Task Force on Natural Resources, appointed by the Kenyan Minister for Environment and Mineral Resources, to assist in drafting implementing legislation for the environmental provisions of the new Constitution of Kenya;

ALSO NOTING a Special Meeting jointly organized during the 49th Annual Session of the Asian-African Consultative Organization (AALCO) by the Government of Tanzania, the AALCO Secretariat and ICEL to brief Member States on the Draft Covenant; and

FURTHER NOTING the translation of the Draft Covenant into German, Italian, Spanish and Chinese;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Council to:
 - a. help mobilize resources to pursue further translations; and
 - b. support translation of the explanatory text;

2. ENCOURAGES cooperation with the International Organisation of La Francophonie to produce the French translation;

3. REQUESTS the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) and ICEL to observe further developments with a view to providing regular updates to the Draft Covenant; and

4. INVITES ICEL to continue cooperating in the drafting process and promotion of the text with the financial assistance of institutions such as the Elizabeth Haub Foundations.

State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

WCC-2012-Res-132-EN

Establishing a global online platform for sustainability commitments

RECOGNIZING that since the first United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm in 1972, the international community, including at the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio in 1992, has negotiated many treaties and plans of action to establish goals to address the range of global sustainability challenges;

NOTING the discussions within the context of the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development which include non-globally-negotiated commitments by governments and other stakeholders to take actions which may be in the form of partnerships, networks or individual initiatives which will contribute to globally-adopted sustainability goals;

RECOGNIZING that these Rio+20 partnerships, networks and commitments have been announced in various platforms and recorded in various registries and compendiums;

CONCERNED that there is no global mechanism for aggregating these commitments, tracking progress on their implementation, and assessing their contribution to the achievement of globally-adopted goals;

NOTING that the rapid development and deployment within the last decade of the internet, social media and other information technologies which can enable governments

and other stakeholders to improve governance for sustainable development by increasing transparency, access to information and accountability;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that such tools are essential to engage young people in sustainable development;

RECALLING Resolution 4.077 *Climate change and human rights* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which affirms 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 human rights that can guarantee greater participation, development, and accountability of all people”;

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 4.098 *Intergenerational partnerships: fostering ethical leadership for a just, sustainable and peaceful world* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which asserted that “many young persons have well-informed, insightful and innovative contributions to make to sustainability research and decision-making processes, strategic planning and policy making, and effective action projects and programmes”; and

INSPIRED BY the 2006 IUCN *Future of Sustainability* report, IUCN’s Young Professionals Programme, and Resolution 4.105 *Communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) in conservation* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September:

URGES IUCN Members and other pertinent and interested stakeholders at all levels to:

- a. endorse and support the development, with the United Nations, of a mechanism to encourage, support and ensure accountability of partnerships, networks, initiatives and other such non-globally-negotiated commitments announced at Rio+20, including the creation and maintenance of a global commitment online platform to aggregate sustainability commitments drawn from various registries and platforms;
- b. utilize this mechanism and online platform to facilitate collaboration and sharing of best practices for sustainable development;

- c. employ the information dissemination capabilities of such a platform to further strengthen and enhance public participation and access to information under Principle 10 of the 1992 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*; and
- d. continue to further engage citizens around the world, especially youth, in the process of making and monitoring sustainable development commitments.

WCC-2012-Res-133-EN Improving capacity for enforcement of legislation relating to wildlife crime

RECOGNIZING the important role the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) plays in advancing environmental law by developing new legal concepts and instruments, and by building the capacity of societies to employ environmental law for conservation and sustainable development;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that it is difficult to determine the full scale of wildlife crime due to anomalies in how wildlife crime is monitored and recorded;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that in many instances organized crime syndicates involved with a range of other serious forms of crime are linked to wildlife crimes;

NOTING that the compliance and enforcement of environmental legislation face many serious challenges;

ALSO NOTING that wildlife crimes are generally not recognized as serious offences by the judiciary or politically;

FURTHER NOTING that a recent review of 1) the South African National Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Reports for 2008–9 and 2009–10; 2) relevant South African case law (from 2001 to 2011); 3) recent developments in initiatives aimed at improving compliance monitoring and enforcement; 4) results obtained through interviews with key stakeholders; and 5) relevant legislation; found that one of the most serious challenges facing successful compliance monitoring and enforcement in South Africa is adequate capacity and resources;

ACKNOWLEDGING that with the increased level of rhinoceros poaching in South Africa since 2009, rhino-related crimes are being dealt with more severely than in the past, while other wildlife crimes are still not investigated and treated as serious crimes;

CONCURRING with Resolution 1 of the Programme of Work emanating from the Global Judges Symposium (Johannesburg, 2002), that to realize the adopted principles: “the improvement of the capacity of those involved in the process of promoting, implementing, developing and enforcing environmental law, such as judges, prosecutors, legislators and others, to carry out their functions on a well informed basis, equipped with the necessary skills, information and material” is required; and

RECOGNIZING that in terms of effectively addressing the issue of wildlife crime it is essential that a coordinated global approach is adopted;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

REQUESTS all IUCN Members and governments to promote and support:

- a. an improved and strengthened legal regime regulating wildlife crimes including the elevation of wildlife crimes to a national priority crime;
- b. increased cross-border cooperation between countries on the issue of wildlife crime, in particular between countries identified as key source and sink countries as far as wildlife crime is concerned;
- c. the development of improved and shared information systems for monitoring, recording, reporting and publishing wildlife crimes, including the accessibility and availability of wildlife crime statistics;
- d. increased capacity development and training for all government authorities and judicial officials involved in the investigation and prosecution of wildlife crimes; and
- e. increased budgets and resources being allocated towards the enforcement of relevant environmental legislation.

WCC-2012-Res-134-EN African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

NOTING that the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources was adopted in 1968 in Algiers;

WHEREAS all Heads of State and Government unani- mously adopted the Revised African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Maputo Convention) at the 2nd Summit of the African Union in Maputo on 11 July 2003;

WHEREAS the Member States of the African Union are congratulated worldwide for this most advanced legally-binding instrument, which includes all aspects of sus- tainable development;

WHEREAS the Maputo Convention has not yet come into force with eight of the 15 parties necessary having ratified;

WHEREAS IUCN, in particular its Environmental Law Programme, advised the African Union on this com- mendable Convention;

RECALLING IUCN Resolution 4.095 *African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

NOTING interaction with the United Nations Secretary- General’s Special Adviser on Africa to increase awareness of the Convention’s importance;

FURTHER NOTING a Special Meeting jointly organ- ized during the 49th Annual Session of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization by the Government of Tanzania, the Secretariat of the Asian-African Legal Con- sultative Organization and the International Council of Environmental Law to brief Member States on the im- portance of ratifying the Maputo Convention;

MINDFUL of Recommendation N°6 *Pact on Environment and Development* adopted by the 3rd Worldwide Conference of Environmental Law NGOs and Lawyers inviting “AU Member States to quickly ratify the Revised African Con- vention adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the Second Summit of the African Union in Ma- puto...”;

CONGRATULATING the African Union Commission for delivering letters to all African Union Member State ministers responsible for environmental matters urging those who have not yet done so to work toward ratifying the Convention;

AWARE that a decision was drafted by the African Union Commission Legal Office for adoption by a forthcoming African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, or by the African Union Summit;

ACKNOWLEDGING the instrumental role of the IUCN Country Office in Senegal in the work to produce a consultant's report developing a strategy to guide the promotion of ratification, as well as collaborating with anglophone African States to secure their commitment to ratify the Convention soon; and

CONGRATULATING the President of IUCN for his letter to Thomas Yayi Boni, President of the Republic of Benin and African Union Chair, appealing to him to place ratification of the Maputo Convention on the agenda of the 19th African Union Ordinary Session;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the IUCN Director General to:
 - a. devise and promote a campaign to build upon this momentum, especially in view of the President's letter and the need for African Union Member States, who have not yet done so, to ratify the Convention as soon as possible; and
 - b. request Observer status for IUCN in the African Union ; and
2. ENCOURAGES the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to engage with African Union Member States, who have not yet done so, to ratify the Convention as soon as possible.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-135-EN Legally binding Global Mercury Treaty to protect wildlife, ecosystems and health

RECOGNIZING that IUCN helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges;

AWARE of the scientific evidence, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Global Mercury Assessments finalized in December 2002 that evidence:

- a. the global scale and severity of toxic mercury contaminations of life forms and ecosystems in all regions of the planet;
- b. that as a toxic substance of global concern, mercury causes significant harm to wildlife, ecosystems and human health in general and to some populations, and that most notably the foetus and young children are especially susceptible; and
- c. that mercury is a major threat to fish, an all important and valuable nutritious component of the human diet;

RECALLING that the releasing of mercury into Minamata Bay, Japan, has led to severe contamination, the horrific devastation of the environment and a human health tragedy;

APPRECIATING that the concerns, on-going initiatives and efforts of UNEP towards the phasing out of toxic chemicals have led to their elimination, with special attention given to the hazardous pollutant mercury;

NOTING that:

- a. mercury has been on the UNEP Governing Council (GC) Agenda since its 21st Session in February 2001;
- b. between February 2001 and October 2008, some milestones regarding mercury have been reached through UNEP Governing Council decisions 23/9 of February 2005 and 24/3 of February 2007;
- c. mercury is a global problem, that current efforts are not sufficient, and that there is a need for further long-term action and the setting up of a process towards a global framework;
- d. UNEP Governing Council decision 25/5 of February 2009 agreed to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee with the mandate to prepare a global legally binding instrument on mercury, commencing its work in 2010 with the goal of completing it prior to the twenty-seventh regular session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, in 2013; and

- e. the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) has already met four times and further discussion is to be continued on a revised version of the draft text of the comprehensive and suitable approach to a global legally-binding instrument on mercury; and

EXPECTING that the treaty elements will effectively address the rising trend in anthropogenic mercury release levels, thus protecting wildlife, ecosystems and human and animal health;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS on all State Representatives of INC to support:
 - a. a legally-binding global Treaty with an objective to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic release of mercury and its compounds, recognizing particularly the vulnerable populations;
 - b. effective measures to reduce and where feasible eliminate mercury use and releases to air, water and land;
 - c. a National Implementation Plan (NIP) for ensuring effective realization of the Treaty, and civil society's and other stakeholders' active role in the development and implementation of the Treaty;
 - d. adoption of guidance for the identification and characterization of the contaminated sites; and
 - e. adherence to the agreed timetable of the Treaty with effective and enforceable Treaty compliance provisions; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General to work with the IUCN Commissions and membership networks for the promotion of enhanced awareness regarding adverse health effects of mercury exposure and corresponding protective measures.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Res-136-EN

Effective strategy and actions to address the worsening problem of petrochemical plastic and other solid wastes

OBSERVING that the increasing human population generates a large quantity of wastes, particularly of plastics, thus exerting greater pressure on ecosystems and especially on coastal marine ecosystems;

OBSERVING ALSO that other factors such as widespread production and consumption, urban expansion, and the economic model designed for consumption of rapid obsolescence and disposable products like single-use plastics which can remain in the environment for hundreds of years, thus adding to the unsustainable generation of solid wastes and residues causing environmental pollution, global warming, ecosystem degradation and adversely impacting human and animal health;

CONSIDERING that, despite actions at national and international level, problems connected with the disposal of solid wastes have not been addressed effectively, and that the impact of these wastes on ecosystems, especially on marine and freshwater ecosystems, has increased as a result of the increase in wastes and the inappropriate management of non-degradable, or slow to degrade, materials of terrestrial and marine origin (UNEP 2005A/ GEO4);

NOTING that despite the work to implement waste recovery programmes, plastic recycling is not a sustainable solution because recycling plastic results in products of lesser quality such as bags or clothing, which cannot be recycled;

EMPHASIZING that petrochemical plastic is a material that the Earth cannot digest, that it breaks into increasingly small particles, which absorb toxic chemicals, and that each piece of plastic ever manufactured is still here with us, except the small amount that is incinerated, releasing toxic gases and particulate pollutants;

STRESSING that these plastic particles can be ingested by both land and sea animals, with serious consequences in addition to polluting our food chain;

RECOGNIZING that global assessments such as the *Global Environment Outlook* by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) call for the minimization

of waste products as well as efforts to ensure that, once products have come to the end of their useful life, they become part of the production chain as primary materials;

RECOGNIZING that Resolution 17.19 *Wastes*, adopted by the 17th IUCN General Assembly (San Jose, 1988) addresses the theme of waste management and its impacts on ecosystems;

CONCERNED that the data indicate that the wastes situation has worsened and that measures adopted to date, and actions at national and global level, have not been effective; and

CONCERNED that the discovery of ‘trash vortices’ in various seas indicates that the problem of solid wastes produced, fundamentally by the great quantity of plastic found in the water column, far from diminishing, continues to increase and that this has very worrying environmental consequences;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON governments to implement laws and support initiatives to minimize the use of plastic in their respective countries and encourage alternatives;
2. CALLS ON all constituencies of IUCN to promote cooperation among the governmental and legislative institutions of each country, non-governmental organizations, universities and the private sector effectively to address the problems of production, consumption, unsustainable disposal and management of solid wastes, seeking solutions in the short, medium and long term;
3. CALLS ON the Director General to urge international organizations to invite countries to address the problems at all levels, considering the global impact that solid wastes have on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, especially in seas and international waters;
4. ALSO CALLS ON the Director General to:
 - a. promote and support the exchange of information, knowledge, technology and best practice among IUCN Members, Commissions, industry, academia and governments on best practices in the management of solid wastes for the transformation of the life cycle of products

through ‘Reduce, Reuse, Recycle’ actions, with the aim of minimizing, as far as possible, the volumes of solid wastes and dangerous wastes produced by countries and by human activities;

- b. urge governments to create and implement a legal framework which ensures shared responsibility throughout the life cycle of products, delegating responsibilities throughout the production chain in the management of solid wastes, and to address responsible consumption; and
 - c. foster cooperation among government institutions, the business sector and civil society in order to address the problems, and to promote formal and informal environmental education programmes in the various regions and countries in which IUCN is present, for the purpose of addressing the impact of solid wastes on ecosystems, and to demonstrate possible solutions at family, local, national and global level; and
5. URGES IUCN Members and Commissions to foster and facilitate the necessary actions at local, national and regional levels so that processes of production and consumption include concepts of sustainability, emphasizing the scarcity of the Earth’s resources and the growing impact of solid wastes on ecosystems.

**WCC-2012-Res-137-EN
Support for a comprehensive scientific review of the impact on global biodiversity of systemic pesticides by the joint task force of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)**

RECOGNIZING the mission of IUCN in promoting the conservation of biological diversity since its inception;

AWARE that over the past decade neonicotinoid insecticides have rapidly become the most widely used and fastest-growing class of insecticides worldwide following their introduction to the market in the mid-1990s, now with a global market share of about one-third of the world insecticide market, with seed treatment as their major application and having been registered nowadays in more than 120 countries;

REMINDING that neurotoxic neonicotinoid pesticides which are highly persistent and act systemically and cumulatively, entering the plant sap through the roots, making the whole plant permanently toxic to insects, including beneficial pollinators, and being unique in their application and in the way they affect insects and other invertebrates through sub-lethal doses and chronic exposure;

NOTING that neonicotinoid and other systemic pesticides are suspected by many scientists of being a factor in contributing to the worldwide honeybee disorders, to the decline of wild pollinators, and to observed declines of entomofauna at large, and so better insight into the ecological risks associated with the use of these pesticides is urgently needed;

ALARMED at the continuously increasing loss of biodiversity in all its components, including species, ecosystems and genes;

WELCOMING the establishment of a Task Force on Systemic Pesticides (TFSP) under the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) in March 2011; and

ALSO WELCOMING the task of the TFSP to carry out a comprehensive, objective, scientific review and assessment of the impact of systemic pesticides on biodiversity, and on the basis of the results of this review to make any recommendations that might be needed with regard to risk management procedures, governmental approval of

new pesticides, and any other relevant issues that should be brought to the attention of decision makers, policy developers and society in general;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON all IUCN Members to support the TFSP in its endeavours so that it can complete its review and recommendations in a timely fashion;
2. REQUESTS the Director General to assist SSC and CEM in fundraising for the work of the TFSP so that it can complete its work during the 2013–2016 quadrennium;
3. REQUESTS the Director General, based on the outcomes of the scientific assessment by the TFSP, and in close collaboration with the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) and the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (ELC), to provide the necessary assistance to CEM and SSC, and to other stakeholders as appropriate, regarding any legislative and regulatory consequences that might arise with regard to the implementation of the recommendations from the TFSP; and
4. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General to write to governments to seek national-level information on the levels and trends of use of systemic pesticides.

Recommendations

WCC-2012-Rec-138-EN Conservation of rhinoceros species in Africa and Asia

ACKNOWLEDGING that the world's five species of rhinoceros are charismatic emblems of conservation;

APPRECIATING that effective conservation measures and significant political will and conservation expenditure in some range States in recent years have led to population increases in three species – the Black, Southern White and Greater One-horned Rhinos (*Diceros bicornis*, *Ceratotherium simum simum*, *Rhinoceros unicornis*);

RECOGNIZING the important role that commercial wildlife enterprises, including trophy hunting, have played in generating incentives for conservation and stimulating population increases of rhinos on state, private and communal land in Africa;

ALARMED that the populations of the two rarest species, the Javan and Sumatran Rhinos, (*Rhinoceros sondaicus* and *Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*) continue to decline, and are now at perilously low levels;

DISTRESSED that two rhino subspecies, the Western Black Rhino (*Diceros bicornis longipes*) in Cameroon and the Indochinese Javan Rhino (*Rhinoceros sondaicus annamiticus*) in Viet Nam have gone extinct in the last decade;

AWARE that the Northern White Rhino (*Ceratotherium simum cottoni*) and the mainland populations of the Sumatran Rhino are now extremely close to extinction;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that pressure from illegal hunting on all species of rhinos has grown seriously in recent years, linked to a significant increase in non-traditional use of rhino horn and a significant rise in the price of rhino horn in Asian markets, especially in Viet Nam and China, as well as a reduction in the capacity and efficiency of some range State conservation authorities to protect their rhinos;

ALARMED that a continued increase in illegal hunting of rhinos and in rhino horn demand could rapidly jeopardize

the improvements that have been achieved in the status of Black, Southern White and Greater One-horned Rhinos over the last two decades, and together with inadequate biological management could easily cause the extinction of the Javan and Sumatran Rhinos in the foreseeable future;

NOTING that the measures taken by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to bring the illegal trade in rhino products under control still require commitment from key rhino range States and rhino horn consuming countries;

AWARE that for many rhino range States the cost of securing their rhino populations requires significant assistance from both internal and external sources, and that this has increased opportunity costs to general conservation; and

CONCERNED that the increased risks and costs associated with securing rhinos will possibly provide a disincentive for private owners and custodians of rhino in eastern and southern Africa from investing in rhinos and conservation, especially in the major range State South Africa and also in Zimbabwe (where recent allocations of hunting concessions linked to land reform could pose additional economic threats to private conservancies);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. COMMENDS those rhino range States in Africa and Asia that have taken strong measures to conserve their remaining rhinos and actions against the incentives to kill them illegally for their horns, and which thus consequently have increasing populations;
2. CALLS ON all range States to give priority to securing their rhino populations, bringing illegal hunting and trade under control, and ensuring that effective deterrents are in place and enforced in order to minimize the levels of illegal hunting and trade, whilst at the same time seeking to create an enabling environment to encourage the continued expansion of the rhino range and rapid growth in rhino numbers;

3. ENCOURAGES all rhino range States to manage their rhino populations to achieve rapid growth, with long-term genetic and demographic viability;
4. FURTHER ENCOURAGES range States to evaluate the pros and cons of alternative strategies to determine how best to reduce the illegal trade, black market prices and illegal demand for rhino horn and hence ultimately reduce poaching;
5. APPLAUDS the initiative of the President of Indonesia for proposing the International Year of the Rhino starting June 2012 and supports his government's emergency actions to save the Javan and Sumatran Rhinos from extinction, that include: establishing a high-level task force of national and international experts on rhino population and habitat management; identifying the most suitable areas for establishing free-ranging rhinoceros populations; allocating sufficient resources to enforce their protection, to maximize the breeding potential of the remaining animals, and to have regular, frequent and intensive monitoring of all rhino populations;
6. ENCOURAGES the government of Malaysia to take urgent actions to save the Sumatran Rhinoceros population in Sabah from extinction, including through close management of rhinos in fenced, managed conditions, and exploring all possible techniques that may boost birth rate above natural death rate, including super-ovulation, artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization and other advanced reproductive techniques;
7. COMMENDS the governments of India and Nepal for the measures they have taken to secure the status of the Greater One-horned Rhinoceros in their wild habitats, but urges them to establish new, viable, strictly-protected populations of the species in previously occupied habitats, as well as enhancing the protection of existing populations, noting that in the case of India this will require concerted action from the Union Government as well as from the State governments of Assam, West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh;
8. URGES all Asian rhino range countries to adopt robust scientific techniques to estimate their rhino populations, and to repeat these censuses at least once every two years, ensuring independent peer review of the methods and results;
9. CALLS ON African range States to:
 - a. increase collaborative law enforcement actions between range States, transit and consuming countries;
 - b. improve detection of rhino horn at ports of entry/exit with, *inter alia* the aid of sniffer dogs, specialized equipment and resourced staff;
 - c. increase the allocation of national resources towards improving rhino security and conservation authorities' skills base;
 - d. increase the focus on intelligence gathering and analysis to stop poachers before killing rhinos;
 - e. increase the rate of successful prosecutions with deterrent sentences for illegal rhino-related activities;
 - f. maintain enabling land-use and investment policies together with support for appropriate and well-managed, sustainable, income-generating options that encourage investment in rhinos, sustainable populations and which help fund effective conservation by the private wildlife industry and communities;
 - g. enhance socio-economic stability through increased local community involvement;
 - h. encourage private rhino owners to willingly cooperate with the authorities in the provision of rhino information;
 - i. encourage all range States, transit and consuming countries to improve and regularly supply rhino-related information to the African Rhino Specialist Group (AfRSG) of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and to TRAFFIC to facilitate data management, information sharing and their mandated reporting to CITES' Conference of the Parties;
 - j. further expand the use of DNA profiling of rhino horns (using the RhoDIS database in Africa) as an innovative means of combating the illegal killing of rhinos and the trafficking of horn;

- k. encourage the involvement of civil society in facilitating awareness and generating resources in line with priority needs, as well as assisting with population monitoring, and with implementing rhino conservation; and
 - l. improve rhino population monitoring to inform management for population growth;
10. RECOGNIZES that the successful conservation of rhinos across the entire range will be best achieved via a diversity of management and economic mechanisms;
11. REQUESTS the Director General and SSC (especially its African and Asian Rhino Specialist Groups) to provide ongoing support and guidance to all rhino range States, and in particular to assist in raising the profile of rhinoceros conservation during the International Year of the Rhino;
12. CALLS ON donors to make the necessary financial resources available to enable the range States to secure their remaining rhinoceros populations; and
13. CALLS UPON those States implicated in the increase in demand for rhino horn and the surge in the black market prices for horn to fully cooperate at all levels with the rhino range States in positively addressing the rhino crisis and seeking lasting solutions.

WCC-2012-Rec-139-EN Bear farming in Asia, with particular reference to the conservation of wild populations

NOTING that the Asiatic Black Bear (*Ursus thibetanus*) is listed as Vulnerable on the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, as a result of habitat loss and over-exploitation principally for the bile;

ALSO NOTING that the Sun Bear (*Helarctos malayanus*) is listed as Vulnerable to extinction in mainland South-east Asia for the same reasons;

RECOGNIZING that, since the 1980s, large numbers of both species, especially Asiatic Black Bears, have been kept in captivity for the collection and commercial sale of their bile (henceforth called farming), and this has significantly increased the availability of bile intended to meet the needs of patients;

OBSERVING that evidence of a cause-and-effect relationship (positive, negative or none) between increased supply and use of farmed bear bile and the exploitation of wild bear populations is lacking;

CONCERNED that, in some cases, bear farming is poorly managed and regulated, often involving inappropriate husbandry, which impacts adversely on their health, ability to breed and causes increased mortality, thus prompting some farms to restock bears obtained illegally from the wild, which has adversely affected some wild populations;

NOTING that the increased production of bile from farms has led in some cases to it being used to maintain general health (not just to cure specific ailments) and also for other conditions not prescribed in traditional medicine (despite these uses having been prohibited since 1998 and 2005 by different agencies in the People's Republic of China);

FURTHER NOTING that the practice of bear farming for the collection of bile is legally conducted in some countries in Asia, and remains illegally practiced in others;

MINDFUL that the Asiatic Black Bear and Sun Bear are both listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), yet bile products from wild and farmed bears are illegally moved across national borders, in violation of this Convention;

ACKNOWLEDGING that some countries are moving towards the elimination of bear bile farming: the Republic of Korea banned live bile extraction and is currently considering how it may end bear farming, and the government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam banned bile extraction and bear bile sales and is currently working towards ending the practice of keeping bears in captivity for commercial exploitation because of animal welfare and conservation concerns; and

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING that significant advances have been made in the captive breeding of bears in farms in some areas in the People's Republic of China;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

- 1. ENCOURAGES the Republic of Korea and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to continue their efforts towards ending bear farming;

2. URGES range State governments, working where appropriate with IUCN, to:
 - a. close down illegal farms as soon as possible;
 - b. issue no further licenses or permits for farms, and establish no new farms or new subsidiary operations of existing farms;
 - c. take all necessary steps to prevent the increase in numbers of bears in existing farms as soon as possible;
 - d. take increased measures to ensure that no more bears from the wild enter farms;
 - e. ensure that products from existing, legal farms can only be used for legally approved medicines;
 - f. conduct research to identify substitutes for bear bile, and to promote the use of these substitutes;
 - g. establish a scientifically sound monitoring system to track trends in wild bear populations and the factors that drive these changes; and
 - h. undertake a scientifically independent, peer-reviewed situation analysis of progress on the points listed above, and report back to the next session of the World Conservation Congress; and
3. RECOMMENDS that Parties to CITES fully implement legislation to prevent illegal international trade in Asiatic Black Bears and Sun Bears and their parts and derivatives, and promote greater public awareness of these issues.

WCC-2012-Rec-140-EN Reversing the crisis of the decline in turtle survival

REALIZING that turtles have existed for over 200 million years, since the age of dinosaurs;

NOTING that turtles (comprising tortoises, freshwater turtles and marine turtles) are long-term indicators of the quality of the environments they inhabit and that in many parts of the world they have considerable ecosystem functionality as well as major economic and cultural importance for many people;

FURTHER NOTING that the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) has been concerned with the rapid declines of turtle populations worldwide for many decades;

ACKNOWLEDGING the ongoing efforts of assessing threat levels for turtles for the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* by scientists from the IUCN SSC Tortoise and Freshwater Turtle Specialist Group (TFTSG), the IUCN SSC Marine Turtle Specialist Group (MTSG), Conservation International, Wildlife Conservation Society, and several other turtle conservation organizations, with input from turtle specialists from more than 50 countries;

AWARE of the alarming ongoing findings of this work, in which, of the 228 known turtle species assessed on the *IUCN Red List* to date (out of 330 species overall), 134 species (59%) are classified as globally threatened (i.e. in the IUCN threat categories of Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable), with 76 (33%) of these being Critically Endangered or Endangered;

NOTING that draft *IUCN Red List* assessments are in progress by the TFTSG for the remaining 102 turtle species, indicating that another 15 species are likely to qualify on the *Red List* as threatened, amounting to a total of 149 out of 330 species worldwide, or 45% of all species; and several more species are assessed as Data Deficient, and if these are threatened at the same rate as other turtles, then 52% of all turtles are globally threatened with possible extinction;

NOTING that the proportion of threatened turtles is thus among the highest proportions of threatened species of all vertebrate groups assessed;

ALARMED that for nearly 70% of turtle species assessed as threatened, exploitation and trade in massive volumes that measured in thousands of tons annually of live or processed turtles for food consumption, medicinal products, and, to a lesser extent, for pets, are the leading or major contributing threats (27 of 32 = 84% of Critically Endangered species; 28 of 44 = 64% of Endangered species; and 37 of 58 = 64% of Vulnerable species), with much of this threat generated by a growing globalization and commercialization of what originated in the 1990s as the Asian Turtle Trade;

AWARE that of the 10 species and subspecies of tortoises and freshwater turtles that have gone extinct in historical times (2% of all 455 turtle and tortoise species and

subspecies), seven were extirpated by targeted exploitation for human consumption, and two due to loss of freshwater habitats;

CELEBRATING that the 2010 goal posited by the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) – to achieve a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biological diversity – was reached with respect to turtles; but

CONCERNED that meeting Aichi Target 12 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* – halting extinctions by 2020 – is by no means certain for turtles, considering that the Pinta Island Giant Galapagos Tortoise (*Chelonoidis abingdonii*) was until June 2012 represented by a single known surviving individual, and the Red River Giant Soft-shell Turtle (*Rafetus swinboei*) by only four non-reproducing individuals fragmented between three locations in two countries, and that several species on the Top 25 list of *Turtles in Trouble: The World's 25+ Most Endangered Tortoises and Freshwater Turtles*, as documented in 2011 by the Turtle Conservation Coalition, are represented by global populations of less than a few hundred individuals;

RECOGNIZING the efforts of IUCN to work in partnership with various international bodies to protect habitats and species, and that such partnerships exist with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the Ramsar Convention, the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA), and many governmental, non-governmental and donor organizations;

APPLAUDING the extensive activities focused on conservation of turtles undertaken by government departments, universities, international, national and local conservation organizations, zoos, aquaria, IUCN Specialist Groups, and other institutions, to safeguard the continuing survival of turtles in their native ranges and natural habitats at ecologically relevant, and if necessary restored, population sizes, to reduce habitat loss and support habitat recovery, to reduce the incidence of unsustainable exploitation and trade, to assist in finding suitable destinations for confiscated animals, to establish captive breeding assurance colonies as a last line of defence against extinction, and to study and publicize the conservation biology and survival status of turtles; and

HIGHLIGHTING the recovery of the Aldabra Giant Tortoise (*Aldabrachelys gigantea* or *Dipsochelys dussumieri*) and

several forms of Galapagos Tortoises (*Chelonoidis nigra* group), the increasing population of Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*), and the rediscovery of the Yunnan Box Turtle (*Cuora yunnanensis*), as examples of historic and ongoing actions that have turned the tide for turtle species that appeared to be headed for inevitable extinction;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012;

1. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - a. use the existing partnerships with international bodies to help strengthen tortoise, freshwater turtle, and marine turtle conservation efforts, encompassing assessment, research, and both *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation measures;
 - b. ensure that the Programme Area *Valuing and conserving nature* of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* includes actions with regard to turtles, within existing policies and governance systems with a goal of strengthening:
 - i. research and status assessments;
 - ii. protected area management systems and ecological corridors, taking into account the particular needs and threats to turtles in freshwater (notably riverine), terrestrial and marine habitats; and
 - iii. dedicated support for the Global Reptile Assessment efforts with special attention and resources for turtles; and
 - c. support and cooperate with the continuing efforts of the SSC TFTSG and MTSG to:
 - i. address this unparalleled threat of the turtle survival crisis; and
 - ii. support the updating of Turtle Conservation Action Plans by TFGSG and MTSG, and support collaborative efforts to implement such Action Plans; and
 - d. ensure that tortoises, freshwater turtles and marine turtles are eligible for support from the SOS – Save Our Species initiative and other such endeavours;

2. CALLS ON government agencies and the NGO conservation community to focus on maintaining and expanding as necessary their systems of protected areas, with particular emphasis on Key Biodiversity Areas and Zero Extinction sites, to ensure that representative populations of all native turtle species are adequately protected from targeted exploitation, habitat loss and degradation, and the impacts of invasive species;
3. RECOMMENDS that all Parties to the CITES Convention:
 - a. evaluate that turtle species subject to international trade are appropriately included in the CITES Appendices;
 - b. ensure that international trade adheres to CITES regulations, including detailed Non-Detriment Findings being made, and including complete reporting of trade in parts (e.g. shell) and derivative products (e.g. jelly) of turtles;
 - c. ensure that domestic laws and regulations adequately address both the requirements of CITES and safeguard native turtle populations from over-exploitation, that all pertinent laws and regulations are diligently enforced, and that appropriate awareness and capacity are developed within the government agencies concerned with turtle offtake and trade; and
 - d. collaborate with competent NGOs to effectively and humanely triage confiscated live turtle specimens, including:
 - i. dedicating appropriate resources for rescue facilities and veterinary and other skills to maintain animals after confiscation; and
 - ii. implementing guidelines and protocols to humanely place such animals, either through monitored repatriation, reintroduction, or accession into long-term captive conservation breeding facilities;
4. CALLS ON the World Customs Organization and its constituent country members to develop Harmonized Customs Codes for turtles and turtle parts and derivatives; and
5. URGES the TRAFFIC Network to continue treating the monitoring of both legal and illegal trade in

turtles and turtle derivative parts as one of its highest priorities; and urges IUCN Members to assist and enable TRAFFIC in this priority focus by providing information, funding and other support.

WCC-2012-Rec-141-EN Conservation of *Gyps* vulture species in South Asia

RECOGNIZING that vultures are specialized scavengers that play a crucial role in ridding the environment of dead animals that would otherwise rot and cause disease, support higher numbers of feral dogs, causing increased health risks (including rabies), and disposal problems and other costs to both humans and the environment;

RECOGNIZING that the Long-billed (*Gyps indicus*), Slender-billed (*G. tenuirostris*) and White-rumped (*G. bengalensis*) Vultures, endemic to Asia, have declined by more than 99% during the last 20 years in South Asia (more than 99.9% in the case of *G. bengalensis*) and that populations are now at very low levels in South and Southeast Asia;

NOTING that BirdLife International and IUCN list these species as Critically Endangered, the highest threat category, mainly based on the continuing precipitous population declines in all populations;

FURTHER NOTING that historically these *Gyps* species of vultures were common to very common in their range countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Thailand and Vietnam);

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;

FURTHER RECALLING that sufficient habitat is present in most of the range countries for the vulture populations to re-colonize and allow them to recover;

NOTING that these massive declines of vultures are unequivocally caused primarily by a single human activity and could be reversed;

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 and across South Asia;

NOTING that studies, published in the journal *Nature*, prove that the massive declines in the population of vultures in South Asia is mainly due to their exposure to the non-steroid anti-inflammatory drug diclofenac in livestock carcasses (*Nature* 427, 630–633);

ACKNOWLEDGING that the range countries have taken measures to protect vultures by banning the use and sale of veterinary formulations of diclofenac, and also including these species in protected species lists;

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING that diclofenac prevalence in cattle carcasses has been substantially reduced, but remains at very dangerous levels indicating that human formulations are being widely used for veterinary purposes and that other painkiller drugs known to be both dangerous or untested for safety with respect to vultures are now increasing in veterinary practice;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING the Saving Asia's Vultures from Extinction 'SAVE' consortium partners, Bombay Natural History Society, State Government Forest Departments of Haryana, West Bengal, Assam, and Central Zoo Authority supported vulture breeding facilities, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Wildlife Institute of India (India), Punjab Wildlife and Parks Department and Sindh Wildlife Department, WWF Pakistan (Pakistan), Bird Conservation Nepal, National Trust for Nature Conservation and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) (Nepal), have been making substantial progress with identifying and addressing the main conservation priorities;

CONGRATULATING the Governments of India, Nepal, Pakistan and Bangladesh, the Darwin Initiative (UK Government), Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, WWF Pakistan, Central Zoo Authority, The Peregrine Fund, BirdLife International, Zoological Society of London, National Birds of Prey Trust (UK), the Hawk Conservancy Trust (UK), IUCN, the Rufford Foundation, Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund, Oriental Bird Club and Save our Species (SOS), and others, for continuing to support and fund vulture recovery initiatives in India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh and other countries; and

FURTHER CONGRATULATING the Governments of India, Nepal, Pakistan and Bangladesh on adoption of the Regional Vulture Declaration signed in Delhi, 4 May 2012, along with the formation of the Regional Steering Committee;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON *Gyps* Vulture range States to begin action immediately to strengthen measures to reduce diclofenac availability, most immediately by prevention of injectable human diclofenac being packaged and sold in multidose vials larger than 3 ml;
2. ALSO CALLS ON *Gyps* Vulture range States to support a safety-testing protocol for all veterinary painkillers, and for this to be a requirement before licenses are granted to manufacture, retail or use these drugs within the region for veterinary purposes;
3. CALLS FOR the creation of multiple 'Vulture Safe Zones' (areas of 100 km radius, by working intensively through dedicated awareness work to achieve and demonstrate that cattle carcasses are free from diclofenac and other drugs toxic to vultures) in all South Asian countries as part of the wider advocacy effort and specifically to provide safe areas in which to release the captive birds;
4. REQUESTS *Gyps* Vulture range States to develop and update national vulture recovery plans, and ensure their implementation, including conservation breeding and release; and
5. URGES the *Gyps* Vulture range States, along with national and international NGOs, especially SAVE Partners and governments, to give special support, technical and financial, to enable the implementation and updating of the South Asian Vulture Recovery Plan.

WCC-2012-Rec-142-EN

Actions to avert the extinctions of rare dolphins: Maui's dolphins, Hector's dolphins, Vaquita porpoises and South Asian river and freshwater dependent dolphins and porpoises

RECALLING that IUCN has had a longstanding concern about human impacts on small cetaceans, and in particular endangered dolphins and porpoises;

RECALLING that Articles 61(4) and 119(1)(b) of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

(UNCLOS), which are also reflected in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) *Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries*, require States to manage fisheries in such a way as to, *inter alia*, take into consideration the effects on species associated with or dependent upon harvested species and to ensure that they are not threatened by those fisheries;

RECOGNIZING Article 8(f) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which impels Parties to: “promote the recovery of threatened species, *inter alia*, through the development and implementation of plans or other management strategies”;

NOTING also that IUCN Resolution 18.28 *Convention on the Conservation of Biological Diversity* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990) and preceding the adoption of the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1992, urged “negotiating parties to ensure that primary efforts in developing the Convention are directed towards fully comprehensive conservation of biological diversity and that the primary focus is on wild genetic resources and the conservation of biological diversity *in situ*”;

AFFIRMING 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 IUCN 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 IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996); and other resolutions;

AWARE that the Yangtze River Dolphin (*Lipotes vexillifer*) is thought to be extinct although still formally classified by IUCN as Critically Endangered;

RECALLING Resolution 19.61 *By-Catch of Non-Target Species* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994), which expressed concern that the by-catch rate at that time posed a serious threat to the Vaquita (*Phocoena sinus*) in the Gulf of California, Mexico, and urged States and organizations to adopt reasonable measures to minimize the by-catch of non-target species, including limiting the fishing of target species if necessary;

NOTING that the 2nd World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) in Recommendation 2.71 *Cooperative regional action plan for the conservation of river dolphins* (*Platanista spp. and Lipotes spp.*) in the South Asian region called

on governments and other parties to take urgent action to protect the four freshwater dolphin species, out of which the Ganges River Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*), Indus River Dolphin (*Platanista minor*) and the Yangtze River Dolphin are found exclusively in the Asian region;

RECALLING that Resolution 2.71 noted that the distributions of the Ganges and Indus River Dolphins stretch across political boundaries in various river systems, and that it recognized that as a consequence of its distribution, the Ganges River Dolphin is part of the natural heritage and resources shared by four nations, i.e. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal;

RECALLING FURTHER that there are other threatened populations of river dolphins and porpoises in the South East Asian region, like the sub-populations of Irrawaddy Dolphins (*Orcaella brevirostris*) in the Mahakam river of Borneo, Indonesia, in the Ayeyarwady river of Myanmar and in the Mekong River of Cambodia and Lao PDR; and the Yangtze subspecies of Narrow-ridged Finless Porpoise (*Neophocaena asiaorientalis*) in the Yangtze river and associated lake systems, China; as well as threatened populations of freshwater-dependent dolphins, like the subpopulation of Indo-Pacific Hump-backed Dolphins (*Sousa chinensis*) in the eastern Taiwan Strait;

NOTING that the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* has classified the Vaquita, or Gulf of California Harbour Porpoise, a species endemic to the Upper Gulf of California, Mexico, as Vulnerable in 1978, Endangered in 1990 and Critically Endangered since 1996;

CONSCIOUS that Resolution 4.025 *Avoiding extinction of the Vaquita porpoise* *Phocoena sinus* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) called for the avoidance of the extinction of the Vaquita porpoise and laid down a range of measures to achieve this and that the Mexican government and others have responded to these calls but that the situation remains extremely precarious;

NOTING that the report of the fourth Meeting of the International Committee for the Recovery of Vaquita (CIRVA) held in Ensenada, Mexico from 20–23 February 2012, notes that the Vaquita has continued to decline, with an estimated reduction of nearly 60% between 1997 and 2008 and that possibly as few as 220 porpoises remained in 2008, and recommends the removal of all gill-nets and other entangling gear from the entire range of Vaquita;

RECOGNIZING the concern for the status of the Vaquita expressed by the International Whaling Commission (IWC) Scientific Committee (IWC 2012), which reaffirmed that the only reliable approach for saving the species is to remove entangling gear from areas where the animals occur, and recommended such removal from the upper Gulf of California immediately;

AWARE that the *IUCN Red List* has also classified the Maui's Dolphin subspecies (*Cephalorhynchus hectori maui*), which is resident along the west coast of the North Island of New Zealand, as Critically Endangered;

NOTING that scientists have in 2012 estimated that the Maui's Dolphin population has only 55 individuals (excluding calves), has very low fecundity and is also susceptible to gill netting, boat strike and other human impacts;

ALSO NOTING that the *IUCN Red List* has classified the New Zealand Hector's Dolphin (*Cephalorhynchus hectori*) as Endangered;

AWARE of the advice given by the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the SSC Cetacean Specialist Group to the New Zealand Government on the need to expand the areas of protection from gill netting and trawling to cover the entire range of the Maui's and Hector's Dolphins;

RECOGNIZING the recent recommendations of the IWC Scientific Committee (Panama, 2012) requesting the ban of gill nets and trawl fisheries from the entire Maui's Dolphin range, as well as adequate observer coverage;

AWARE of the advice of the SSC Cetacean Specialist Group over the decades, and in particular that Group's advice in relation to the 2002–2010 Conservation Action Plan for the world's cetaceans;

COMMENDING the Mexican, New Zealand and South Asian governments and others for the measures already taken; and

ALSO AWARE that with greater protection the Maui's Dolphin, the Vaquita and some of the river dolphins may yet be pulled back from the brink of extinction;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES the New Zealand Government to:
 - a. urgently extend dolphin protection measures, with an emphasis on banning gill net and trawl net use from the shoreline to the 100 metre depth contour in all areas where Hector's and Maui's Dolphins are found, including harbours;
 - b. to increase immediately the level of monitoring and enforcement with an emphasis on requiring 100 per cent observer coverage of any gill net or trawling vessels allowed to operate in any part of the range of Hector's and Maui's Dolphins until such bans can be implemented; and
 - c. to report such action and monitoring and enforcement results;
2. URGES the Mexican government, its agencies and fishers, IUCN Members, the Secretariat, IUCN Commissions and the various agencies and partners to vigorously and resolutely pursue the measures outlined in Resolution 4.025 and further measures to better protect the Vaquita;
3. URGES the Mexican Government to:
 - a. eliminate Vaquita by-catch by removing entangling gear from the entire range of Vaquita;
 - b. expedite approval and adoption of the small shrimp trawls as an alternative to gill nets and prohibitions on shrimp fishing with gill nets throughout the entire range of the Vaquita; and
 - c. continue research on technologies to replace gill netting for finfish in order to facilitate and hasten the implementation of item a, above;
4. CALLS ON all range States of the river dolphins and porpoises (*Platanista* spp., *Orcaella brevirostris* and *Neophocaena asiaeorientalis*) and the freshwater-dependent dolphins (*Sousa chinensis*) in the South Asian region to redouble their efforts and cooperation with each other and with IUCN, its Members, SSC and others to protect these species and populations from fishing pressure, pollution and other impacts, along the lines of Resolution 2.71 and the advice of experts since; and
5. ASKS the IUCN SSC and Cetacean Specialist Group to assist in monitoring and reporting the existence

and numbers of all of these threatened dolphin species.

The State Member New Zealand provided the following statement for the record:

“New Zealand is committed to the protection of Maui’s and Hector’s Dolphins, but is unable to support the proposed motion because it is not consistent with New Zealand government policy on mitigating fishing related risks to them.

New Zealand has extensive measures in place to protect Maui’s Dolphins on the West Coast of the North Island throughout their core range—including a ban on the use of commercial set nets out to 7 nautical miles from Pariokariwa Point to North of the Kaipara Harbour. There is no evidence that the 100m depth contour in the proposed motion reflects the limit of Maui’s Dolphin or Hector’s Dolphins entire range. For this reason, New Zealand does not consider it an appropriate basis on which to base its management actions and New Zealand is therefore unable to support the motion.”

WCC-2012-Rec-143-EN Moratorium on the fishing of the Chilean jack mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*) in the international waters of the South Pacific

CONCERNED about the biological consequences of the sustained deterioration of the Chilean Jack Mackerel (*Trachurus murphyi*) population in the South Pacific, which in 2011 reached the lowest level ever recorded, the spawning biomass having declined to 5% of the unfished level;

CONSIDERING the great socioeconomic impact of this fishery, which is located in waters stretching from Ecuador to southern Chile, and across international waters next to the Exclusive Economic Zones of these neighbouring countries, in which both national and international fleets fish;

STRESSING the importance of this fishery for job security of the fishing communities in coastal countries and its importance for global food safety;

EMPHASIZING that in 2006, thanks to the joint initiative by Australia, Chile and New Zealand, the implementation process of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO) started, with the

main purpose of guaranteeing the sustainability of fisheries, particularly that of the Chilean Jack Mackerel;

WARNING with great concern that, according to the last report by the Scientific Working Group of the SPRFMO published in September 2011, it is estimated that the Chilean Jack Mackerel spawning biomass dropped to below 20% of the unfished level in 1996 and that in 2011, the spawning biomass had declined to 5% of the unfished level;

INDICATING that there are scientific records that express concern over the fact that in some fishing zones Chilean Jack Mackerel smaller than the legally established minimum size are being caught in some of the member countries (26 cm FL in Chile, and 31 cm TL in Peru), which can decrease the potential for the recovery of the optimal spawning biomass level in the near future in order to ensure the sustainability of the population;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the decision made by the countries taking part in the III Preparatory Conference for the establishment of the SPRFMO, which engaged voluntarily to reduce Chilean Jack Mackerel catch quotas on the high seas to 320,000 tonnes in 2012;

RECALLING Article 7.6.10 of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, which indicates that: “States and subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, in the framework of their respective competences, should introduce measures for depleted resources and those resources threatened with depletion that facilitate the sustained recovery of such stocks...”; and

ALSO RECALLING Aichi Target 6 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, which establishes: “...all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches...”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES the global community to support initiatives that attempt to avoid overfishing, unreported and illegal fishing, and the degradation of fish stocks in general, in particular those of the Chilean Jack Mackerel;

2. URGES IUCN Members to include in their public agendas support for national, regional and global initiatives aimed at allowing Chilean Jack Mackerel stocks to recover and return to healthy levels, in order to ensure their sustainability; in particular those initiatives aimed at avoiding the capture of immature fish, at establishing bans during the spawning season and at establishing in coastal countries conservation measures in line with those established by the SPRFMO; and
3. URGES participants in the first meeting of the Commission of the SPRFMO, to be held in January and February 2013, to consider supporting a moratorium for Chilean Jack Mackerel fisheries in international waters for a period of at least three years, should the next technical report by the Scientific Working Group, to be prepared in October 2012, show that the temporary measures applied in 2011 and 2012 have not managed to stop the decline and start the recovery of the Chilean Jack Mackerel spawning biomass in the South Pacific.

State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

The State Member United States of America provided the following statement for the record:

“The United States supports the substantive goals of this Motion and shares the concern of the sponsors about the status of the stock. We support initiatives that attempt to avoid overfishing, illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing and the degradation of fish stocks in general, in particular those of the Chilean jack mackerel. However we must oppose this Motion due to the call for a moratorium for Chilean jack mackerel fisheries in international waters for a period of at least three years. It is unclear if this management measure will achieve the desired outcome. In fact, it will likely result in an increase of effort in coastal regions. This issue is already under active consideration in SPRFMO Scientific Working Group, and this Motion pre-judges the work of that group.”

WCC-2012-Rec-144-EN Conservation and management of threatened sharks

ACKNOWLEDGING the increasing concern by the international community that many shark species are threatened and are continuing to decline because of unregulated fishing and bycatch;

EXPRESSING CONCERN that 30 per cent of assessed shark and ray species around the world are classified as threatened or Near Threatened with extinction by the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* and ALARMED that approximately two-thirds of the shark species commonly caught in high seas fisheries are classified as Vulnerable;

ACKNOWLEDGING the Red List Assessment of sharks from the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Shark Specialist Group conducted since the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress;

AWARE that the loss of sharks can cause dramatic shifts in the marine environment, including a cascade of indirect effects resulting from changes in the abundance of other organisms;

RECALLING that Recommendation 4.113 *Conserving migratory and oceanic sharks* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) urged all shark range States, fishing States, and other entities: to develop shark plans in accordance with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Technical Guidelines for the Implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA-Sharks)¹; to review these plans regularly; and to evaluate the effectiveness of their shark plans and regulations, particularly by improving catch, discard and landings data collection, strictly regulating the catch of sharks, and protecting threatened species; but NOTING with concern that nine of the Top 26 “shark catchers”² are currently without an adopted National Plan of Action (NPOA) for sharks;

WELCOMING FAO’s report on the extent of the implementation of the 1999 FAO IPOA-Sharks³ and the challenges being faced by members of the Committee

¹ The term ‘sharks’ is used here to include all species of sharks, skates, rays and chimaeras.

² The term “shark catchers” refers to countries, territories, and other political entities that catch more than 1% of the global shark catch according to the FAO.

³ To be presented at the 30th meeting of the Committee on Fisheries (COFI) from 5–9 July 2012.

on Fisheries (COFI) in implementing the instrument, as requested by COFI members at the 29th Session in February 2011;

RECALLING that Recommendation 4.111 *Conservation of Leatherback Turtles Dermochelys coriacea and hammerhead sharks Sphyrna spp. in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) called on relevant coastal States and fishing entities to adopt and immediately implement policies to provide broad protection to threatened species and to gather information on the bycatch of sharks and facilitate public access to such information;

FURTHER RECALLING that paragraph 14 from the United Nations General Assembly Sustainable Fisheries Resolution⁴ 2011 (Resolution A/66/L.22) calls upon States, including through Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO) or arrangements, to urgently adopt measures to fully implement the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks for directed and non-directed shark fisheries, based on the best available scientific information, through, *inter alia*, limits on catch or fishing effort, by requiring that vessels flying their flag collect and regularly report data on shark catches, including species-specific data, discards and landings, undertaking, including through international cooperation, comprehensive stock assessments of sharks, reducing shark by-catch and by-catch mortality;

COMMENDING efforts by several RFMOs to prohibit retaining onboard, transshipping, landing, storing, selling or offering for sale certain shark species taken in their respective convention areas;

APPLAUDING the proclamations by the Republic of Palau, the Republic of Maldives, the Republic of Honduras, the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Tokelau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands to establish their waters as ‘shark sanctuaries’ through protections including the prohibition of commercial fishing of sharks throughout their exclusive economic zones; and

NOTING that there are many sources of data and advice, including the scientific summaries presented in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, that can be used by

national and regional management bodies when determining how to manage shark stocks;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES all shark range States, fishing States, other entities and relevant RFMOs to:
 - a. prohibit retaining onboard, transshipping, landing, storing, selling or offering for sale, any part or whole carcass of sharks assessed as Critically Endangered or Endangered in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* if consistent with domestic legislation; and
 - b. adopt precautionary science-based management measures for sharks, which take into consideration all available sources of scientific data, advice and assessments including the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, with strong monitoring and enforcement controls to prevent illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and ensure that overfishing of sharks does not occur and that overfished shark populations are rebuilt;
2. ENCOURAGES relevant coastal States to take science-based measures to conserve and sustainably manage sharks, which could include limits on catch or fishing effort, technical measures, including by-catch reduction measures, closed areas or sanctuaries, closed seasons, and monitoring, control and surveillance;
3. CALLS on all shark range States, fishing States, and other entities to take appropriate action to improve the implementation of the UN FAO IPOA-Sharks, taking into account recent reviews by FAO, and, if they are not already doing so, to develop, implement and regularly review their NPOA-Sharks, and do so as a matter of priority if their vessels conduct directed fisheries for sharks or if their vessels routinely catch sharks in non-directed fisheries or as by-catch;
4. RECOMMENDS that Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) consider inclusion of shark

⁴ Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments.

species on CITES Appendices, taking into account the status of the species in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, and other relevant information, if subject to international trade; and

5. CALLS on the Director General to promote and strive to achieve the actions described in paragraphs 1–4, above.

The State Member Iceland provided the following statement for the record in relation to alternative formulations (referred to as ‘Option 1’ and ‘Option 2’) of operative paragraph 1 (the Members’ Assembly voted to approve Option 1 for inclusion in the adopted text of the Motion) during the 11th Sitting of the Members’ Assembly:

“Many States have legislation and banned fishing operations to discharge or throw away their catch or by by-catch species like, for example, sharks. Iceland is one of these countries. The second option recognises the difference in legislation between countries in this regard and acknowledges countries that have management measures in place while also including the option to ban retaining on board shark species when management plans are not in place. Option one does not recognise the possibility of management plans without the ban to retain sharks on board and encourages discharge of sharks. Iceland will have to vote against Option 1 and prefers Option 2 and if Option 1 is preferred by the Assembly we request that the statement be included in the report from the meeting.”

Expressing its support for an alternative formulation (referred to as ‘Option 2’) of operative paragraph 1, which was not approved during voting on this Motion, State Member Japan provided the following statement for the record during the 11th Sitting of the Members’ Assembly:

“Japan has been supporting prohibition of retaining several shark species onboard at Regional Fisheries Management Organizations or RFMOs and even submitted a similar proposal to RFMOs for oceanic whitetip shark. However, Japan cannot support any text which prejudices the position of State Members at RFMOs. Whether prohibition of retention on board is the best option for a certain species should be decided by each RFMO, taking into account various factors, which differ among RFMOs. We are concerned that giving too much emphasis on a specific measure will not necessarily contribute to conservation of sharks. Therefore, we support Option 2.”

WCC-2012-Rec-145-EN **Ensuring the conservation and management of mako sharks**

ACKNOWLEDGING Recommendation 4.113 *Conserving migratory and oceanic sharks* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) which encourages, *inter alia*, prompt, coordinated national and regional shark fisheries management and, in particular, science-based and/or precautionary limits on catches of trans-zone, straddling, migratory and oceanic sharks, based on the high percentage of oceanic pelagic sharks listed as Vulnerable on the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*;

ACKNOWLEDGING the obligations of the global community, including range States and shark-fishing States, to conserve, protect and manage migratory sharks as underpinned by, *inter alia*, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), the United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (Fish Stocks Agreement), the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) *International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks* (IPOA-Sharks), and the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI);

NOTING the important ecosystem role played by many shark species, and the significant and continuing mortality of sharks through target fisheries, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and in fisheries by-catch;

RECALLING that UNCLOS, the IPOA-Sharks and CMS have all identified the urgent need for collaborative fisheries and conservation management by range States and fishing States of threatened and commercially exploited migratory sharks;

FURTHER RECALLING that the IPOA-Sharks urges States to develop sub-regional or regional shark plans with a view to ensuring the sustainability of shark stocks, and directs States exploiting trans-zone, straddling, highly migratory and high-seas stocks of sharks to strive to ensure effective conservation and management of these stocks;

CONCERNED that conservation measures adopted by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) since the last IUCN World Conservation Congress have been limited to thresher (*Alopias* spp.), Oceanic Whitetip (*Carcharhinus longimanus*), hammerhead (*Sphyrna* spp.), and Silky Sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*), and have yet to control the catch of the most commercially valuable of all oceanic shark species: the Shortfin Mako Shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*);

STRESSING that Shortfin and Longfin Mako (*Isurus paucus*) are classified as globally Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List; that scientists with the International Commission for Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) concluded in 2004 that measures to reduce fishing mortality were necessary to improve the status of the North Atlantic Shortfin Mako Shark population, and will update this assessment in 2012; that an ICCAT Ecological Risk Assessment found both mako species to be among the shark species most vulnerable to overfishing by Atlantic pelagic fisheries; and that the Scientific Committee of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) reported that available evidence indicates considerable risk to Shortfin Mako stock status at current levels of fishing effort;

RECALLING that Shortfin and Longfin Makos were listed on Appendix II of CMS in 2008; and

RECOGNIZING the responsibility of States for the conservation and management of sharks in their waters and in the international waters in which their fleets operate, through national legislation, membership of FAO, and through participation in RFMOs and CMS;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS all States that are Members or Cooperating Entities of RFMOs to ensure prompt RFMO and domestic management of fisheries taking migratory sharks, as urged by IUCN in 2008, and, in particular, to adopt an effective suite of science-based conservation measures in order to ensure sustainability, including quantifiable limits on the exploitation of mako sharks;
2. ENCOURAGES all fishing nations and entities, particularly Parties to CMS, to support implementation of the CMS Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks, including development of regional conservation plans as appropriate for listed species; and

3. ENCOURAGES fishing nations and entities to continue to strive for close coordination between their fisheries and wildlife management authorities on these matters.

Expressing its support for an alternative formulation (referred to as ‘Option 2’) of operative paragraph 1, which was not approved during voting on this Motion, State Member Japan provided the following statement for the record during the 11th Sitting of the Members’ Assembly:

“Japan has been supporting conservation measures for sharks in Regional Fisheries Management Organizations or RFMOs. However, Japan is concerned about this motion because it prejudices the position of State Members at RFMOs. It puts too much emphasis on quantifiable limit on the exploitation of mako sharks as conservation measure. Each RFMO should decide appropriate conservation measures for mako sharks, taking into account various factors, which differ among RFMOs. For example, the stock status of mako sharks, the types of fishing gear catching mako sharks, enforcement capacity of the members are all different among RFMOs. We are concerned that giving too much emphasis on a specific measure will not necessarily contribute to conservation of mako sharks. Therefore, we support Option 2.”

WCC-2012-Rec-146-EN

The conservation of hammerhead sharks in the Mesoamerican Region and the marine corridor in the Eastern Tropical Pacific

RECOGNIZING the obligations of the global community to conserve, protect and manage migratory sharks, according to the commitments in various international conventions, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Seas (UNCLOS), the United Nations Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (Fish Stocks Agreement), International Plan of Action for Conservation and Management of Sharks (IPOA-Sharks) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI);

CONSIDERING that CITES came into effect in 1975, in response to the increasing threat posed by international trade to many vulnerable or threatened species, it is crucial that collaboration and cooperation exist among States to ensure that this commerce is sustainable and controlled, so as not to further threaten or endanger wildlife;

REITERATING that CITES regulates the international trade of wildlife species, as well as their products and subproducts, through three appendices:

- Appendix I. Threatened species for which international trade is forbidden
- Appendix II. Species that could become endangered, and for which trade is allowed under strict regulations, requiring evidence of sustainability and legality
- Appendix III. Species included upon request of a specific nation, that requires the cooperation of other countries to prevent illegal exploitation;

RECALLING that the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) adopted Recommendation 4.111 *Conservation of Leatherback Sea Turtles Dermochelys coriacea and hammerhead sharks Sphyrna spp. in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor*, in which stronger protection is requested for the Leatherback Turtle and hammerhead sharks, through the control and management of fishing effort, including the establishment of spatial and temporary closures of fisheries that interact with such species in the aforementioned biological corridor;

ACKNOWLEDGING that in 2009, IUCN declared the Scalloped Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna lewini*) a globally Endangered species, given that its populations have declined by over 90% during the last 20 years;

RECALLING that during the XV Conference of the Parties (COP) of CITES, in Doha (Qatar), 13–25 March 2010, there were four proposals to include species of sharks in Appendix II, one of them being the Scalloped Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna lewini*);

STRESSING that prior to the aforementioned COP, the ad hoc Expert Panel of the FAO concluded that there

was enough information to justify the inclusion of Scalloped Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna lewini*) in Appendix II of CITES;

AWARE that on that occasion, the total number of votes required to add this species to Appendix II of CITES was not reached, but currently the majority of the countries in the Mesoamerican region have elaborated their respective Action Plans for Sharks, which allow for more effective management measures to be taken; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED that to date, these Shark Action Plans have not been implemented effectively, and a framework of concrete actions to control indiscriminate fishing of this species in the Mesoamerican Region is still lacking;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September, 2012:

1. REQUESTS all States to support the inclusion of the Scalloped Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna lewini*), the Smooth Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna zygaena*) and the Great Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna mokarran*) in Appendix II of CITES, to contribute to the conservation and sustainability of wild populations in the future, through control of the international trade of their products, taking into account all available information and the advice of the FAO Expert Panel¹; and
2. REQUESTS States and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations where these species are present during reproduction, feeding and/or migration, to conserve the following shark species: the Scalloped Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna lewini*), the Smooth Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna zygaena*) and the Great Hammerhead Shark (*Sphyrna mokarran*), through conservation and management measures, which could include control and management of fishing effort, strengthening of the legal framework, improvement of communication channels amongst nations, and identification and protection of critical habitats.

Expressing its support for an alternative formulation (referred to as ‘Option 1’) of operative paragraph 1, which was not approved during voting on this Motion, the State

¹ It is hereby affirmed that the support of the Congress for the inclusion of these species in CITES Appendix II does not in any way prejudice the independence, or determine the findings, of the IUCN/TRAFFIC *Analyses of Proposals to Amend the CITES Appendices*.

Member Japan provided the following statement for the record during the 11th Sitting of the Members' Assembly:

"Japan has concern about this Motion because it prejudices the position of State Members at the CITES meeting next March. The deadline for submitting listing proposals on CITES Appendices is October 4. We have not even seen any proposal to list hammerhead sharks yet. If such a proposal is submitted, we will carefully study all the information contained. We will study the results of the FAO Expert Panel which will examine the validity of proposals on fishery species. We will also have to investigate whether listing this species on CITES Appendices will really contribute to its conservation. Before studying all these points, Japan cannot prejudge whether we can support inclusion of this species on CITES Appendices. Therefore, we support Option 1."

WCC-2012-Rec-147-EN

Sacred natural sites – support for custodian protocols and customary laws in the face of global threats and challenges

AWARE that sacred natural sites are defined in the IUCN-UNESCO *Sacred Natural Sites: Guidelines for Protected Area Managers* as "Areas of land or water having special spiritual significance to peoples and communities";

NOTING the importance of sacred natural sites for the conservation of biological and cultural diversity as they contribute to connectivity, resilience and adaptation in interconnected socio-ecological systems;

UNDERSTANDING that the customary laws of indigenous peoples, local communities, faith groups and custodians of sacred natural sites and territories contain longstanding protocols regarding the care and guardianship of sacred natural sites – which can be mountains, springs, lakes, forests, waterfalls, caves, pilgrimage routes, and often encompass territories that may be known as Cultural Landscapes;

RECALLING Resolution 4.038 *Recognition and conservation of sacred natural sites in protected areas* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), with a high level of support (97% governments, 99% NGOs), and also recalling Recommendation V.13 *Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas* adopted by the 5th IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003);

ALSO RECALLING IUCN Recommendation 4.136 *Biodiversity, protected areas, indigenous people and mining activities* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) and Recommendation 2.82 *Protection and conservation of biological diversity of protected areas from the negative impacts of mining and exploration* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

NOTING that IUCN and UNESCO in 2008 published the Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines No. 16 on *Sacred Natural Sites: Guidelines for Protected Area Managers*;

RECALLING the *Akwé: Kon Voluntary guidelines for the conduct of cultural, environmental and social impact assessments regarding developments proposed to take place on, or which are likely to impact on, sacred sites and on lands and waters traditionally occupied or used by indigenous and local communities*, published in 2004 by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of sacred natural sites in relation to the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* (PoWPA), especially Element 2 on "Governance, participation, equity and benefit-sharing", and its role in fulfilling Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING Article 8(j) of the CBD on traditional knowledge innovations and practices and Article 10(c) of the CBD on sustainable use of components of biological diversity, and especially the Nagoya Protocol to the CBD on *Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization*, which encourages parties to raise awareness of and to support the development by indigenous and local communities, including women within these communities, of community protocols;

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING that the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) affirms the right of indigenous peoples to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources and to free, prior and informed consent with regard to development issues (Article 32);

UNDERSTANDING that other custodians of sacred natural sites, such as local communities and faith groups, may also have longstanding relationships to land and sacred natural sites and may not be recognized as 'indigenous' under international or national definitions;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that with an increasing worldwide demand for non-renewable natural resources, indigenous peoples and local communities are disproportionately suffering the consequences of related industrial developments and climate change;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that indigenous peoples, local communities and site custodians have articulated that extractive industries and associated infrastructure are a high priority threat to their sacred natural sites and territories due to the extensive impacts of exploration, mining, drilling, logging, infrastructure development, waste disposal and related activities; and

AFFIRMING that urgent action is needed for culturally appropriate sacred natural site conservation and management both within and outside official protected areas;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS on all IUCN State Members to recognize the rights of indigenous peoples to practice their cultural traditions and customs, including the right to maintain, protect and develop the past, present and future manifestations of their cultures, such as archaeological and historical sites;
2. FURTHER CALLS on all IUCN State Members and other governments to engage indigenous peoples, local communities, faith groups and custodians of sacred natural sites and territories, to recognize their customary laws and cultural protocols for the management of sacred natural sites and territories, and to develop programmes that respect and endorse these customary laws and associated institutions, which are unique to each culture and landscape, but which exemplify values held in common by indigenous people, local communities, faith groups and custodians around the world;
3. URGES State Members of IUCN and other national governments to develop appropriate policies, laws and programmes (for example by adopting at the national level Resolution 4.038 and implementing the IUCN-UNESCO Best Practice Guidelines No. 16 for planning and management of SNS in protected areas) that allows the custodians to continue to maintain and protect their sacred natural sites using their traditional practices and protocols, and in doing so respect the confidentiality of sites and practices;

4. RECOMMENDS that all governments develop national legislation to:

- a. bring into force the CBD's *Akwé: Kon Voluntary guidelines*;
- b. adopt a presumption against development that could damage or destroy sacred natural sites, and develop mechanisms that give indigenous peoples, local communities, faith groups and custodians of SNS the right to say no to mining or other industrial activities on their sacred natural sites and territories; and
- c. enable and encourage the development of community protocols as a means for indigenous peoples, local communities, faith groups and custodians of SNS to exercise their rights, gain legal recognition for SNS and custodial governance systems, and determine their own access and benefit sharing arrangements (as per the CBD Nagoya Protocol); and

5. URGES transnational and national companies from the extractive and energy industries, agriculture, forestry, infrastructure, tourism and other development sectors to:

- a. support, respect and promote the implementation of UNDRIP;
- b. utilize the CBD's *Akwé: Kon Voluntary guidelines*;
- c. prohibit activities that damage sacred natural sites, enforce this policy, and communicate this best practice principle to shareholders; and
- d. enable and provide support for indigenous peoples, local communities, faith groups and custodians of sacred natural sites and territories to build capacity and develop their own protocols based on their traditional laws and beliefs in response to demands placed on their sacred natural sites and territories.

State and agency Members of the United States voted against this Motion.

WCC-2012-Rec-148-EN Mountain protected areas

AWARE that the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro dramatically put the phrase ‘Sustainable Development’ on the world stage, so that it is now a global societal goal and a basic mantra;

NOTING that this Conference unanimously included a Chapter 13 on *Managing Fragile Ecosystems: Sustainable Mountain Development*;

RECOGNIZING that mountain protected areas of various IUCN Categories provide the best protection for biological diversity, soil stability, most regulated and highest quality water, carbon sequestration, the many sacred and other culturally valued sites in mountains, and outstanding opportunities for recreation and tourism, more than other kinds of land use; and therefore at that time mountain protected areas were identified as significant contributors to sustainable mountain development;

FURTHER NOTING that the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) was strongly represented in the initiation of Chapter 13, and its subsequent programme in Agenda 21, and on the Interagency Group concerned with implementing the Mountain Chapter;

AWARE that today, in the dialogue about Sustainable Mountain Development among UN agencies, national governments and most donors, the role of the various kinds of protected areas is not being recognized for the many ecosystem services of great economic contribution that they make to sustainable development, especially water and biodiversity, along with ecotourism; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED that mountain protected areas as a land use have been largely dropped from the lexicon; for instance in the latest FAO publication *Why Invest in Sustainable Mountain Development?* (2011), protected areas are scarcely mentioned, and in preparatory documents for the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development this year, they were not even identified;

The World Conservation Congress at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. AFFIRMS the unique and significant role that formal protected areas play in land and water use and development and thus for human welfare;

2. CALLS ON UN agencies, national governments and donors to recognize that especially in the face of climate change, mountain areas kept in their natural or carefully managed state, such as in National Parks, Protected Landscapes, Dedicated Multiple Use Areas, Biosphere Reserves, Community Conservation Areas, and the like, are powerful pieces of sustainable development;
3. URGES that because of the special susceptibility of mountains to the impacts of global change, that mountain protected area creation, enlargement and connection in corridors come to the forefront of global thinking, planning, and land and water use policies; and
4. REQUESTS the Director General to emphasize mountain protected area creation, enlargement, and connectivity in the *IUCN Programme for 2013–2016*.

WCC-2012-Rec-149-EN Transboundary ecological corridors in the Western Iberian Peninsula

MINDFUL of the fact that the Portuguese/Spanish transboundary area in the west of the Iberian Peninsula represents one of the best examples of the Mediterranean forest agrosystem and one of the most extensive and significant biodiversity hotspots in Europe, home to various examples of internationally-important fauna such as Iberian Lynx (*Lynx pardinus*), Iberian Imperial Eagle (*Aquila adalberti*), Eurasian Black or Cinereous Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*), Black Stork (*Ciconia nigra*) and Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*);

BEARING IN MIND that the area is *per se* one of the most important reservoirs of threatened vascular flora in the world, given the characteristics of this ecosystem, composed mainly of dehesa (an agrosilvopastoral system) with evergreen woodlands of Cork Oak (*Quercus suber*) and/or Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*), as well as Pyrenean Oak (*Quercus pyrenaica*), the result of the centuries-old interaction of the environment with the traditional human activities of the area, and with examples such as Paradise Lily (*Paradisea lusitanica*), *Delphinium fissum* subsp. *sordidum*, *Omphalodes brassicifolia* and Cross-leaved Heath (*Erica tetralix*);

RECOGNIZING the importance of the Portuguese/Spanish transboundary area, as illustrated by the 119

protected areas forming part of the European Union's Natura 2000 Network (57 Special Bird Protection Areas (SPAs) under the Birds Directive, with a surface area of 1,093,679 hectares; 62 Sites of Community Importance (SCI) under the Habitats Directive, with a surface area of 830,742 hectares; and other national- and regional-level protection statuses);

RECALLING that Resolution 4.024 *Conservation of the habitat of the Iberian Lynx* *Lynx pardinus* and Recommendation 4.131 *Conservation of the Western Iberian Peninsula* approved by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) called for the conservation of the Western Iberian Peninsula's biodiversity, recognizing it as a global biodiversity hotspot;

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 4.061 *The Great Ecological Connectivity Corridor: Cantabric Range – Pyrenees – Massif Central – Western Alps* called on national administrations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to strengthen ecological connectivity in the Mediterranean mountains and that Resolution 4.072 *Private protected areas and nature stewardship* highlights the global importance of private protected areas and nature stewardship through the creation of a related Working Group;

CONCERNED at the fragmentation trends that are affecting the transboundary natural spaces found in this territory;

AWARE of the threats that such trends mean for the conservation of its biodiversity, and that of its transitional zones;

RECOGNIZING the severe threats facing this territory, including depopulation, the abandonment of traditional resource use, the uncontrolled proliferation of human infrastructure, the fragmentation of ecosystems and the effects of climate change, which are placing its high biodiversity at risk;

MINDFUL of the opportunities that the spaces included in the Natura 2000 Network, which represents 35% of the scope of this Initiative, will offer for the conservation of a physically inter-connected and geographically functional ecological network; and

BEARING IN MIND the need to promote preventive strategies in order to avoid future fragmentation, and strategies that will promote the restoration of key zones that have already been severely affected, with the aim of

enhancing the resilience of the area's ecosystems and human communities to face up to global change;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES the Governments of Spain and Portugal to:
 - a. work together to ensure the ecological connectivity of the natural spaces of this transboundary area, based on the Natura 2000 Network spaces;
 - b. coordinate their efforts to preserve the biodiversity of the transboundary spaces;
 - c. link biodiversity objectives to the relevant production sectors: agriculture, livestock rearing, forestry and fishing, in the transboundary environment;
 - d. support and encourage initiatives aimed at conserving the biodiversity and the ecological connectivity of the organizations working in the transboundary area;
 - e. support and promote the Declaration of the Transboundary Biosphere Reserves of Braganza-Zamora and Douro Superior-Salamanca, and Sierra de Gata-Dehesas de Azaba-Sierra Malcata; and
 - f. exclude the whole area from wind energy and large infrastructure development, particularly dams, as a way of preventing and safeguarding its great wealth and biodiversity; and
2. CALLS on the Governments of Spain and Portugal, IUCN Members and other concerned parties to develop action plans which:
 - a. encourage a vision of a single natural environment, regardless of the great diversity of protected areas that it comprises;
 - b. guarantee ecological connectivity, the maintenance of biological diversity and the ecological processes typical of the transboundary area;
 - c. promote the protection and creation of networks of private protection areas, involving private owners and NGOs, by means of nature stewardship; and

- d. define the boundaries of an area within the Western Iberian Peninsula that could be declared a UNESCO World Heritage site.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-150-EN Protecting Mavrovo National Park, Macedonia (FYR)

NOTING that Mavrovo National Park ranks among the three national parks in Macedonia (FYR), classified as Category II by IUCN;

ALSO NOTING that Mavrovo National Park is an internationally Important Plant Area, a Globally Important Bird Area, a Key Biodiversity Area and an Emerald Network Site; it contains thirteen European threatened habitats and numerous locally endemic and/or threatened plant and animal species listed on the annexes of the Bern Convention;

FURTHER NOTING that these threatened species include the only remaining breeding population for the Balkan Lynx (*Lynx lynx* ssp. *balkanicus*, Buresh 1941), recently assessed as Critically Endangered according to IUCN categories and criteria (unpublished thesis), and a significant population of the European Brown Bear;

FURTHER NOTING that Mavrovo National Park contains one of the last remaining major stands of pristine beech forest in Macedonia and in the Balkan region;

CONCERNED that the Macedonian (FYR) authorities are planning to build two major hydro-electric power plants, dams and associated infrastructure within Mavrovo National Park, at Boshkov Most in the south of the Park and at Lukovo Pole in the north;

FURTHER CONCERNED that several other small hydro-electric power plants are also planned for development within Mavrovo National Park;

ALARMED that the hydro-electric power plant development of Lukovo Pole will be placed in the most biologically sensitive region of the Mavrovo National Park containing the most threatened biodiversity, and will destroy a biological corridor within the European Green Belt which is crucial for the survival of the Balkan Lynx;

FURTHER ALARMED that there is no Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Strategy for Renewable Energy Use within Macedonia covering these developments, and that the Environment Impact Assessment conducted for one of the projects does not accurately reflect the views of the distribution and importance of biodiversity in Mavrovo from international, regional and national experts, and therefore fails to adequately assess the risks posed to the populations of important species;

AWARE that these developments contravene international commitments that the Macedonian authorities have ratified, including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), especially Aichi Targets 11 (conserving networks) and 12 (extinction of threatened species prevented) of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the CBD's *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation*, and the Bern Convention; and

NOTING that correspondence from IUCN to the Macedonian authorities on this issue (December 2011) has not been answered to date (May 2012);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. EXPRESSES strong concern to the Macedonian (FYR) authorities about the potential damage of the proposed hydro-electric power plants to biodiversity within Mavrovo National Park, and about insufficient compliance with national law and international commitments;
2. CALLS on the Macedonian (FYR) authorities to properly implement its existing international commitments and adhere to the non-regression principle, and thus to abandon plans to develop hydro-electric power within Mavrovo National Park;
3. FURTHER CALLS on the World Bank to comply with its operational policy OP4.04 and on the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to comply with its policy PR6, with regard to the Boshkov Most and Lukovo Pole hydro-electric power plant developments, and to undertake thorough and full consultation with biodiversity experts in the field;
4. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to write to the World Bank and the EBRD to strengthen the implementation of policy OP4.04 and PR6; and to

request the Macedonian (FYR) government to guarantee the protection of Mavrovo National Park and to abandon the projects because they are conflicting with national law and international commitments; and

5. REQUESTS that, to the extent possible within available resources, the Director General, the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) undertake an independent assessment of the existing and planned hydro-electric power plants and the impact they have on biodiversity with Mavrovo National Park.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-151-EN Safeguarding Madagascar's unique and highly threatened natural heritage

RECALLING the objectives of IUCN “to influence, assist and encourage societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecological sustainable”;

DRIVEN by the commitment of the international community to Aichi Target 12 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020*, which states, “By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained”;

NOTING that a large proportion of Madagascar's endemic biodiversity is part of, or depends on, forest ecosystems for its survival;

EMPHASIZING that human survival in Madagascar will ultimately also depend on the continued presence of forests and their ability to provide essential ecosystem services;

AWARE that only about 16% of Madagascar's land area is still forested, that we have lost more than 1,000,000 ha of forest in just the 15 years between 1990 and 2005, and that the remaining 94,000 km² of forest are being lost at a rate of approximately 500 km² per year;

ENCOURAGED by a decline in deforestation rates in Madagascar from 0.83% between 1990 and 2000 to 0.53% between 2000 and 2005, and to 0.12% inside protected areas;

CONCERNED, however, about the current almost complete lack of enforcement of environmental law in Madagascar, compounded by the suspension and/or withdrawal of donor aid for environmental projects by most of the largest multilateral and bilateral funders, such as the USAID and the European Union (EU), in response to the political events of March 2009;

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the extremely high rates of illegal selective logging of Madagascar's rosewood and ebony trees in 2009 and 2010, about the ongoing illegal logging of precious hardwoods, about illegal artisanal mining inside protected areas and unsustainable rates of hunting of larger vertebrate species, particularly of the larger lemurs;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Transitional Government, in March 2010, reinstated the ban on Rosewood logging and exports for two to five years (decree number 2010-141);

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the Transitional Government, in August 2011, renewed its commitment to combat the illegal exploitation of the country's forests by prohibiting the harvest, exploitation, transport and sale of rosewood and ebony, demanding registration of existing stocks within 30 days, invalidating any export permits, and strengthening penalties for illegal possession of such woods (ordinance No. 2011-001);

ENCOURAGED by the fact that five species of rosewood and 104 species of ebony native to Madagascar were recently added to Appendix III of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) at the request of the Transitional Government; and

FURTHER ENCOURAGED by the decision of the World Bank, in June 2011, to grant an exceptional additional financing to Madagascar to support the *Programme Environnemental III* “due to its global public good nature, and the substantial risks associated to social safeguards linked to the end of the [previous] funding”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES the Government of Madagascar (or, in the interim, the Transitional Government) to:
 - a. continue to implement the ban on rosewood and ebony logging and export that it decreed in March 2010;
 - b. make every possible effort to enforce Madagascar's environmental laws, and not to tolerate illegal exploitation of its forests and of the species depending on them;
 - c. increase the protection of the country's natural heritage, and in particular of its protected areas, by ensuring that the Ministry of the Environment and Forests is given the financial resources and support it needs to effectively combat such illegal exploitation;
 - d. develop, with help from IUCN and its Commissions, an innovative approach to ensure the sustainable use of the country's forest resources that benefits human communities local to those resources and prevents extinction of the harvested species and of any species depending on them; and
 - e. manage the harvest of forest resources in a way that provides incentives for their conservation;
 2. CALLS ON all providers of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the Government of Madagascar (or, in the interim, the Transitional Government), including governments, multilateral institutions and charities, to:
 - a. continue, or immediately resume, funding Madagascar's environmental sector through projects implemented by civil society organizations;
 - b. increase levels of technical and financial support for environmental protection, and in particular for the protection of forests and species depending on them;
 - c. combine support for environmental protection with support for good governance initiatives in order to advance development of stable institutions that can ensure long-term effectiveness of conservation and sustainable use of its wildlife and natural resources; and
 - d. recognize that the environmental sector is a critical underpinning of humanitarian assistance and not a separate unrelated activity; and
 3. REQUESTS the Director General and the IUCN Commissions to:
 - a. provide technical support to the Government of Madagascar (or, in the interim, the Transitional Government) on:
 - i. developing a system of sustainable use of the country's forest resources;
 - ii. managing the sustainable harvest of those resources in a way that provides incentives for their conservation;
 - iii. developing a system for identification and labelling legally harvested timber, such as the EU's FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade) programme; and
 - iv. identifying sustainable rates of permitted hunting for the main vertebrate species harvested for subsistence consumption;
 - b. communicate the urgency of solving the current environmental crisis in Madagascar to global decision makers, to all IUCN Members, and to the public at large;
 - c. form a national working group of members of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), which can facilitate technical assistance to the Government and monitor and evaluate the measures taken to solve the crisis; and
 - d. convene a joint working group on Madagascar consisting of members of SSC, the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC), and the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) that will support the Secretariat in the implementation of the measures outlined above.
- State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-152-EN Enlarging and connecting transboundary protected areas for the Ecological Corridor of Northeast Asia

RECALLING Recommendation 1.38 *Ecological Networks and Corridors of Natural and Semi-Natural Areas* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) and Resolution 4.035 *Strengthening IUCN's work on protected areas* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

EMPHASIZING the Convention on Biological Diversity (CDB) *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* Goal 1.2 “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, where appropriate, of ecological networks.” (Kuala Lumpur, 2004);

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts of other regions on networking protected areas and establishing ecological corridors, such as ECONNECT, Pan-European Ecological Network, European Alps to the Mediterranean, Cantabrian Range to Western Alps Corridor, Natura 2000 network, and the Tri-national Mont Blanc Massif in Europe; Yellowstone to Yukon Connectivity Corridor in North America; the Terai Arc in Nepal and India; the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor and the Vilacamba-Amboró in South America; Greater Virunga Landscape, Maloti Drakensberg Transfrontier in Africa and many others;

REALIZING that although Northeast Asian countries have strived to protect their own ecosystems such as Baekdudaegan protected area in the Republic of Korea (ROK), Mount Paektusan Biosphere Reserve in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), Changbaishan protected area in China and Sikhote-Alin protected area in Russia, many flora and fauna in Northeast Asia have become extinct and/or endangered regionally and globally, their habitats also being in danger of degradation;

UNDERSTANDING that there is a lack of comprehensive coordinated research on regional ecosystems of Northeast Asia that includes ROK, DPRK, China and Russia;

CONSIDERING that building governance for the ecological corridor among neighbouring countries, such as

connecting Baekdudaegan protected area from the southern end to the northern end of ROK by the Korean Ministry of Environment and Korean Forest Service, protecting transboundary areas between China and Russia such as the Lower Tumen River Area by the United Nations North East Asian Sub-regional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC), have the limitation of being able to extend to the entire reach of Northeast Asia's protected areas;

REFLECTING on the fact that Northeast Asian countries have displayed the least cross-border cooperation for environmental conservation due to political tension, and IUCN has limited experience of working in this region which needs more support and focus at the international level to conserve the environment;

RECOGNIZING the need for comprehensive protection of the precious and threatened natural and cultural heritage of the Northeast Asian countries, with respect to rapid destruction of ecosystems, and the importance of international cooperation in enlarging and connecting protected areas that transcend national borders in the context of climate change, biodiversity conservation and maintaining global peace; and

HIGHLIGHTING that IUCN's new conservation paradigm of resilience (Nature+ theme of the IUCN World Conservation Congress, Jeju 2012) should encompass environmental approaches more than the stewardship of nature so as to contribute to mitigating national conflicts;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES the Governments of ROK, DPRK, China and Russia as well as NGOs of the countries concerned to recognize the Ecological Corridor of Northeast Asia: the linking up of Baekdudaegan protected area, Tumen river basin and Sikhote-Alin Mountains;
2. ENCOURAGES relevant regional and local agencies to promote action plans for the conservation and improvement of biological richness and cultural diversity in Northeast Asia;
3. REQUESTS the Director General, the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), in collaboration with international organizations and other

stakeholders, to promote the abovementioned Ecological Corridor in Northeast Asia, putting global attention on the need for expanding and linking protected areas in Northeast Asia; and

4. CALLS UPON the Director General, WCPA and SSC to:
 - a. support research plans to build long-term linkup methodologies for the conservation of isolated DPRK ecosystems by creating the grounds for its cooperation and participation; and
 - b. provide regular exchange of academic outcomes among IUCN Members and partners, governments and NGOs of ROK, DPRK, China and Russia to engage in the ecological networking of Northeast Asia.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-153-EN Conservation of Poyang Lake, People's Republic of China

NOTING that Poyang Lake in the People's Republic of China is by far the most important wetland in East Asia for wintering waterbirds (cranes, storks, swans, geese, ducks and others), providing critical habitat for many migratory and globally threatened species;

AWARE that over 98% of the world population of the Critically Endangered Siberian Crane (*Grus leucogeranus*) depends on Poyang Lake and associated wetlands as its wintering ground, together with over 90% of the world's population of the globally Endangered Oriental Stork (*Ciconia boyciana*), and over 50% of the globally Vulnerable Swan Goose (*Anser cygnoides*);

RECOGNIZING that the People's Republic of China has made numerous, exemplary commitments to the conservation of wetlands, including the designation of a network of 15 nature reserves to safeguard the wetland resources of Poyang, and the establishment of wildlife protection offices in all counties surrounding the lake;

COMMENDING the People's Republic of China for designating Poyang Lake National Nature Reserve as a

Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention in 1992, and a site of international importance for migratory waterbirds under the East Asian-Australasian Flyway site network in 1997;

WELCOMING the commitment that the People's Republic of China made to the recently completed United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/Global Environment Facility (GEF) project *Development of a Wetland Site and Flyway Network for Conservation of the Siberian Crane and Other Migratory Waterbirds in Asia*, through which the Poyang Lake National Nature Reserve received significant funding, with UNEP/GEF funds being matched by a considerable investment from the People's Republic of China;

NOTING that the ecosystem services provided by Poyang Lake have extraordinary importance to millions of people in Jiangxi and the provinces downriver;

ALSO NOTING the importance of Poyang Lake for other important components of biodiversity, including diverse vegetation, fish, and the only freshwater porpoise in the world;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that infrastructure for water management, such as the sluice gates proposed by Jiangxi Government for the outlet to Poyang Lake, affects the natural water fluctuations, and might transform the ecological character of the lake and its wetlands;

AWARE of the 2010 report by the Wetlands International – IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Crane Specialist Group and the IUCN China office entitled, *An Ecosystem Approach to Resolving Conflicts among Ecological and Economic Priorities for Poyang Lake Wetlands*;

AWARE of the Ramsar expert team invited by Jiangxi Province to visit Poyang Lake in April 2010 that discussed concerns about management challenges and ecosystem change at this Wetland of International Importance, and made a series of recommendations emphasizing the importance of a strong scientific basis for decisions affecting this system and the need to ensure that the remarkable variability and biodiversity of these wetlands is maintained; and

RECALLING that the People's Republic of China has adopted the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan (2011–2030) where Poyang Lake is included as one of 35 biodiversity conservation priority areas,

and also the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* with the 20 Aichi Targets, particularly Targets 5, 12, and 14;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

RECOMMENDS to the relevant agencies, when making management decisions that affect Poyang Lake, to seek to:

- a. maintain and enhance the extraordinary international and local biodiversity values of Poyang Lake through management and monitoring activities;
- b. maximize benefits for both biodiversity and development through management measures that maintain the ecological character of the lake, including water levels and water fluctuations that sustain or restore natural ecological processes characteristic of these wetlands; and
- c. consult scientists and relevant organizations with diverse expertise and practical experience to advise on research and management actions for Poyang Lake.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

**WCC-2012-Rec-154-EN
Protecting the Great Barrier Reef World
Heritage Area of Australia**

NOTING that the Great Barrier Reef is one of the most iconic World Heritage areas on Earth and one of the premier marine protected areas in the world;

CONCERNED that the human population of the Great Barrier Reef coastal catchments is projected to increase by 40% in the next 25 years, which will increase pressures on the Reef, including coastal development and catchment runoff;

CONCERNED that there are immediate direct and indirect threats from current and projected coal mining, gas extraction and related port developments and shipping;

CONCERNED by a projected increase in commercial vessel traffic of unprecedented scale within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area (GBRWhA);

NOTING Decisions WHC 35 COM 7B.10 and WHC 36 COM 7B.8 from the World Heritage Committee meetings in 2011 and 2012 respectively;

COMMENDING the Australia National Committee of IUCN Members' submission *Sustaining the Outstanding Universal Value of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area*, February 2012;

NOTING the comprehensive report of the World Heritage Centre/IUCN monitoring mission and the 14 detailed recommendations contained in that report;

DRAWING ATTENTION to Recommendation 11 of the Mission Report to, "Commission an independent review, undertaken by internationally recognized and widely respected scientific experts, of the overall institutional and legal mechanisms that provide coordinated planning, protection and management of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Areas as a whole";

WELCOMING the Australian and Queensland Governments' work in progressing the Strategic Assessment requested by the World Heritage Committee;

CONCERNED that the cumulative impacts of the range of threats faced by the GBRWhA have the potential to cause significant damage to one of the most iconic protected areas on earth;

CONCERNED that coral reef ecosystems are amongst the most vulnerable natural systems to the impacts of climate change, and that the GBRWhA has previously experienced mass coral mortality from extreme climate events; and

NOTING recent findings of Australian Government-funded research that:

- a. the estimated size of the Dugong (*Dugong dugon*) population in the Southern Great Barrier Reef Region in November 2011 was the lowest since surveys began in 1986;
- b. coral cover along the Reef has declined some 20–30% since the 1960s; and
- c. confirmed, through parentage analysis and biophysical modelling for coral trout (*Plectropomus* spp.), that there are strong positive spill-over effects of systematically-developed representative networks of no-take zones;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CONGRATULATES the Australian and Queensland Governments for their support for the World Heritage Centre/IUCN monitoring mission in March 2012 that considered the issues around developments on Curtis Island and other potential threats to the integrity of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage property; and
2. CALLS upon the Australian and Queensland Governments to:
 - a. fully implement the 11 recommendations within the World Heritage Committee’s decision 36 COM 7B.8 and address all 14 related recommendations of the World Heritage Centre/IUCN monitoring mission report;
 - b. ensure that the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority-led Strategic Assessment and the Queensland Government-led Strategic Assessment are effectively coordinated and integrated to deliver the comprehensive Strategic Assessment requested by the World Heritage Committee in its decision 35 COM 7B.10;
 - c. release in a timely manner details of the work to be undertaken including time-frames and consultation strategy for both Strategic Assessments;
 - d. ensure stakeholders are engaged during the development of the Strategic Assessments to provide rigour and transparency to the process; and
 - e. deliver on funding commitments to the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan, ensure that current improvements in water quality are enhanced to meet water quality targets, and remain committed to protecting the Great Barrier Reef from the impacts of poor water quality.

**WCC-2012-Rec-155-EN
Restoration and conservation of Jeju’s
Hanon Maar Crater**

UNDERSTANDING that Jeju volcanic island was formed more than 1.8 million years ago from numerous volcanic activities, designated by the United Nations

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as a Biosphere Reserve, World Heritage site, and Global Geopark, has four Wetlands of International Importance (‘Ramsar sites’) and thus, is an exemplary case worldwide for the conservation of nature;

EMPHASIZING Hanon, with the total area of 127.6 hectares, located in Seogwipo City, Jeju Island, the Republic of Korea, where the 2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress is hosted, as an important natural heritage like a ‘time capsule of the Earth’s environment,’ preserving invaluable scientific information that reveals the process of the Earth’s climatic and ecological environmental changes through pollen, spores and yellow sands accumulated as thick as 15 metres inside the lake and wetland sediments of the crater over the last 50,000 years;

RECOGNIZING that the Hanon area can be a good place for climate prediction by closely investigating the fluctuation of varying climates in East Asia from the analysis of the ancient climate and vegetation in and around the concentrated and accumulated maar sediments in the crater, as the area is influenced by the maritime tropical air mass and continental polar air mass, and the westerlies from the distinct climatic characteristic changing seasonally between continental and oceanic climates;

CONCERNED that topographical damage continues in the area despite cessation of farming by indigenous farmers around the area, that the crater lake and wetland also continue to disappear, which results in serious damage of the original vegetation around the crater, and furthermore, that the area has been exposed to imminent threats from thoughtless attempts to develop the area as a sports, tourism and entertainment complex;

CONSIDERING that the municipal government and civil organizations have recognized the importance of the geological, climatic, ecological and environmental values contained in the Hanon crater, and thus, have continued campaigns urging actions for restoration and sustainable conservation of the area, while hosting four international symposiums in cooperation with the municipal government and the private sector to re-examine the values of the Hanon crater and present the appropriateness and a vision for environmental education and environmentally-friendly use, with eco-tours when restoration is completed and actions for conservation are put into place, as an effort to create both national and international consensus;

NOTING that restoration of the Hanon crater lake and wetland environment and conservation of the sediments in the lake are consistent with the fundamentals of sustainable development to save the Earth's environment, coping with climate change, and for our future generations as pursued by IUCN and other international environmental organizations; and

RECALLING that IUCN has made various efforts and taken actions to induce efforts and practical contributions, at the State level, to emphasize the environmental importance of and to conserve the wetland ecosystem through Resolution 1.70 *Ramsar Convention Priorities* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), Resolution 3.012 *Governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and Resolution 4.036 *Best practice protected area guideline for ecological restoration* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions, together with the Hanon crater restoration and conservation project, to help achieve an effective outcome, while making restoration of ecosystems exposed to ongoing destruction become a core project for the conservation of nature and natural resources, and so that the initiatives for recovery projects can be disseminated to other States, regions and throughout the world;
2. RECOMMENDS that governments of the Republic of Korea establish and execute a comprehensive plan for restoration of the natural environment and take actions not to accelerate damage in the conserved areas, while establishing and operating environmentally-friendly utilization programmes (e.g. a protection and management programme and environmental education) in which a diversity of participants (i.e. civil environmental groups, local residents and academic experts) can join together; and
3. RECOMMENDS that governments, research institutes and environmental organizations of the Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China and Japan, where maar craters are distributed in the same climate zone as the Hanon crater is located, continue to make efforts to maximize mutual cooperation and

exchanges in academic and educational activities that can contribute to the provision of predictions on climate change by investigating the process of changes in the monsoon climate of the Northeast Asian region.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-156-EN
Biodiversity conservation in the protected natural area under the sacred natural site modality of Huiricuta and the historico-cultural route of the Huichol people

CONSIDERING that Huiricuta is a landscape of particular global importance due to the combination of its natural and cultural values, in addition to being representative of the Chihuahuan Desert, one of the three most biodiverse semi-desert ecoregions of the planet, for which reason it has been protected by an Official Decree and has a Management Plan designating the region the Protected Natural Area under the Sacred Natural Site modality of Huiricuta and the Historico-Cultural Route of the Huichol People;

RECOGNIZING that, given the importance of the aforesaid region, it appears on the Mexican Tentative List of the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO); and that, due to its biodiversity, it is an Area of Importance for the Conservation of Birds (AICA, Área de Importancia para la Conservación de Aves) and a Priority Land Region (RTP, Región Terrestre Prioritaria), and that there are specific national programmes for the recovery of priority species such as the Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) – Conservation Programme for Species at Risk (PROCER, Programa de Conservación de Especies en Riesgo);

UNDERLINING the fact that it is located in the south-east section of the Chihuahuan Desert where the greatest concentration of endemic and threatened cacti is found, as well as the highest peaks of the aforesaid ecoregion, which confers on it a special singularity and importance based on the coexistence of habitats and species of markedly diverse and heterogeneous environments,

and therefore great ecological, biographical and cultural relevance, resulting in an area of unique characteristics which contribute to highlighting its importance for biodiversity conservation, and which are:

- a. large altitudinal gradient (1,500–3,180 MASL) associated with climatic, geomorphological and edaphic zoning, which are the factors responsible for the diversification of the landscape, flora and vegetation;
- b. its latitudinal and altitudinal location confer on it the character of a biogeographical island, a refuge for communities and species belonging to other latitudes which have remained in the region as relicts following the most recent glacial and interglacial periods: notable in this respect is the presence of flora and fauna with Holarctic characteristics, as well as vegetation communities vicarious to those present in the Sierra Madre Oriental; and
- c. the mountainous section of the region and its different forest communities, in addition to being a habitat for a great variety of organisms, has a vital function related to the capture and regulation of the water that supplies the springs and aquifers of the sierra and the surrounding plains;

RECOGNIZING that the combination of these factors has resulted in the unusual representation of habitats and species present in the area, some of which are considered charismatic and of interest for conservation in that they are included on legal and technical protection lists, or that they constitute a unique biogeographical phenomenon owing to their rare or relict character;

UNDERLINING the fact that there are species of flora and fauna found in the region that are subject to special protection due to their level of threat or rarity, that are listed in the Official Mexican Regulations (Norma Oficial Mexicana) NOM-059-SEMARNAT-2010, Environmental protection – Species of wild flora and fauna native to Mexico – Risk categories and specifications for inclusion, exclusion or modification – List of species at risk, in addition to being cited in legal instruments such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the IUCN *Red List of Threatened Species*, including the following important examples:

- a. 250 species of fauna, including important examples of amphibians such as toads *Anaxyrus cognatus*, *A.*

punctatus, *Incilius nebulifer* and *I. valliceps*; rare reptiles such as lizards *Cophosaurus texanus*, *Holbrookia maculata*, *Barisia imbricata*, *Phrynosoma modestum* and *P. taurus*; snakes *Hypsiglena torquata*, *Pituophis deppei*, *Masticophis flagellum*, *Lampropeltis getulus*, *Thamnophis cyrtopsis* and *T. eques*, considered threatened; mud turtles *Kinosternon herrerai* and *K. hirtipes*; as well as five species of rattlesnake (*Crotalus* spp.), subject to special protection;

- b. The following are among the mammalian species of Nearctic or northern origin considered to be in the risk category which live in the region: Mule Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), American Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*), American Badger (*Taxidea taxus*), Desert Shrew (*Notiosorex crowfordi*), Mexican Long-tongued Bat (*Choeronycteris mexicana*), Greater and Lesser Long-nosed Bat (*Leptonycteris nivalis* and *L. curasoae*), Spotted Bat (*Euderma maculatum*), Phillips's Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys phillipsii*), Cactus Mouse (*Peromyscus eremicus*), Kit Fox (*Vulpes macrotis*) and Puma (*Puma concolor*); and

- c. Birds constitute the most numerous group with approximately 153 species distributed throughout the area, including the Golden Eagle, Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) in danger of extinction; other raptors such as falcons and owls: Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperi*), Harris's Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*), Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*), Peregrine Falcon (*F. peregrinus*), *Athene cunicularia* (Burrowing Owl), *Strix occidentalis* (Spotted Owl); and threatened songbirds and ornamental birds Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) and American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*), and also Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) and Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*), listed as a rare species;

RECOGNIZING that conservation based on culture has provided protection for natural sacred places of indigenous communities, which are home to a rich biodiversity, and a safeguard for valuable landscapes and ecosystems;

EMPHASIZING that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) recommends the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach, acknowledging human beings as part of this approach, and urges Parties to foster and implement projects, thus permitting promotion of the concept of this site of natural and cultural heritage as one that validates the aforesaid approach;

AWARE of the importance of the CBD, and that protected sites are at risk and subject to a wide range of pressures and threats such as impacts caused by the extractive industries, poverty, tourism and irresponsible recreational activities, and degradation of the natural elements and surrounding territory;

CONCERNED that the existence of a declaration of protection and zonification for the purpose of the sustainable use of the area has not been sufficient to secure the conservation of species which are subject to national or international protection of any kind; and

BEARING IN MIND that a range of national and international declarations, programmes and documents recognize the close relationships that exist between cultural values, environmental management and biodiversity conservation, including the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, the CBD (Articles 8j and 10c), the *Earth Charter* (principles 8b, 12 and 12b), the United Nations *Declaration on Economic and Social Rights*, and the *Global Environment Outlook* (GEO-4) of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the Government of Mexico to comply with the treaties, regulations, programmes and management plans which pertain to the conservation of the Protected Natural Area under the Sacred Natural Site modality of Huiricuta and the Historico-cultural Route of the Huichol People and all its species;
2. CALLS ON the Mexican authorities to comply with the objectives of the Decree and the Management Plan for the Protected Natural Area under the Sacred Natural Site modality of Huiricuta and the Historico-cultural Route of the Huichol People in the municipalities of Catorce, Villa de la Paz, Matehuala, Villa de Guadalupe, Charcas and Villa de Ramos in the State of San Luis Potosí, Mexico, especially with the programmes for:
 - a. research on the Legal Framework of the Huiricuta Sacred Natural Site;
 - b. assessment of the surface water quality in the sacred site;
 - c. cultural communications project;

- d. identification of underground hydrological flow systems in the north-east of the State of San Luis Potosí;
- e. inventory of soil, flora and fauna;
- f. ecology of the cactus Peyote (*Lophophora williamsii*);
- g. environmental history of the Sacred Natural Site;
- h. mercury in sacred land; study of mining sites in Huiricuta;
- i. development of a Sacred Natural Site Administration Programme;
- j. observance and compliance with the Zonation, the Environmental Management Units, Management Categories and all the programmes for sustainable use in accordance with the general Sacred Natural Site objectives; and
- k. compliance with the provisions of the administrative regulations of the Management Plan;

3. EXHORTS the National Commission for Protected Natural Areas (CONANP, Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas) to comply with the Conservation Programme for Species at Risk (PROCER), especially the Conservation Action Programme (PACE), for the Golden Eagle;
4. URGES CONANP and the National Commission for the Use and Management of Biodiversity (CONABIO, Comisión Nacional para el Uso y Manejo de la Biodiversidad) to take the actions necessary for the protection and monitoring of the priority regions Area of Importance for the Conservation of Birds Sierra de Catorce (AICA No. 81) and Priority Land Region Tokio (RTP No. 80);
5. EXHORTS the Secretariat for the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT, Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales) to apply the Official Mexican Regulations NOM-059-SEMARNAT-2010, Environmental Protection – Species of wild flora and fauna native to Mexico – Risk categories and specifications for inclusion, exclusion or modification – List of species at risk, in conjunction with the environmental provisions of the Protected Natural Area; similarly encourages the National Commission of Indigenous Peoples, within the area

of its competence and with effective consultation with both sectors, to monitor, strengthen and systemize the coordinated and combined efforts, in the spirit of conserving the cultural and natural heritage of Mexico;

6. INVITES the environmental authorities to ensure the informed participation of local communities, indigenous peoples, civil organizations, and scientific and academic associations in the participatory planning of activities to be developed in the Protected Natural Area of Huiricuta, endeavouring to emphasize conservation of biological diversity; and
7. REQUESTS the Director General to establish a working group with the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), the Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC), in order facilitate harmonizing their national and regional benchmarks in one programme with the Mexican Government and providing, as far as possible, technical and scientific help to Mexico to implement the actions deriving from the Management Plan for the Protected Natural Area under the Sacred Natural Site modality of Huiricuta and the Historico-cultural Route of the Huichol People and the PROCER.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-157-EN Protection of the Okapi Wildlife Reserve and communities of the Ituri Forest in the Democratic Republic of Congo

RECOGNIZING that conservation of the exceptional biodiversity of the Ituri Forest, including the Okapi (*Okapia johnstoni*), Eastern Chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*), and Forest Elephants (*Loxodonta cyclotis*) has been carried out for two decades in the Okapi Wildlife Reserve (known by its French acronym RFO) by the Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN) supported by the Okapi Conservation Project (OCP), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), US Agency for International Development, German Development Bank, and other partners;

UTTERLY DISMAYED by the murderous assault on 24 June 2012 at Epulu, where six local people, including two ICCN rangers, were killed, 14 Okapis slaughtered, and facilities of the RFO destroyed;

AWARE that this assault was conducted by some known elephant poachers in retaliation against enforcement by the ICCN of laws protecting elephants, Okapis and other species, and prohibiting illegal mining and other activities destructive of the ecological integrity of the RFO;

INFORMED that some members of FARDC, the national army of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) responding to this assault, were involved in looting and ransacking facilities in or near Epulu of the ICCN, OCP, WCS and Forest Biodiversity Project, and looting houses and shops in Epulu;

ALSO AWARE that many villagers were forced to carry looted materials by the leader of the poachers, as they moved back into the forest of the RFO; and that ten village women were still being held as hostages by them at the time of submission of this motion;

ENCOURAGED that the Government of DRC and FARDC are currently seeking to apprehend the leader of the poachers and his associates and rescue the hostages; and

RECALLING Resolution 2.37 *Support for environmental defenders* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Recommendation 4.119 *Protection of rangers within and in areas adjacent to protected areas* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo to apprehend and bring to justice the leader of the poachers and his associates, who conducted the assault in and near Epulu on 24 June 2012;
2. CALLS upon the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo and leading officers of FARDC to identify, indict and bring to justice members of FARDC who participated in ransacking conservation facilities and looting the village of Epulu in the aftermath of the assault by the leader of the poachers and his band on 24 June 2012;

3. APPLAUDS UNESCO for immediately extending financial support for the Emergency Fund of ICCN to help in protecting the RFO, which was designated a World Heritage site by UNESCO in 1997;
4. THANKS those who have provided assistance by supplying food, medicines and other supplies to ICCN rangers and families and the people of Epulu in the wake of the assault;
5. CALLS UPON government and non-government Members of IUCN to assist the government of DRC and ICCN with financial and technical help in their efforts to re-establish full protection to the RFO and to restore the community of Epulu;
6. ENCOURAGES other partners to bolster their support to ICCN and the people of Ituri Forest through science, education, agroforestry, community assistance, medical care and immigration control; and
7. RECOMMENDS to the government of DRC the desirability of ensuring that the core no-hunting zone of the RFO receives enhanced conservation and protection.

WCC-2012-Rec-158-EN Support for the Bonn Challenge on restoration of lost forests and degraded lands

RECOGNIZING that IUCN has played a central role in developing and promoting forest and landscape restoration;

AWARE that forest and landscape restoration can enhance biodiversity and ecosystem services including reduced pressure on existing habitats, greater supply of improved habitats, and enhanced connectivity, as well as carbon sequestration, food, fuel, fibre, erosion control, improved water supply, etc.;

NOTING that more than 2 billion hectares of deforested and degraded lands in tropical, temperate and boreal areas offer opportunities for forest and landscape restoration, according to global analyses by IUCN, the World Resources Institute and other IUCN Members;

ALSO NOTING that a Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration has been formed and that the

members include the secretariats of IUCN and of the Convention on Biological Diversity, other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, non-governmental organizations, and business corporations; and

FURTHER NOTING that the *Bonn Challenge on Forests, Climate Change and Biodiversity* of 2011 aims to restore 150 million hectares of deforested and degraded lands by 2020, with benefits for climate change, biodiversity and forest-dependent communities;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES Governments, civil society organizations, corporations, research institutions and the donor community to:
 - a. recognize that forest and landscape restoration produces multiple benefits and captures synergies among international commitments already made;
 - b. define specific pledges as contributions to the *Bonn Challenge* target of restoring 150 million hectares of lost forest and degraded lands by 2020; and
 - c. develop strategies for meeting the *Bonn Challenge* and make available sufficient resources for doing so; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - a. ensure that the IUCN Secretariat supports the *Bonn Challenge* by maintaining a strong focus on forest and landscape restoration consistent with the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*; and
 - b. strongly encourage IUCN Members, Council, Commissions and National and Regional Committees to actively support the *Bonn Challenge*.

The State Member United States of America provided the following statement for the record:

“The United States commends the work of IUCN and the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration. We were pleased to pledge to restore 15 million hectares domestically to the Bonn Challenge in Rio this past June. Restoration of lost forests and degraded lands has historically been the foundation of conservation on both

public and private lands in the US. Increasing the pace and scale of restoration globally is critical and we are working internationally to this end.”

WCC-2012-Rec-159-EN Ensuring the conservation of Chilean Patagonia’s natural ecosystems

RECOGNIZING that Chilean Patagonia is one of the planet’s most remote and virgin areas of forest, with extensive native forests, fjords and glaciers, and some of the last free-flowing rivers in the world, as well as being the habitat of species such as the endemic Patagonian Huemul (*Hippocamelus bisulcus*), and the Southern River Otter (*Lontra provocax*), both listed as Endangered on the IUCN Red List of *Threatened Species*;

THANKING the Government of Chile for its commitment to preserving this majestic and unique area by declaring almost 50% of the region’s territory as under protection, and for its decision to adopt the designation of ‘Life Reserve’ for the Aysén region;

MINDFUL of the fact that in 2011 Chile granted regional environmental approval to the HidroAysén project, a hydroelectric complex that intends to build five dams on two of Chile’s most powerful free-flowing rivers, the Baker and the Pascua, flooding some 6,000 hectares of land, including a part of the Laguna San Rafael National Park, a World Biosphere Reserve;

FURTHER MINDFUL of the fact that the HidroAysén hydroelectric project will require the construction of transmission lines from Patagonia to the main electricity grid in Chile’s central zone, along a route of almost 2,000 kilometres, including a 160-km segment under water;

RECOGNIZING that the transmission route would cross areas of volcanic and seismic activity and would potentially disturb more than a dozen national parks and reserves, along with important biological corridors representing thousands of hectares of wildlife habitat;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that the environmental impact assessment for HidroAysén fragmented the project by not assessing the impact of the transmission line together with the impact of the dams, contrary to international best practice for environmental assessments and Resolution 4.126 *Protection of Chilean Patagonia* adopted at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona,

2008), which called on the Government of Chile to “evaluate the hydroelectric dams ... and the associated transmission line as a single project”;

CONCERNED by the fact that this distinction between the dams and the transmission components will prevent an appropriate assessment of the cumulative and combined impacts of the projects;

FURTHER CONCERNED that the construction of a transmission line between Patagonia and Chile’s central zone could lead to a proliferation of other mega-dams, such as Energía Austral’s proposals, along with extractive projects in priority conservation areas;

RECALLING Resolution 2.58 *Ecological management issues relating to large dams* approved by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) which recognizes “the need for the precautionary approach because of the high degree of uncertainty associated with dam development actions ... and associated land use activities”; and

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 1 *Hydroelectricity and the protection of nature* approved by the 3rd IUCN General Assembly (Caracas, 1952) which, considering that dams are capable of “seriously altering the integrity” of national parks and reserves, reminds governments “that they are pledged to guarantee not only the safekeeping but the inviolability of the areas they have taken the initiative to delimit and to protect”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS on the Government of Chile, and particularly the Ministry of Environment and the Environmental Assessment Service:
 - a. to ensure that the development of HidroAysén’s transmission infrastructure does not affect the protection given to areas protected by the State, priority conservation areas and sites, and priority biological corridors, and will not damage landscapes of intrinsic value;
 - b. to ensure true public participation in the evaluation process for the route and transmission infrastructure;
 - c. to conduct a strategic environmental assessment and an independent technical and environmental

assessment based on the highest international standards, in cooperation with the national scientific community and appropriate national and international conservation organizations, in order to determine the overall and cumulative impact of the transmission infrastructure proposed, along the whole length of the route;

- d. to evaluate the environmental and social impacts of the transmission line in the context of the cumulative impact of the transmission infrastructure and of the possible energy mega-projects that might use this infrastructure, such as the mega-dams proposed by HidroAysén on the Pascua and Baker rivers and the mega-dams proposed by Energía Austral-Xstrata on the Cuervo, Blanco and Cóndor rivers; and
- e. not to authorize the HidroAysén and Energía Austral transmission lines unless an exhaustive assessment of the cumulative and combined impacts demonstrates that the transmission project will not lead to a degradation or destruction of natural areas and wildlife habitat;

2. URGES the Government of Chile:

- a. to conduct an exhaustive evaluation of unconventional renewable energy sources and energy efficient alternatives in Chile in order to follow up on the results of a study conducted by the Universities of Chile and Federico Santamaría (June, 2008), which found that more than 70% of the demand for electricity in Chile in 2025 could be covered by alternative sustainable energy sources;
- b. to create the necessary regulatory and normative frameworks that will enable energy efficient and unconventional renewable energy sources to form part of an energy solution based on distributed generation; and
- c. to designate the permanent protection of the most important of Chile's free-flowing rivers given their high value to conservation, to ecosystem services and to tourism;

3. CALLS on relevant and interested IUCN Members, as far as possible, to provide technical and scientific support to Chile, and particularly to the Environmental Assessment Service, to help determine the

cumulative impact of constructing the HidroAysén and Energía Austral transmission line and dams, and to protect the wildlife and unique natural areas of Chilean Patagonia; and

- 4. ENCOURAGES all interested parties and relevant IUCN Members to seriously consider the possibility of supporting the development of new energy efficient and unconventional renewable energy initiatives in Chile as an alternative to new mega-dams in Patagonia and as an indication of their commitment to the environmentally-sustainable development of Patagonia and Chile.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-160-EN Preservation of oasis ecosystems

AWARE of the capital importance of and recognizing the role played by oasis ecosystems in:

- a. the settlement of human populations and their socio-economic stability resulting from the everyday activities continuously being generated by the oasis in respect of the populations, their livestock and local agriculture; and
- b. the preservation of the environment through recycling and reuse *in situ* of the waste and by-products from farming and livestock-rearing activities;

CLARIFYING that, nevertheless, these ecosystems are impacted by the damaging effects of new technology, and that assessments both on global and lower levels have reached the conclusion that oasis ecosystems are currently seriously threatened and are becoming increasingly degraded;

RECALLING that oasis ecosystems constitute viable and habitable systems thanks to their different components: climate, water, soil, vegetation, micro-organisms, animals and people, but above all thanks to the interactions that connect them;

NOTING that oasis ecosystems are unique in terms of their biological and ecological diversity; they are like authentic outdoor biodiversity laboratories, and are being

studied carefully by national and international institutions as well as the scientific community;

AWARE of the constraints and threats facing oasis ecosystems in terms of their natural resources, including:

- a. the misunderstanding of the potential of the phyto-genetic resources, which require identification, inventorization and evaluation;
- b. the decrease in water resources;
- c. the problems of sanding over due to local desertification as a result of human interventions;
- d. the salinization of soils following the prolonged use of saline irrigation water and the lack of control of irrigation (doses and frequency) and drainage;
- e. genetic erosion caused by the generalization of certain cultivars for exclusively commercial purposes;
- f. crop protection problems (diseases, pests);
- g. the lack of control of introduced cultural techniques;
- h. the inadequacy of the infrastructure for the promotion of local products;
- i. the alarming loss of local social, technical and cultural know-how;
- j. runaway, chaotic urban development; and
- k. the fact that all the above constraints continue to exert pressure on the resources needed for the maintenance of the oasis ecosystem and the survival of local populations;

BEARING IN MIND the main ecological, economic and sociological consequences of human impacts on oasis ecosystems, today the preservation of these ecosystems is not simply an absolute priority, but an urgent objective that all national and international stakeholders must achieve; and

RECALLING the actions started by:

- a. the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);
- b. the Network of Associations for the Sustainable Development of Oases (RADD0); and

- c. the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs' Directorate General of Globalization, Development and Partnerships;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS UPON national governments to acknowledge that the oasis systems and the populations who live there are undergoing significant technological, socioeconomic and cultural changes, whilst these agricultural systems are specific cases of adaptation to climate change, and have, since the Mesolithic Period, provided a livelihood for many local people, creating a highly specialized and unique way of life;
2. URGES international institutions to support projects to strengthen the resilience of these ecosystems and their capacity to adapt to climate change through:
 - a. in-depth analyses and exchanges of points of view on the current situation regarding the main challenges and issues characterizing oasis ecosystems in different countries in terms of sustainable development, governance systems, vulnerability, resilience and adaptation to climate change through meetings, training courses and seminars;
 - b. raising the awareness of decision makers concerning the importance of the oasis ecosystem for the natural environment and the economic and social conditions of oasis populations; and
 - c. strengthening the skills of local people in terms of the protection, conservation and enhancement of oasis products through exchanges of experience between different countries;
3. CALLS ON the States containing these ecosystems:
 - a. to raise people's awareness about oasis areas, presenting them as fragile ecosystems that form part of humanity's cultural and ecological heritage;
 - b. to affirm the need to safeguard oases in the face of the challenges related to development and the environment;
 - c. to favour the oasis ecosystems' process of adaptation to climate change through reinforcing the financing provisions and improving knowledge of the impact of climate change, vulnerability and adaptation;

- d. to support small-scale sustainable agriculture in oasis zones;
 - e. to associate peasant organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations, taking local know-how, traditional techniques and management models into account;
 - f. to establish a political, institutional and social framework adapted to removing the restrictions limiting the replicability of these types of agriculture;
 - g. to integrate the natural oasis heritage into their sustainable development strategy; and
 - h. to develop and reinforce scientific research into oasis ecosystems; and
4. ENCOURAGES States and governmental organizations:
- a. to create Local Development Plans (LDPs) for oases, based on their geographical, topographical and biological particularities;
 - b. to promote conservation initiatives for this natural and cultural heritage through the classification of at least one oasis per country as a protected area;
 - c. to create a national genetic heritage conservatory for each country;
 - d. to raise awareness of the need for improved management of water resources in oases; and
 - e. to establish a political, institutional and social framework adapted to removing the restrictions limiting the replicability of these types of agriculture.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-161-EN Protecting the Critically Endangered Balearic Shearwater in the Ebro Delta, Spain

OBSERVING that a governmental institution has proposed an experimental offshore wind energy project in the Ebro Delta Important Bird Area (IBA ES148), Spain;

RECOGNIZING the fundamental role that renewable energies must play in combating climate change;

CONSIDERING, however, that wind projects – like any industrial project – are not without their environmental consequences, particularly the negative impact they have on birds;

CONCERNED that the place chosen for establishing this wind project is an Important Bird Area (IBA), identified for its extreme importance to 11 species of sea bird, 10 of which are listed in Annex I to the European Birds Directive: Balearic Shearwater (*Puffinus mauretanicus*), Cory's Shearwater (*Calonectris diomedea*), European Storm Petrel (*Hydrobates pelagicus*), European Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*), Mediterranean Gull (*Larus melanocephalus*), Slender-billed Gull (*Larus genei*), Audouin's Gull (*Larus audouinii*), Sandwich Tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*), Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) and Little Tern (*Sterna albifrons*);

FURTHER CONCERNED that the location chosen for the project proposed by the Government of Spain is a Special Protection Area for Birds (SPA) under the European Birds Directive;

ESPECIALLY CONCERNED that the location chosen for this wind project is the main feeding area during the breeding season for more than 50% of the global population and 75% of the wintering population of Balearic Shearwater, a species considered globally Critically Endangered by IUCN;

OBSERVING WITH CONCERN that, in the winter, more than 70% of the Spanish population of Mediterranean Gull is to be found in this location, along with 30% of the breeding population of European Storm Petrel and 20% of the breeding population of Audouin's Gull and Cory's Shearwater;

CONSIDERING that all these species are under threat of extinction according to IUCN criteria;

CONSIDERING the recommendations of the guide, *Greening Blue Energy: Identifying and managing the biodiversity risks and opportunities of offshore renewable energy*, published by IUCN in 2010;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that the Environmental Impact Assessment has assessed the impact on birds as severe;

OBSERVING that, if the first offshore wind park in Spain were to have a negative impact on these species, this would not only be tragic for the conservation of these species but would also be extremely negative for the future development of offshore wind energy in Spain; and

CONSIDERING that there are other alternative locations on the Spanish coast of less environmental impact where experimental offshore wind energy projects could be conducted;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. SUPPORTS the carrying out of experimental offshore wind energy projects;
2. ASKS the Spanish authorities to ensure that the experimental offshore wind project incorporates all the necessary guarantees for the protection of the Balearic Shearwater, and that it avoids any negative impact on the most critical areas for this species in the Ebro Delta Marine IBA, in line with the most reliable scientific information available;
3. ASKS the Spanish authorities to study and assess carefully alternative sites for the location of the experimental offshore wind project, bearing in mind its potential effect on the Balearic Shearwater population, in order to minimize its impact on this population; and
4. URGES the governments of Spain, Portugal, France and the United Kingdom not to authorize offshore wind projects in areas often frequented by the Balearic Shearwater, if they fail to respect the obligations of the European Birds and Habitats Directives.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-162-EN

Actions to increase the protection and sustainable use of the pampas and campos of South America

NOTING Resolution 4.044 *Actions to conserve the Pampas and Campos of South America* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which urged an improvement in the conservation of the grasslands of the Río de la Plata, a region formed by the pampas (temperate grasslands) and campos (subtropical grasslands) of Argentina, Uruguay and southern Brazil;

OBSERVING that the savannahs in southern Paraguay share floral and physical characteristics with the grasslands of the Río de la Plata, and that it is therefore appropriate to include them in this proposal;

CONSIDERING that only 1% of the grasslands of the Río de la Plata, one of the largest temperate grassland regions in the world, with an area of nearly 750,000 km², enjoys any formal protection, and that this is an extremely small percentage, even in relation to the level of protection of the world's temperate grassland biome (only 5.5% is currently protected);

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that the rate of transformation and degradation of the environment continues to increase due to the growing importance of the region as an agricultural and cattle-raising area, with an annual 1% reduction in the area occurring during the last few decades (with this figure being as high as 10% per year in some locations);

BEARING IN MIND the important biodiversity of these grasslands, which include a large number of endangered species, endemic species, medicinal plants and genetic resources, as well as the goods and services these ecosystems provide, such as the products of livestock grazing systems (meat, milk, wool and leather), their contribution to the maintenance of the composition of gases in the atmosphere through the sequestration of CO₂ and the role they play in controlling soil erosion;

RECOGNIZING that these ecosystems are also home to traditional ways of life, which make up the cultural identity of rural communities and small producers;

CONSIDERING that the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

(CBD), held in Nagoya, Japan, in 2010 adopted a series of decisions relevant to the conservation of temperate grasslands, including Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, Decision X/35 (Biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands), and Decision X/31 (Protected Areas);

RECOGNIZING the achievements of the initiatives and projects carried out after the approval of Resolution 4.044, including the creation or consolidation of protected areas, the development of management models for public and private conservation units, the development of incentives for the conservation of grasslands, and the generation of production certification models;

OBSERVING that, despite the above, no significant increase in the extent of the protected areas has been achieved, and the current level of protection falls far short of achieving the global conservation goals; and

APPRECIATING that due to the above, it is necessary to establish a new Resolution, which, whilst recognizing the efforts carried out by governmental and non-governmental organizations, urges the pertinent bodies to work harder to achieve a significant improvement in the conservation status of these temperate grasslands and to update the conservation goals in order to bring them into line with global standards;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay to:
 - a. intensify efforts to increase the designation of protected areas in the temperate grasslands of the pampas and the campos in South America, in order to meet Aichi Target 11;
 - b. continue to develop and promote sustainable use and management practices in the pampas and campos of South America in order to guarantee the conservation of the environmental services and the biodiversity of the grasslands, including certification models, valuation of and payment for ecosystem services, incentives, etc.;
 - c. promote and implement environmental land-use policies for the pampas and campos of South America, which include the creation of new protected areas and the sustainable development

of the region, based on the development of analyses of vulnerability to climate change and the provision of ecosystem services; and

- d. develop and maintain an up-to-date inventory with information on the public and private protected areas and the areas of sustainable use in the temperate grasslands of the pampas and campos of South America in the four countries;
2. CALLS ON the pertinent agencies of the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay to:
 - a. develop integrated policies for the conservation and sustainable use of the temperate grasslands of the pampas and campos of South America, including specific actions to protect or recover endangered species and/or restore degraded areas; and
 - b. include in their agendas the development of actions for the conservation and sustainable use of natural grasslands and to raise the public's awareness of their natural and cultural importance;
 3. CALLS ON the international funding bodies to increase their support for initiatives aimed at conserving the temperate grasslands of the pampas and campos of South America, supporting the regional priorities that the member governments define in a timely manner;
 4. INVITES interested non-governmental organizations to promote the valuation of the temperate grasslands of the pampas and campos of South America and to disseminate their importance in terms of biodiversity, the provision of environmental services relevant to society, and their association with different cultural identities in each country; and
 5. CALLS on the Director General and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), through IUCN's Regional Office for South America and the Temperate Grasslands Conservation Initiative respectively, to promote the development of sub-regional actions and policies to improve the conservation status and promote the sustainable use of the grasslands in the Río de la Plata.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-163-EN

Action to increase the protection and sustainable use of the American Gran Chaco

AWARE that the Gran Chaco macro-region, being the second largest forested ecoregion in South America, stretching across Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay, and covering almost 1,200,000 km², possesses natural assets that are insufficiently protected, for example under 7% of its surface area in Argentina is protected;

CONSIDERING that, due to its size, the territory comprises a large variety of environments associated with extensive plains, diverse woodlands, scrub and grasslands forming savannahs and wetlands;

INDICATING that these ecosystems provide the livelihood and cultural identities of several indigenous peoples, rural communities and small-scale producers;

HIGHLIGHTING that the rate of loss, fragmentation and degradation of the natural environment continues to increase due to accelerated agricultural expansion and the application of new technologies, thus contributing to the region's growing incorporation into the international market as a supplier of primary agricultural products;

INDICATING that this trend does not solve the chronic problems of marginalization and poverty suffered by the local population and there are even signs of this population migrating in significant areas of the region;

BEARING IN MIND the great biodiversity of the Gran Chaco, which includes a large number of threatened species (the Jaguar *Panthera onca* being one of the most emblematic), endemic species, medicinal plants and genetic resources, and the wide range of ecological goods and services these ecosystems provide such as climate regulation, the storage and supply of water and their role in the control of soil erosion;

RECALLING Resolution 4.029 *Conservation and sustainable use of fish in the Río de la Plata Basin* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which highlighted the Gran Chaco as being an ecosystem of great value for ensuring the conservation of fish diversity in the Río de la Plata Basin;

CONSIDERING that the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) to the Convention on Biological

Diversity (CBD), held in Nagoya, Japan, in 2010, adopted a series of decisions applicable to the Gran Chaco, including Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* as well as Decision X/6, which urges the Parties to incorporate considerations regarding the preservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services into wider poverty eradication and development processes;

RECOGNIZING the achievements of the Argentine Republic in adopting Law N° 26.331 regulating the Minimum Budgets for the Environmental Protection of Native Forests as well as Emergency Law N° 26.160 regulating the Ownership and Possession of Lands Traditionally Occupied by Indigenous Communities, and Law N° 26.562/2009 regulating the Minimum Budgets for Environmental Protection for the Control of Burning Activities and progress in the instrumentation of Conservation Corridors in the Chaco sector of Argentina; progress with regard to the rights of the indigenous peoples of the Plurinational State of Bolivia; the significant progress made by the Federative Republic of Brazil in the fields of development, conservation and protected areas; and the work carried out in the sphere of sustainable development in the Republic of Paraguay; and

OBSERVING that, despite the above, no significant increase in the extent of the protected areas has been achieved, and that the current level of protection falls far short of achieving the global conservation goals, and that it is necessary to establish a Resolution to improve biodiversity conservation and environmental services to benefit local populations and society in general;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON the Governments of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay to:
 - a. collaborate in the achievement of Aichi Target 5 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2012*, reducing the rate of loss, degradation and fragmentation of all natural habitats, including forests and wetlands;
 - b. intensify efforts to increase the designation of protected areas in the Gran Chaco, in order to meet the goal of 17% of protected areas by 2020, as established by Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*;

- c. implement conservation corridors and other forms of connectivity between natural areas of biodiversity value, both nationally and in trans-boundary areas;
 - d. continue to develop and promote sustainable practices in the use and management of native ecosystems in South America in order to guarantee the conservation of environmental services and resilience, including models for the certification of, valuation of and payment for environmental services, etc.;
 - e. develop integrated policies for the conservation and sustainable use of the woodland, wetlands and associated grasslands, including specific actions to protect or recover endangered species and/or restore degraded areas;
 - f. promote the effective participation of the various stakeholders (indigenous peoples, local communities, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, etc.) in land-use planning within the macro-region; and
 - g. promote campaigns to raise public awareness of the value of the Gran Chaco's natural and cultural heritage;
2. INVITES the corresponding government agencies and non-governmental organizations to draw up and adopt inter-institutional and intersectoral measures and plans of work for local and regional development compatible with biodiversity conservation, particularly in conservation corridors; and
 3. CALLS ON the Director General to support the development of sub-regional actions and policies aimed at improving the conservation status and promoting the sustainable use of native forests, grasslands and wetlands in the Gran Chaco.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-164-EN

Altitudinal corridors: an adaptation strategy in the Andes

RECALLING Resolution 3.057 *Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action*, adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 4.076 *Biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation in national policies and strategies*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona 2008);

CONSIDERING that in the Andean region the mountain ecosystems are important biodiversity refuges, which, despite the fact that they are under pressure and being fragmented by various extractive activities, have led to the Andean region (Tropical Andes) being classified as one of the planet's biodiversity hotspots;

RECOGNIZING that various ecosystems in the Andean region are fragmented and that, due to their isolation, the biodiversity of this area is threatened with extinction;

OBSERVING that several studies reveal that, due to the effect of climate change, some species of flora and fauna will migrate along an altitudinal or humidity gradient within the mountain ecosystems of the region; and

CONCERNED because within the countries of the region, most of the natural areas that protect mountain ecosystems will not allow for the process of altitudinal migration by biodiversity, given that when they were declared protected natural areas the effects of climate change were not taken into account;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to incorporate into their national plans and strategies measures to ensure the conservation of the biodiversity of the systems within the protected natural areas in tropical and subtropical mountainous regions;
2. ASKS the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other interested parties to provide information on strategies for helping biodiversity adapt to climate change in protected areas within mountain ecosystems;

3. CALLS ON the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) to systematize the experiences and share them with IUCN Members;
4. CALLS ON the IUCN South American National Committees to recognize and support local strategies to connect, at a landscape level, the protected areas in the Andean region in terms of altitude, and to promote working programmes on this subject;
5. RECOMMENDS that the authorities and governments in the Andean region, when planning the declaration of protected natural areas, give priority to landscape connectivity along altitudinal gradients, as a strategy to support the migration of species in the face of the effects of climate change; and
6. FURTHER RECOMMENDS that donors interested in the conservation of the Amazon Basin and the Andean region should support this altitudinal connectivity initiative in terms of landscapes within protected natural areas.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-165-EN Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in the Bahía Blanca estuary in Argentina

RECALLING the important natural and ecological heritage of coastal areas, together with all the benefits which they bring to populations, as noted in the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*;

RECALLING the ecosystems approach recommended by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) which is defined as “a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use”; the Convention was adopted by Argentina through Law 24.375;

RECOGNIZING the importance of estuaries, which are among the most productive coastal wetlands on the planet, occupying 5.2% of the Earth’s surface but nevertheless supporting a disproportionate human burden given that 60% of humanity lives on the coast;

NOTING the recent report of the World Bank and the IUCN *Mitigating climate change through restoration and management of coastal wetlands: challenges and opportunities*, in which there is emphasis on the role of wetlands as carbon sinks removing from the atmosphere half of the CO₂ emitted annually by the global transport sector;

EMPHASIZING the need to conserve wetlands, as the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar) states, through the “conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world”; the Convention was adopted by Argentina through Law 23.919;

NOTING the need to include the conservation of these ecosystems on the IUCN global agenda, urging mutual cooperation among various relevant institutions such as the Ramsar Convention, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the IUCN;

HIGHLIGHTING that Argentina possesses one of the most extensive coastlines of Latin America (6,816 km), that the situation experienced by the inhabitants of Bahía Blanca is representative of the country and is the direct consequence of the lack of a coastal management programme providing strategic measures for the sustainable management of coasts and their resources;

CONCERNED by the negative consequences that the mega project in Puerto Cuatrerros, in the Bahía Blanca estuary, will have on the area at both environmental and socio-economic level;

APPRECIATING that the area has between 8,716 and 10,486 inhabitants who largely live, directly or indirectly, from fishing or from production activities dependent on the estuary;

EMPHASIZING that a study of the real environmental impact was conducted but that its results are blighted by significant errors and poor use, or lack of awareness, of current bibliographical resources, and that long-term, feasibility and cost-benefit studies have not been conducted;

HIGHLIGHTING that such a proposal would require an extensive estimation of the potential effect on the population of the area as the ecosystem value would be significantly degraded, negatively affecting fishing and all activities depending on the estuary;

CONSIDERING that the area in which it is proposed to extend the port and industrial complex is the inner part of the estuary with restricted circulation, adjoining a wetland environment declared an Area of Importance for the Conservation of Migratory Nearctic Birds of the Southern Cone of South America (species protected at national level by Law 23.918 concerning the Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals in its highest category), a wetland environment which is also home to species in danger of extinction (Olrog's gull *Larus atlanticus*, bands of *Salicornia* vegetation) and which is highly vulnerable and fragile as it has very low water renewal rate;

RECALLING that the aforesaid ecosystem was considered for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention, except that the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs abstained from making the formal request for listing; and

EMPHASIZING the interaction of Puerto Cuatros with protected natural areas (provincial nature reserves: "Bahía Blanca, Falsa y Verde" "Islote del Puerto o de la Cangrejera" and the "Municipal Coastal Reserve", which the municipal government is in the process of extending);

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

STRONGLY URGES the Argentine government to:

- a. adopt measures for the protection and conservation of water-producing ecosystems, designating areas of special protection and ensuring their appropriate maintenance;
- b. reconsider the option of including the Bahía Blanca estuary on the Ramsar List, on the basis of the information presented, and given the seriousness of the situation;
- c. conduct a thorough external environmental impact study of the mega project, as well as a cost-benefit analysis; and
- d. adopt the three pending draft laws on coastal management aiming at promoting strategies and methodologies for Integrated Participatory Coastal Management and improving the quality of life of communities in harmony with the environment surrounding them.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-166-EN **Responding to rapid expansion of the mining and gas industry in Australia**

NOTING the remarkable natural diversity of the Australian continent;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the unique responsibility of the Australian Government to protect, conserve and restore the biological diversity of an entire continent;

NOTING the commitments that the Australian Government has made to the international community to protect, conserve and present World Heritage properties within its territory;

ALSO NOTING the international commitments entered into by the Australian Government in relation to migratory species, internationally significant wetlands and the conservation of biological diversity;

NOTING that the Australian Government's national environmental law provides an important mechanism for the protection of threatened and migratory species, internationally significant wetlands and World Heritage areas;

CONCERNED at the potentially significant environmental risks posed by the expansion of mining and gas activities in Australia, including coal mining and coal seam gas extraction;

NOTES that the Australian Government proposes to transfer by accreditation, project approval powers under federal environmental law to its states and territories, subject to their agreement to meet federal environmental standards to protect matters of national environmental significance; and

NOTING that environmental non-government organizations in Australia are concerned that this transfer of project approval power will result in reduced protection for matters protected under the Australian Government's national environmental law;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES the Australian Government to maintain an active role in the protection, conservation and restoration of the remarkable natural diversity of the Australian continent;
2. CALLS on the Australian Government to fulfil its commitments to the international community by retaining its statutory powers to assess and regulate impacts on threatened and migratory species, internationally significant wetlands and World Heritage areas;
3. ENCOURAGES the Australian Government to ensure comprehensive assessment of the impacts of mining and gas expansion, including consideration of cumulative impacts and use of strategic assessments where appropriate, on matters protected under the Australian Government's national environmental law;
4. ENCOURAGES the Australian Government to ensure that environmental values are not significantly impacted by mining and gas extraction activities; and
5. ENCOURAGES the Australian Government to continue to implement measures aimed at improving the scientific basis and transparency of decision making for coal seam gas and large-scale coal mining developments, including through the work of the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on coal seam gas and large-scale coal mining.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

**WCC-2012-Rec-167-EN
Strengthening of European provisions
for biodiversity in overseas entities**

RECALLING that Outermost Regions (ORs) and Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs), which constitute European overseas entities as officially recognised by the United Nations, are home to biodiversity of global importance;

CONSIDERING that the populations of the ORs and the OCTs are very vulnerable to the effects of climate

change, and that the protection of natural ecosystems is vital for the resilience of local societies and the reduction of risks;

RECALLING Resolution 4.079 *The European Union and its overseas entities faced with climate change and biodiversity loss* adopted by the 4th World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

WELCOMING the opening of European LIFE funding to the ORs (for the period 2007–2013), as they had not benefited from it in the past;

REGRETTING nonetheless the lack of consideration given to the management of ecosystems in overseas entities regarding the funding granted by the European Union (EU) to ORs and OCTs, and in the European strategy for biodiversity;

FURTHER REGRETTING the fact that the actors engaged in biodiversity in the OCTs suffer unfairly because of the status of their territories, since the international and European funding they are eligible for is insufficient to address conservation and biodiversity issues;

CONSIDERING the commitment of the European Union and the Member States to the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* adopted at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP10), held in Nagoya, Japan, between 18 and 29 October 2010;

RECALLING the European Union's commitment to the biodiversity in EU overseas entities at the Reunion Island Conference in 2008, supported by the Secretariat of the CBD;

WELCOMING the support given by the French Government to IUCN for the coordination of the implementation of the recommendations of the Message from Reunion Island (2008);

ALSO WELCOMING the BEST preparatory initiative funded by the European Parliament and launched by the European Commission in the form of two invitations to tender in 2011 and 2012; and

CONGRATULATING the numerous actors in the ORs and OCTs who mobilized to respond to the first invitation to tender, showing the European authorities the reality of the local requirements and the dynamism of the overseas entities;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. INVITES the European institutions to:
 - a. continue the implementation of the recommendations of the Message from Reunion Island for European overseas entities;
 - b. integrate more fully the ORs and OCTs into European policies on biodiversity and in European maritime policy, in particular to support the sustainable management of their exclusive economic zones;
 - c. propose adequate investments in the field of biodiversity in ORs and OCTs, as a key feature of sustainable development and adaptation to climate change, by devoting a specific budget to it both in structural funds attributed to the ORs and in development funds attributed to the OCTs;
 - d. support the implementation of a sustainable provision devoted to the biodiversity of European overseas entities, receiving adequate funding (BEST), notably by making specific proposals on the basis of the results of the first preparatory invitation to tender;
 - e. engage in an ambitious EU strategy for biodiversity in overseas entities, with sustainable and preferably dedicated financial means, and with a strategic coordination role assured by the European Commission Directorate-General for the Environment;
 - f. support the integration of environment and biodiversity protection in the updating of the Council Decision 2001/822/EC of 27 November 2001 on the association of the OCTs within the European Community Overseas Association Decision (OAD), and also in the Operational Programme 2014–2020 of the ORs; and
 - g. make the European OCTs eligible in the new LIFE+ 2014–2020 regulation;
 2. CALLS ON the French, British and Dutch Governments as well as the European overseas entities (ORs and OCTs) concerned to provide their full support for these objectives and for the strengthening of European policies on overseas biodiversity;
 3. INVITES the overseas entities in question to work and cooperate with other island States through their respective regional organizations, where this may be relevant; and
 4. CALLS ON the Director General to continue her commitment to a greater consideration of European overseas biodiversity through the dedicated working programme.
- State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-168-EN
Conserving coastal ecosystems to reduce risks in coastal areas in Africa

RECALLING the importance of coastal zones and coastal ecosystems for biodiversity and the production of ecosystem services (notably food and economic development), particularly in West Africa, where the coastal strip is where most of the population, resources and sectors of activity are concentrated;

BEARING IN MIND the events recorded over the last few decades along the coast of West Africa as well as other parts of the world, revealing an acceleration in coastal erosion phenomena, which cause the degradation of human settlements and lead to increasing risks for biodiversity, local populations and the potential for development;

RECALLING the perspectives linked to climate change, the rise in sea levels and the acceleration in the frequency of extreme weather events, whose effects combined with the energy of coastal waves, storm surges and storms, and coastal flooding certainly contribute to an increase in the erosion and degradation of coastal systems;

NOTING the recent study, *Regional Shoreline Monitoring Study and Drawing up of a Management Scheme for the West African Littoral Zone* carried out by IUCN at the request of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), the results of which, fully validated in May 2011 by the eleven Ministers of the Environment of the West African coastal countries, from Mauritania to Benin, reveal:

- a. the sensitivity of the West African coasts, made up of low-lying zones and sediments that are easily mobilized;

- b. an increased risk of natural disasters linked to the degradation of certain natural infrastructures due to the extraction of wood and sediments and to coastal development;
- c. the responsibility of sediment extraction, coastal infrastructures and dams for the reduction in the amount of sediment being deposited on the coast and for the disruption to natural sediment transport;
- d. the prospect of the size of the population inhabiting urban coastal areas doubling by 2020, and doubling again between 2020 and 2050, giving rise to very dense human settlements and the concentration of vulnerable populations in high-risk zones;
- e. the almost generalized absence of any capacity for intervention to maintain the safety of local populations and to restore the environment in the event of a natural disaster; and
- f. the urgent need to strengthen coastal governance at local, national and regional levels, to improve the information available to stakeholders regarding the risks and challenges of development, conservation and the enhancement of the coastal zone, and to increase the number of green belt areas in the coastal land being developed;

AWARE that natural infrastructures such as mangroves, underwater seagrass beds, coastal lagoons, coastal sand dunes and other sediment reserves, due to their ability to evolve in accordance with climatic constraints, help reshape the coastline and delay the phenomena of erosion and coastal retreat; and

CONVINCED that the immediate and future costs of events linked to the mobility of the coastline and to coastal flooding can be reduced considerably by rethinking the development of coastal land, using natural solutions and enhancing natural infrastructure;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. ENCOURAGES all stakeholders and institutions involved in the management of coastal zones to address issues regarding the governance of coastal land, the reduction of the risks of natural disasters in coastal zones, and the conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems and the environmental services they provide in an integrated manner, and to establish prospective analyses and long-term observation

systems to monitor the effects of global changes and economic growth in coastal areas, favouring early decision making;

2. ENCOURAGES regional cooperation and economic integration organizations, like the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), to approach the issue of the governance and development of coastal zones at the appropriate level, in order to promote coherence in interventions and, along with their member States, to favour the establishment of local governance mechanisms allowing all coastal stakeholders to be involved in the joint enactment of enforceable coastal management legislation;
3. ENCOURAGES the States to make the appropriate legal and regulatory provisions to promote the recognition of the role of natural infrastructures in the sustainability of the development of coastal zones and in the reduction of risks to these areas, as well as their conservation through classification statutes and suitable management methods;
4. RECALLS the decision points contained in the Dakar Declaration of 18 May 2011, in which the representatives of the eleven coastal countries from Mauritania to Benin validated the results of the Regional Shoreline Monitoring Study and Drawing up of a Management Scheme for the West African Littoral Zone;
5. URGES UEMOA and its partners to support the prompt implementation, within the framework of UEMOA's Regional Coastal Erosion Control Programme, of the West African Coastal Observatory, under the responsibility of the Dakar Ecological Monitoring Centre (CSE), and with the technical support of the IUCN Secretariat, and the implementation of various elements of the action plan adopted by the Environment Ministers of the countries concerned; and
6. RECOMMENDS the implementation, in other parts of Africa, notably in Central and Eastern Africa, of procedures similar to those carried out in West Africa, in order to establish situational appraisals of prospective demo-economic and climate studies of the evolution of coastal zones and to create strategies for the adaptation and development of coastal zones giving priority to natural solutions.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-169-EN Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF)

RECALLING that the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) has been endorsed in many overarching policy documents related to fisheries and to conservation of marine biodiversity;

NOTING that reviews of marine fisheries management practices, including by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) – United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Expert Meeting on impacts of destructive fishing practices, unsustainable fishing, and illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing on marine biodiversity and habitats (Rome 2009), the FAO Review of progress on United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution 61/105 (Pusan 2010), the UNGA Open Review of regional and national actions to protect deep-sea species and ecosystems on the high seas from the harmful impacts of fishing have all concluded that although substantial progress has been made in many jurisdictions at implementing components of an ecosystem approach to fisheries, substantial work remains to be done;

RECALLING further that the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) Plan of Implementation (para. 31c) foresees *inter alia* the development and use of diverse approaches and tools, to promote the conservation and management of oceans, including the ecosystem approach and the establishment of networks of marine protected areas;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), through the Malawi Principles, the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the 2001 Reykjavik Declaration on EAF provide a coherent framework for reaching the EAF objectives and Aichi Target 6 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*;

ACKNOWLEDGING FURTHER that efforts should be made to better understand the impact of the present fisheries selectivity patterns on the ecosystem structure and functioning; and

RECOGNIZING that due to information gaps and resource limitations, the adoption of a fully integrated ecosystem approach will entail an adaptive management approach whereby fishery management systems will evolve over time in response to increasing experience and stakeholder adoption;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON national and regional fisheries management agencies and organizations to increase their efforts to achieve full implementation of the principles and practices of an ecosystem approach to fisheries, making full use of appropriate operational guidance available in various scientific and technical documents;
2. CALLS ON the Director General to fully cooperate with FAO, the CBD, Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, Regional Seas organizations, and other relevant environmental international governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, including conservation and industry associations, and the Global Environment Fund (GEF), to accelerate progress on all aspects of EAF implementation;
3. URGES fishing States and RFMOs to fully acknowledge that in order to improve sustainability, implementation of an EAF should include:
 - a. minimizing the effects of external drivers and associated uncertainty, including oceanographic conditions and climate variability and change, on the dynamics of harvested stocks;
 - b. reducing the impact of a fishery on non-targeted stocks, habitats and ecological communities, and reducing the risk to the targeted stock from over-fishing;
 - c. adopting and implementing an inclusive, participatory and transparent governance of fisheries on scales appropriate to the ecosystem or ecosystems where the specific fishery operates; and
 - d. promoting coherence in decision making through improved cooperation between sectors and with agencies competent for regulating fisheries and other industry sectors and for conservation of biodiversity, where actions of one jurisdiction may have consequences for the ability of other jurisdictions to achieve their objectives;
4. URGES States and RFMOs in implementing an ecosystem approach to fishing, to give particular attention to:

- a. the human dimension of EAF, especially the importance of fisheries to food security and poverty elimination and the value of fishers' knowledge and institutions;
 - b. the potential role of spatial and temporal planning and management measures in improving fisheries management and protecting nursery areas, vulnerable life stages of species or habitats and mitigating and reducing the ecological impact of fishing;
 - c. the need for better documentation of the costs and benefits of various approaches to EAF governance and implementation and of their allocation;
 - d. the need for better understanding of how various types of legal, economic and social incentives may work for or against implementation of an EAF;
 - e. the effectiveness of various strategies, risk assessment methodologies and measures for managing fisheries in information-poor situations;
 - f. how EAF considerations can be incorporated into fisheries management harvest control rules and procedures, as well as in private sector/fishing industry's business models;
 - g. how various harvesting strategies may contribute to improved conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in an equitable way to provide sustainable yields while maintaining ecosystem services, structure and functioning; for example;
 - i. targeting harvests on particular species groups versus balancing harvests across ecosystem components; and
 - ii. tracking environmental variation directly with harvest adjustments versus adopting more stable harvest strategies that are robust to environmental variation;
 - h. the need for capacity building, including capacity for scientific and technical support, field management and operations, processing standards and traceability of seafood products, and policy development and governance; and
 - i. the important role of a national Ecosystem Approach (EA) framework nesting efforts of all sectors in applying the approach, insuring coherence and equity in implementation; and
5. As knowledge of the opportunities and constraints on EAF implementation grows, CALLS ON competent fisheries management jurisdictions to:
- a. develop and apply management procedures that address sustainable fishing practices and ecosystem considerations;
 - b. develop indicators and apply monitoring and management strategies to allow for precautionary and adaptive management of fisheries; and
 - c. document and share experiences, including both successes and failures, and the lessons learned, and build a collection of good EAF practices.

WCC-2012-Rec-170-EN

To enhance the community procedures to improve the management of coastal fishing

NOTING the fact that coastal zones are home to one-fifth of the world population, the density of the population in these areas being three times higher than the global average, and the fact that for several decades, the demographic growth there has been higher than in inland areas;

CONSIDERING that today West Africa, for a long time one of the least developed regions in the world, is experiencing record urban growth rates (over 5%), with urban development processes mainly concentrated in coastal zones (over 50% of the population in 2010), generating serious negative impacts on coastal ecosystems and fishing;

CONSIDERING that droughts and poverty have led to large migratory movements since various countries gained their independence, with people moving to cities and the coast, where the migrants have been directed towards the fishing sector;

RECALLING the importance of coastal artisanal fishing in providing sustainable livelihoods for West African coastal communities, and for national economies and food safety;

BEARING IN MIND the scientific information that indicates a collapse in the main coastal fisheries on which the dynamism of artisanal fishing is based, and which blames several factors for this development including the principle of free access and the non-transferability of the management of fishery resources at a local level in some countries;

OBSERVING a rapid increase in fishing activity, associated with an offshoring approach and long migrations to prospect for new fishing zones, which lead to inter-community conflict as well as NOTING the incapacity of States to track the unloading and the origin of the catches;

AWARE of the need to involve coastal artisanal fishing communities in order to reconcile the sustainable management of fishery resources, food safety and access to the market, by enhancing endogenous local knowledge to define and apply fishing adaptation and management strategies;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the high pressure on coastal zones, which makes the coexistence of artisanal fishing activities with tourism, urban development and the exploitation of other natural resources like offshore oil or zircon very difficult;

NOTING that the involvement of local artisanal fishing communities involves the recognition and protection of their historical rights regarding access, the definition of access regulations, and the control and exploitation of resources in coastal areas corresponding to their territorial waters;

NOTING the success recorded in Senegal and Guinea-Bissau through the introduction of management areas for fishery resources and biodiversity, which has not only involved the communities taking responsibility, but also the introduction of innovative statutes such as indigenous and community conserved areas or community marine protected areas; and

REFERRING to the approaches undertaken by Guinea-Bissau to establish joint management areas in the country's main *rias* (swampy estuaries), facilitating access to resources for local communities and sharing with them certain responsibilities in terms of fishing management;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. RECALLS the fundamental role played by artisanal fishing in the economic development of coastal regions in southern countries;
2. STRESSES the urgent need to implement effective, viable and sustainable solutions to improve the governance and management of fishing, notably for coastal fisheries on which artisanal fishing communities depend for their livelihood, and coastal communities for their food safety;
3. URGES the States and regional organizations to recognize and integrate indigenous local knowledge into development plans for coastal zones, fishery resources, and strategies for the adaptation of the fishing sector to global changes;
4. RECOGNIZES the rights of artisanal fishing communities to be a central component of the decision-making process of development projects in coastal zones in order to preserve their homes, their fishing infrastructures and their access to the sea and to fishery resources in the face of high pressure from urban development, tourist activities and the exploitation of other natural resources;
5. ENCOURAGES States, regional organizations and development partners to support and participate in the implementation of shared governance and joint management of sustainable fishing, including the transfer of powers with regard to the management of fishery resources to decentralized institutions or actors made responsible through agreements, resulting on a local scale in the effective implementation of a territorialized management of sustainable fishing, and defining the rights and regulations for access, as well as the roles and responsibilities of local communities; and
6. URGES States, regional organizations, development partners and stakeholders in the fishing sector to define common strategies for the conservation of fishery resources, including the development of capacity for the control and management of the transfer of artisanal fishing skills, in particular in order to limit the risks of community conflict linked to migrant fishing operations.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-171-EN **Australia's proposed marine reserve network**

RECOGNIZING the significance of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets, and the commitment embodied in Target 11 to achieve conservation of “at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas”, and that these areas should be “of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services”, “ecologically representative and well-connected”, but also “effectively and equitably managed”;

NOTING that the international target set in 2002 by the World Summit for Sustainable Development for the establishment of marine protected areas (MPAs) has not been met;

RECALLING several IUCN Recommendations and Resolutions urging Member States to create and effectively manage networks of MPAs, in particular Resolutions 1.37 *Marine Protected Areas* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), 2.20 *Conservation of marine biodiversity* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), and 4.045 *Accelerating progress to establish marine protected areas and creating marine protected area networks* adopted at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

RECOGNIZING the recent announcement, in 2012, of the Australian Government's intention to establish the largest proposed national network of marine reserves in the world as an important and historic step forward for marine conservation;

ACKNOWLEDGING that these declarations will provide a major contribution to Australia, as a signatory, honouring the 2020 Aichi Targets, especially Target 11;

RECOGNIZING that these declarations are based on many years of scientific assessment and community consultations under a bipartisan commitment of Australian governments to a comprehensive, adequate and representative reserve system;

RECOGNIZING the scale of protection that will be offered by this move is unparalleled and is vital to ensuring the long-term health of Australia's unique marine life; and

CONSIDERING these proposed marine reserves are currently the subject of a final round of public comment as part of the process for proclaiming them under Australian legislation;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CONGRATULATES the Australian Government for its landmark announcement to establish the largest national network of marine reserves in the world, one of the most significant advances for marine environmental protection in Australia's history;
2. URGES the Australian Government to proclaim the network of marine reserves swiftly; and
3. URGES the global community to support similar initiatives that establish networks of marine reserves, informed by sound science and in accordance with IUCN's vision and mission.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-172-EN **Development of renewable energy and biodiversity conservation**

RECALLING that, in the first place, energy policies should be based on energy conservation;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 2.17 *Climate and energy* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), Resolution 3.057 *Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), Resolutions 4.076 *Biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation in national policies and strategies* and 4.078 *Appeal for action to address global environmental change* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

CONSIDERING that the world is faced with global climate change, which leads to a growing loss of biodiversity and that the assessments by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) stress the risk of serious effects of climate change on ecosystems and species, for example the risk of the extinction of one third of all

living species or the intensification of the bleaching of coral reefs;

RECOGNIZING the important role played by ecosystems in the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change;

EMPHASIZING that the extraction and burning of fossil fuels are responsible for 80% of all human-related greenhouse gas emissions in the atmosphere;

RECALLING that, in order to address both the challenge of global warming and the growing scarcity of fossil fuels, many countries are developing renewable energy sources;

NOTING that, according to a recent report by IPCC, renewable energy sources could provide 77% of the world's energy needs, if there is strong political backing; and

CONSIDERING that the projects based on the development of renewable energy sources present fewer risks for the environment than other means of production based on fossil fuels, although they can also have a major impact on ecosystems, as in the case of hydroelectricity;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

CALLS ON States to:

- a. commit themselves resolutely to renewable sources of energy, favouring their deployment in accordance with the demands of sustainable development, incorporating in particular energy conservation, the preservation of ecosystems and dialogue with the various stakeholders;
- b. support more strongly innovation and research into developing renewable energy sources in order to reduce and progressively replace the current, unsustainable means of production and consumption based on fossil fuels;
- c. formulate energy policies, systems and projects, by:
 - i. applying the precautionary principle for the most sensitive natural environments;
 - ii. demanding the strict application of the regulation on environmental impact studies (biodiversity,

landscapes, etc.) and of the 'avoid, reduce, compensate' principle;

- iii. asking for precise ecological diagnoses to be carried out in accordance with the type of energy used;
 - iv. ensuring that the operators are correctly trained and evaluated in the safest techniques for biodiversity, in particular for offshore wind turbines, which must take into account the conservation of marine biodiversity, the preservation of fisheries resources, and possibly contribute to the creation of artificial reefs validated by the scientific community and the stakeholders;
 - v. avoiding the footprint of the equipment by using existing built-up areas, or by limiting their footprint as far as possible on sites that have already been created so as to avoid degrading natural areas;
 - vi. encouraging a focus on energy efficiency; and
 - vii. strengthening the dialogue with all civil society actors, notably with nature conservation associations and the managers of natural areas; and
- d. integrate the protection of biodiversity into all national and regional energy policies, in order to:
 - i. allow for truly sustainable development of both terrestrial and marine areas, taking into account the preservation and enhancement of natural environments; and
 - ii. recognize and enhance the role played by ecosystems and protected area networks in terms of the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-173-EN Offshore oil drilling in French Guiana, Suriname and Guyana

RECALLING the ecological fragility and the socio-economic importance of the coastline of the Guianas;

FURTHER RECALLING that the coastlines of French Guiana, Suriname and Guyana are places with the highest concentration of migrating and wintering waders in northern South America, and that their beaches are a site of international importance for the laying of sea turtle eggs;

RECALLING that the Guiana Shield is an area frequently visited by delphinids such as the Common Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) and by certain cartilaginous fish such as the Giant Manta Ray (*Manta birostris*);

CONSIDERING the regional cooperation project for the conservation of sea mammals (MAMA COCO SEA), which should result in the creation of sanctuaries extending from the coasts of Brazil to Venezuela;

STRESSING the fact that the local population on the coasts of French Guiana, Suriname and Guyana depend directly on fishery resources;

CONSIDERING the risks of deepwater oil extraction, dramatically illustrated by the accident on the Deepwater Horizon oil platform in the Gulf of Mexico in April 2010;

CONSIDERING the uncontrollable impact that accidents like this could have on the natural environment, marine resources and the populations of French Guiana, Suriname and Guyana; and

RECALLING that the exploitation and use of oil releases high concentrations of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, contributing greatly to global greenhouse gas emissions and their effect on our climate;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

CALLS ON the governments of France, Suriname and Guyana to:

- a. adopt a moratorium on deepwater oil extraction in the three countries in the Guiana Shield;
- b. strengthen energy conservation policy and support for renewable energy sources, compatible with biodiversity conservation, in order to support the ecological transition of these territories;

- c. establish an international, cross-border marine protected area on the Guiana Shield, linked to the project for a marine mammal sanctuary stretching from the coasts of Brazil to Venezuela; and
- d. strengthen the sustainable management of fishery resources in order to protect marine biodiversity as well as the needs and economic activities of the local populations on the Guiana Shield.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-174-EN Offshore oil drilling in the Mediterranean

RECALLING that the Mediterranean Sea is one of the world's 34 biodiversity hotspots, and includes the Mediterranean Basin, as well as the Azores, Madeira and the Canary Islands;

STRESSING the ecological fragility and the socio-economic importance of the marine and coastal natural environments of the Mediterranean;

RECALLING IN PARTICULAR the important role played by marine and coastal ecosystems in providing goods and services such as the regulation of the climate, water supply, the mitigation of the effects of natural disasters, and food safety;

FURTHER RECALLING that the Mediterranean Sea is particularly vulnerable due to its semi-closed configuration and its significant seismic activity;

CONSIDERING the considerable pressure that Mediterranean ecosystems are already under;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that the marine and coastal ecosystems are likely to suffer a major impact with regard to offshore fossil fuel exploration and exploitation activities due to oil slicks, disturbance of the seabed, drill cutting, pollution of air and water, and also noise pollution, affecting marine life and cetaceans in particular;

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the increase in offshore drilling in world oil and gas production and the numerous serious accidents that have occurred since 1976 on oil platforms in the Mediterranean;

ALSO DEEPLY CONCERNED about the offshore oil exploitation projects carried out by the firm Melrose Mediterranean Limited off the French coasts and those carried out by the petrol firm Repsol off the Canary Islands, which could have an impact on marine and coastal sites of global importance;

WELCOMING the announcement by the President of the French Republic on 6 April 2012 regarding the cancellation of Melrose's Rhône-Maritime offshore exploration permit; and

CONSIDERING the possible uncontrollable consequences of accidents caused by deep drilling in natural environments, marine resources and coastal populations, as in the case of the Deepwater Horizon accident;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

ASKS the Mediterranean coastal States to:

- a. regulate strictly the development of offshore oil exploitation policies and projects, by:
 - i. applying the Precautionary Principle to these projects for remarkable and sensitive natural environments as well as protected areas;
 - ii. refusing to allow gas, oil or any other kind of exploration or exploitation permits for areas near natural sites which have an importance nationally or internationally – such as a National Park, a World Heritage site or a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, marine protected area, General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) Deep-sea sites of particular ecological interest – should potential impacts be identified;
 - iii. demanding exemplary application of the regulation, with complete environmental impact studies on biodiversity, as well as respect of the 'avoid, reduce, compensate' principle, thus rejecting or suspending any project that does not adhere to the latter;
 - iv. reinforcing prior scientific studies on the study of coastal and marine environments;
 - v. refusing to allow gas, oil or any other kind of exploration or exploitation concession in seismic zones or in areas prone to known natural hazards;

- vi. ensuring a long dialogue with all civil society actors about these projects, notably with nature conservation associations and the managers of natural areas;
 - vii. ratifying the Madrid Offshore Protocol of the Barcelona Convention; and
 - viii. enacting regulation adapted to projects developed outside of territorial waters, notably on the contents of environmental assessments and planned sanctions, to fill in the gaps in national regulations; and
- b. promote both the development of renewable energy sources, as an alternative to the exploitation of fossil fuels, and the conservation of natural environments in order to establish a sustainable and coherent plan for the future of the Mediterranean.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-175-EN Strengthening the autonomy of Colombia's black communities for sustainable natural resource management in their areas, with special emphasis on mining

RECALLING IUCN's previous Resolutions and Recommendations that recognize, promote and call for the implementation of conservation policies and practices that will enable indigenous and local communities to steer their own path towards well-being, development and conservation, in accordance with international agreements and their right to self-determination;

RECALLING that in the context of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) the *Durban Accord* and *Action Plan* were adopted which ... recommend national reviews for an innovative protected areas management...;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 4.041 *Following up on actions called for by the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007)*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) which called for: "... the participatory planning of

protected areas, applying the principles of good governance such as transparency, fairness, accountability and access to conflict management...”;

BEARING IN MIND the provisions of International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169 on indigenous and tribal peoples (in Colombia, Law 21 of 1991) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) (in Colombia, Law 165 of 1994), along with the UN *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (September 2007) and the *Draft American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which guarantee indigenous peoples’ rights to self-determination, prior and informed consent and to the ownership, use, management and conservation of the biodiversity and natural resources on their territories, all of which have been ratified by Colombia;

FURTHER RECALLING that, through the Constitution, Colombia’s legal framework recognizes, promotes and calls for the rights of Afro-Colombian communities to land, along with their right to participate in its conservation, in accordance with Articles 76 and 330 of the Law of 1993, and that Law 21 of 4 March 1991 stipulates that governments must consult interested peoples, promote their free participation and that consultations must be conducted in good faith through the “Prior Consultation Procedure”;

BEARING IN MIND Article 39 of Law 99 of 1993, in which the Choco Region is considered a protected area under the concept of “special ecological reserve area”, “... which seeks to promote the incorporation of the indigenous and black communities that traditionally inhabit the region in the process of conservation, protection and sustainable use of resources...”;

BEARING IN MIND that although Colombia scarcely covers 0.8% of the world’s surface area, it is classified as one of the planet’s 17 megadiverse countries and that the biogeographical region of the Choco, in particular, is internationally renowned as one of the planet’s greatest areas of biological diversity, its mountain forests covering different ecosystems and making this a sanctuary for a large number of endemic and endangered species;

CONCERNED that despite the fact that local communities have the right to land, the State continues to own the subsoil and non-renewable resources of these protected areas and that this has resulted in a number of concessions being granted to companies, creating an unsustainable situation in the area with more than 8,000 outsiders in search of gold, excavating land opened up by these companies, in an area of 807 inhabitants;

RECOGNIZING that, in April 2010, the Ministries of Environment, Mines and Transport, were warned that they should take responsibility for the problem and that they had to take measures to mitigate the environmental and socio-economic disaster but that, to date, no progress has been made in this regard;

CONCERNED at the fact that gold prospecting is a much sought after activity and that, when undertaken illegally, it creates confrontation and conflict;

FURTHER CONCERNED that although the national legal framework supports local communities’ participation in the decisions that affect their lands, this legislation is weak and full of loopholes, thus preventing the establishment of real participatory mechanisms;

BEARING IN MIND that concessions are only granted to large-scale mining activities and not to sustainable artisanal mining (*barequeo*) and that no distinction is made between this latter activity and the illegal, small-scale and unsustainable mining that is undertaken largely by outsiders;

RECOGNIZING that extractive activities are a development opportunity for governments but that, at the same time, if not managed appropriately, they result in serious risks for the local communities, governments and environment; and

RECALLING that the World Bank’s 2004 *Extractive Industries Review* provided a thorough examination of the problems and challenges presented by the extractive industries around the world and concluded that three conditions must exist to guide investment in the extractive sector: public and corporate governance, effective public pro-poor and social policies, and respect for human rights;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. REQUESTS that governments consider a general legal provision that would safeguard protected areas from the extractive industries as well as those conducted underground and under water and related to non-renewable natural resources;
2. REQUESTS that the relevant institutions, such as the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, implement an adequate international monitoring system

in order to impose sanctions on governments that do not implement their legal frameworks concerning rights to access land and other resources, with the aim of ensuring that governments recognize the legitimacy of a wide range of forms of protected area governance;

3. REQUESTS the Colombian government to:
 - a. grant concessions to local communities for artisanal gold mining which takes into account the social, environmental and economic aspects of this economic activity;
 - b. define:
 - i. a specific area for the sustainable development of this activity by the local community or by concessions to third parties (with the prior consent of the community and with corresponding compensation, following a compulsory and prior external environmental impact assessment); and
 - ii. a matching unexploited area as a conservation reserve;
 - c. make accessible the income and benefits generated from these activities; and
 - d. clearly define the process for local participation;
4. ENCOURAGES the Colombian government to adopt innovative approaches to protected areas governance, such as the adoption of IUCN Category VI for the Choco bio-region as a protected area with sustainable use of resources in which the protected areas conserve ecosystems and habitats, along with the associated cultural values and traditional natural resource management systems (with a low-impact and traditional use of resources that is compatible with nature conservation); and
5. URGES the Colombian government to include a participatory process for designating protected areas, in which all interested parties, including the State, decide from across a wide range of protected areas categories.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-176-EN Green jobs and private initiatives contributing to conservation in the NATURA 2000 Network

CONSIDERING that the draft versions of the Priority Action Framework for financing the Natura 2000 Network include various sources of funding including existing public financial instruments, private initiatives and other innovative sources;

CONSIDERING that, as a result, the creation of a private economic sector that makes use of natural products must be promoted; its production system would contribute to the Natura 2000 Network's conservation initiatives, also allowing for the economic development of areas rich in biodiversity that must be protected, thus generating new sources of employment and wealth; and

CONSIDERING that this would facilitate the effective establishment of the Natura 2000 Network, as well as its social acceptance;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

CALLS ON the European Union Member States, sub-national governments and local Member organizations and those working in the field of biodiversity conservation to consider the appropriateness of promoting programmes to support private initiatives, and initiatives carried out by companies and conservation organizations, to create 'green jobs', which contribute to the success of the measures taken to conserve the protected areas included in the Natura 2000 Network. The objectives of these programmes should include the promotion of the Natura 2000 Network as an economic instrument for private and social initiatives and should form part of a strategy, to be developed locally, through three types of action:

- a. research, development and innovation (R, D & I) of new products in the fields of healthcare, food and beauty based on natural resources within Natura 2000 Network areas, whose production system contributes towards conservation measures established in their Management Plans;
- b. the training and employment of the inhabitants of these and surrounding areas, for the establishment of manufacturing companies and organizations; and

- c. the integration of these companies and organizations into associations in order to facilitate collaboration with the authorities responsible for the Natura 2000 Network, allowing companies and organizations access to credit, and/or subsidies, depending on public interest in the activity, and the authorities' assessment of the results.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-177-EN Economic valuation and development of financial mechanisms for the payment for ecosystem services in areas of extreme poverty

RECOGNIZING that the number of cases of deforestation and forest degradation processes continues to shoot up in Mexico and Latin America and the mechanisms, guidelines and protocols to curb this trend have not responded or had the required effect;

MINDFUL that the natural infrastructure of marine and terrestrial ecosystems on our planet continues to break down and hence their capacity to provide ecosystem services that are vital for the well-being of humanity today and in the immediate future is diminishing, and that forests and jungles continue to be felled since they represent no economic value or return for their owners and their ecosystem services are not paid for;

RECOGNIZING the climate change crisis, the loss of ecosystems and the great wave of extinction of species, which is destroying life on this planet, and which, if it continues in this manner will turn the Holocene into the period of the Earth's geological history that will be marked by a sixth wave of mass extinction of species, making adaptation and resilience strategies essential for the conservation and sustainable management of the planet's biocapacity;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation) projects and their requirements have been shown to be completely non-viable given the conditions of extreme poverty experienced by most of the owners (private and community) of rural forests and jungles in Mexico, and

that therefore a redesign in accordance with simplified, local protocols, at a sub-national level is essential in order to launch them successfully and convert them into reality in the field;

RECOGNIZING that the ecosystem services payment schemes applied by the National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR) of Mexico, with the corresponding surveillance and monitoring actions, have reversed the deforestation trend in protected natural areas such as the Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve, protecting biodiversity and fighting poverty;

CONSIDERING that instead of rather complicated, out-of-context regulations, what is needed is field experience and common sense in order to make decisions regarding the development of mechanisms that effectively halt deforestation, with simple development and monitoring protocols, which can be applied to real conditions, and in order for resources to have a real impact in the field, benefiting the owners rather than only reaching consultants and decision makers;

TAKING as a reference the experience of local projects already underway, such as the case of the Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve, where the diversification of the sources of funding for the application of payments for ecosystem services for water, biodiversity and carbon are already a reality thanks to a series of ecosystem services and products integrated from the outset, in a regional rather than vertical manner;

MINDFUL that the voluntary carbon market offers a wide range of opportunities for governments, companies and individuals to mitigate their emissions in forest projects, which comply with the objectives of a REDD project, with no unnecessary complications while, at the same time, helping to fight poverty, so that biodiversity conservation generates opportunities for the development of local communities and pays them fairly for the environmental services provided by their ecosystems; and

WELCOMING the interest and intent of the IUCN Secretariat to develop synergies that fight poverty and recognize the rights of local communities, while protecting biodiversity effectively with financial incentives for local communities, by fighting deforestation and forest degradation;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

CALLS ON the Government of Mexico to maintain the payment of compensation by CONAFOR in order to:

- a. strengthen the scheme, the geographical scope and the current funding to ensure its permanence through national security, maintaining Mexico's natural heritage;
- b. promote the development of local, state protocols with rules that are viable in real contexts, which stimulate alternative sources and means of funding, and which in turn foster a social awareness disseminated by all the media, of the mitigation of carbon footprints. This would involve calling on social and corporate voluntary responsibility, so that creativity and local protocols can give rise to conservation schemes through other ecosystem services that allow these financial resources to pour into their owners' pockets, resulting in conservation management that guarantees the permanence of the services they provide us with;
- c. foster mechanisms for the adequate economic valuation of natural infrastructure and its ecosystem services, defining the financial impact of local biocapacity, generating goods and services; and
- d. use all media to raise public awareness of the climate emergency that motivates the mitigation of ecological footprints at all levels and that involves taking joint responsibility for the preservation of natural capital.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-178-EN **Reform of financial aid and expenditure harmful to biodiversity**

RECALLING Aichi Target 3 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* adopted at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), held in Nagoya, Japan, between 18 and 29 October 2010, on the elimination, phasing out and reform of incentives and subsidies harmful to biodiversity by 2020;

RECALLING the recurrent recommendations by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in favour of the reduction of subsidies harmful to the environment and biodiversity;

WELCOMING the report carried out in France by the Centre for Strategic Analysis (CAS) Working Group entitled, "public support harmful to biodiversity", which proposes numerous courses of action; and

NOTING that numerous countries have undertaken action to reduce public expenditure in the face of the global economic situation;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. STRONGLY AFFIRMS that the elimination of financial aid and expenditure harmful to the environment should continue to be the goal for public policies, in accordance with the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*;
2. CALLS ON governments and local authorities to commit firmly to the reform and reduction of the public aid and expenditure that they distribute, and which may be harmful to biodiversity; and
3. RECOMMENDS that IUCN Members, experts and National Committees support the efforts of researchers and institutions to establish, in their countries, a report on the proposals for the reform of this financial aid and expenditure.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-179-EN **Respecting ecologically sustainable use of abundant biological resources**

RECOGNIZING that wild fauna and flora are vital to human survival and have significant cultural, biological and ecosystem service values, and that decisions on whether to use or not to use living natural resources should be consistent with the conservation of biological diversity;

ALSO RECOGNIZING the importance that the IUCN mission attaches to any use of resources being sustainable and that the international community has attached to achieving and supporting the sustainable use of renewable natural resources under such intergovernmental

instruments and agreements as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Ramsar Convention, Agenda 21, the Global Environment Facility and other internationally endorsed policy and financial instruments;

RECALLING Recommendation 2.92 *Indigenous peoples, sustainable use of natural resources, and international trade* adopted at the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) which urges: “all national governments, without prejudice to their obligations under international law, to put their sustainable use principles into action in order to improve the viability of indigenous and local communities, which depend on the harvesting of renewable resources, by eliminating tariff, and nontariff barriers, which discourage the sustainable use of natural products derived from non-endangered species”;

NOTING that the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) also adopted Resolution 2.29, *IUCN Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources*, which concluded that the sustainable use of wild living resources can be an important conservation tool and that “wild living resources have many cultural, ethical, ecological and economic values, which provide incentives for conservation”;

RECALLING that the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*, adopted at the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (Kuala Lumpur, 2004), as a framework for advising governments, resource managers and other stakeholders, specifically Principle 1, which “allows sustainable use of a resource to proceed from collection or harvest through to final use without unnecessary impediment”;

AWARE that maintaining ecosystem functions is an essential consideration and that Addis Ababa Practical Principle 10 recognizes that “national policies should take into account intrinsic and other non-economic values of biological diversity”;

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 3.074, *Implementing the Addis Ababa principles and guidelines for sustainable use of biodiversity* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) urged IUCN Members who are Parties to the CBD to honour the commitments they made through the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*, which are fully congruent with Resolution 2.29;

RECOGNIZING that States have the legitimate right to take measures to promote the conservation and sustainable management of global biodiversity and societal values;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING, however, that where such measures impact on wild resources in other jurisdictions these measures could support or inadvertently undermine national or local biodiversity conservation and management strategies and their associated local and indigenous cultural and socio-economic benefits;

RECOGNIZING ALSO where use of wild species occurs, whether consumptive or non-consumptive, ecological sustainability and an ecosystem-based approach are essential to sound resource management; and

REAFFIRMING Recommendation 18.24 *Conservation of Wildlife Through Wise Use as a Renewable Natural Resource* of the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990) that the: “ethical, wise and sustainable use of wildlife can provide an alternative or supplementary means of productive land-use and can be consistent with and encourage conservation, where such use is in accordance with appropriate safeguards”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

URGES States within their existing legal framework and international obligations and without compromising their sovereign rights, if seeking to take measures for the use, conservation and sustainable management of resources that may negatively impact local/indigenous communities and conservation incentives within other States, whenever possible, to offer consultation with those States, and fully taking into account sound science and indigenous/traditional knowledge.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-180-EN IUCN’s engagement in the implementation of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*

ALARMED that the third edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* (GBO-3) made clear that the target of reducing

the rate of loss of biodiversity was not met, either nationally or internationally, in any part of the world, and that the principal drivers of biodiversity loss are intensifying as a result of human actions, and realizing that there are multiple indications of continuing decline in biodiversity in all three of its components – ecosystems, species and genes – with species extinction rates up to 1,000 times greater than the average rates in pre-human times and increasing;

AWARE of the fact that biodiversity underpins ecosystem functioning and the provision of ecosystem services essential for human well-being, and that without rapid action such services will be lost;

FURTHER NOTING that targeted conservation action results in conservation success, but the current level of action is far outweighed by the magnitude of threat, so that conservation responses need to be substantially scaled up;

NOTING that, in response to the above, in 2010 the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* at its 10th Meeting in Nagoya, Japan, to inspire urgent action for biodiversity conservation by all countries and stakeholders;

EMPHASIZING that the vision of the Strategic Plan is a world of “Living in harmony with nature” where “By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people”;

FURTHER NOTING that this plan also comprises a mission which seeks to reduce and eventually halt the loss of biodiversity at global level, as well as strategic goals and 20 ambitious yet achievable targets (for 2015 or 2020), collectively known as the Aichi Targets;

WELCOMING that Parties to the CBD have agreed to translate this framework into national level targets incorporated into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) by 2012;

APPRECIATING THAT IUCN is the leading global authority on biodiversity conservation, and has a long history of creating and providing credible and trusted knowledge on biodiversity through its flagship knowledge products such as the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* and (with UNEP-WCMC) the World Database on

Protected Areas, and therefore has a significant leadership role to play in supporting the achievement of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*; and, critically, the basis of key indicators to measure progress in their achievement;

RECOGNIZING that the proclamation by the UN General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity is a major opportunity to scale up resources and promote significant action for the implementation of the *Strategic Plan*;

RECOGNIZING the role of civil society, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, to actively participate in actions contributing to the achievement of the Aichi Targets including promoting good practices and overcoming challenges;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the important but underappreciated link between environment and development issues and the outcome of Rio+20 *The Future We Want*; and

AWARE that the 11th Meeting of the CBD Conference of the Parties (COP11), to be held in Hyderabad, India, 8–19 October 2012, will adopt a framework of indicators to facilitate measurement of progress in achievement of the Aichi Targets;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. EMPHASIZES that achievement of the 2020 Aichi Targets are dependent on extremely urgent and bold action being taken by governments, civil society and the corporate sector prior to 2015 to combat drivers of biodiversity loss, because of the time lags inherent in ecological systems;
2. ASKS that all stakeholders support, communicate and promote the achievement of the Targets at every available opportunity, including through celebrations linked to the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity;
3. CALLS ON governments to set rigorous and robust targets at the national level (within the ‘flexible framework’) noting that the global Aichi Targets will only be achieved if the individual national level targets ‘add up’ to the equivalent of targets set at the global level;

4. URGES governments to meaningfully address all five strategic goals which encompass the need to tackle the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and efforts to enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as taking action to decrease the direct pressures on biodiversity and safeguard and restore biodiversity and ecosystem services, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities and the poor and vulnerable, and capacity building;
5. CALLS ON governments to demonstrate real commitment by adopting ambitious resource mobilization strategies to greatly increase funding to biodiversity conservation;
6. URGES the donor community to incorporate the plan into their strategies;
7. CALLS FOR the international environmental and development communities to utilize action taken to the achievement of the *Strategic Plan* to strengthen international development goals that contribute to sustainable development and the elimination of poverty;
8. URGES the private sector to assume accountability for relevant parts of the Aichi Targets and thereby proactively support their implementation;
9. CALLS ON the Parties to the CBD at COP11 and subsequent meetings to take any necessary measures to overcome obstacles to the achievement of the Targets;
10. ASKS the Parties to the CBD at COP11 to adopt a clear and robust indicator framework which allows for appropriate measuring of the extent of achievement of the individual Targets;
11. DECIDES that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* (and subsequent Programmes, 2017–2020), must contribute to the implementation of all five goals of the *Strategic Plan*;
12. CALLS ON IUCN Members, Commissions, National and Regional Committees, as well as the Secretariat to demonstrate their contribution to all 20 Aichi Targets through monitoring and reporting; and
13. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - a. ensure that the IUCN Secretariat maintains a strong focus on the delivery of the *Strategic Plan*

for *Biodiversity 2011–2020*, given that it is a key underpinning framework for the IUCN Programme for the next decade (2013–2016; 2017–2020); through supporting the identified IUCN Aichi Target ‘lead champions’;

- b. strongly encourage IUCN Members, Commissions and National and Regional Committees to maintain a strong focus on contributing to the achievement of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets;
- c. support the strengthening and integration of IUCN’s key flagship knowledge products to underpin work for the achievement of the Targets and the development of indicators at the global and national level; and
- d. strongly encourage IUCN Members, Commissions, and National and Regional Committees to support work to integrate the Aichi Targets into the Sustainable Development Goals, to be developed for 2015.

WCC-2012-Rec-181-EN Citizen participation in legislative procedures regarding the environment

RECALLING that Principle 1 of the *Stockholm Declaration* (Declaration of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 1972) recognizes that “Man has the 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”; and that Principle 1 of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) proclaims that human beings “are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature”;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that people, in addition to the right to life in an environment that guarantees their health and well-being, also have the duty to protect and improve the environment;

CONSIDERING that in order to be able to fulfil this duty and assert this right, citizens must have access to information as well as regulated procedures, which allow them to participate in making decisions concerning the environment;

INDICATING that greater public participation in the making of decisions regarding the environment and greater access to environmental information helps raise public awareness about the environment, gives rise to a free exchange of opinions and, ultimately, improves the environment;

OBSERVING that Article 8 of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (*Aarhus Convention*, 1998) states that “each Party shall strive to promote effective public participation at an appropriate stage, and while options are still open, during the preparation by public authorities of executive regulations and other generally applicable legally binding rules that may have a significant effect on the environment”;

OBSERVING that the European Union ratified this Convention through the Council’s Decision of 17 February 2005;

CONCERNED because in many countries, including some of those that have already ratified the *Aarhus Convention*, there are no suitable mechanisms that allow for real and effective public participation in the processes of creating regulatory provisions or other legally binding generally applied rules, which may have a major impact on the environment;

ALSO CONCERNED in particular by governments’ approval of regulations having a possible major impact on the environment through procedures that due to their urgent nature prevent any kind of public participation;

INDICATING that the Directive created by the European Union to establish measures for public participation in the drawing up of certain plans and programmes related to the environment does not establish mechanisms or the obligation to guarantee public participation in the drawing up of environmental legislation; and

CONSIDERING that, although parliaments are chambers that represent the public, they should not replace mechanisms for public participation, either individually or collectively, for example through associations;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. URGES all governments to establish mechanisms that allow for effective public participation preferably

at an early phase, and when the options are still open, during the stage when regulatory provisions or other general, legally binding regulations that could make a great impact on the environment are being drawn up;

2. CALLS ON the European Union and its Member States in particular to include in their regulations the provisions of Article 8 of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (*Aarhus Convention*, 1998); and
3. URGES the governments of the European Union to avoid unnecessary urgent procedures in the drawing up of legislation having a major impact on the environment, and if necessary, to establish mechanisms – also urgent – allowing for citizen participation.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.

WCC-2012-Rec-182-EN International cooperation towards the mitigation of adverse impacts of aeolian aerosols

CONSIDERING that occurrence frequencies and the intensities of dust and sand storms (DSS) from many arid and semi-arid regions, including Northern China, Central Asia and Mongolia, are on an increasing trend due to the rapid desertification caused by climate change and unsustainable land uses such as overgrazing, intensive farming, deforestation for other uses, and that anthropogenic aerosol emission also has a remarkably increasing trend as a result of expanding industrial activity worldwide;

RECOGNIZING that increasing aeolian aerosols cause severely adverse impacts on the environment, ecosystems, and human health and socio-economic activities not only in the source regions but in the far downwind regions;

RECALLING that aeolian aerosols cause far-reaching adverse impacts on air pollution, visibility reduction and climate change affected by radiative balance;

ALSO RECALLING that aeolian aerosols impact terrestrial and marine ecosystems, such as damage to young

plants, cattle suffocation, reduction in biological productivity, enhancement of plankton blooms, coral mortality in the ocean and eutrophication;

FURTHER RECALLING that aeolian aerosols convey endemic micro-organisms and potential microbial pathogens such as bacteria and fungi, which may cause adverse impacts on human health and cause respiratory (asthma) and eye diseases even in regions far downwind of the source regions;

FURTHER RECALLING that aeolian aerosols cause visibility degradation, leading to airport closures, traffic accidents and increased defect rates of sensitive scientific and industrial facilities;

AWARE that international cooperation is essential to effectively prevent desertification by identifying best practices to address primary causes of desertification in source regions, to establish a monitoring and early warning system for severe aerosol events, and to accurately assess the potential microbial risk in aeolian aerosols travelling long distance for the mitigation of adverse impacts of aerosols;

CONCERNED that the cause of desertification differs from region to region, however the countermeasures are indiscriminate and few international cooperation projects have been implemented to enhance capacity for the prevention of desertification;

ALSO CONCERNED that there still does not exist an integrated aerosol monitoring network, something that is essential for the accurate issuing of early warnings of aerosol events even though the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has recognized the importance of aerosol events as a serious environmental issue, enough to establish a Sand and Dust Storm Warning and Advisory and Assessment System (SDS-WAS); and

FURTHER CONCERNED that microbiological understanding and analysis methodology are poorly established for assessing microbial risk in aeolian aerosols;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS ON IUCN Members to:
 - a. encourage affected and neighbouring countries to actively participate in efforts for preventing

and controlling desertification and land degradation to mitigate DSS, in establishing an integrated aeolian aerosol monitoring network, and in conducting microbial risk assessment by establishing a network; and

- b. cooperate with national and international agencies concerned with air quality, human health and natural disaster reduction, especially with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the WMO Sand and Dust Storm Warning Advisory and Assessment System (SDS-WAS) to deliver high-quality observation data to users in a timely manner;
2. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Council to contact the WMO with a view to underlining the importance of establishing an integrated and global aeolian aerosol monitoring network; and
 3. ENCOURAGES governments to:
 - a. establish a regulatory system for monitoring aeolian aerosols and for assessing their ecological and human health effects;
 - b. provide financial support for international, regional and sub-regional programmes for preventing desertification and monitoring aeolian aerosols and their ecological and human health effects; and
 - c. develop and apply a system to cooperate with international, regional and sub-regional institutions for evaluating the environmental impacts of aeolian aerosols.

WCC-2012-Rec-183-EN Dark skies and nature conservation

GIVEN that species and ecosystems function night and day, and that artificial light can interfere with organism and ecosystem functions;

UNDERSTANDING that the appreciation of cultural heritage sites in their authentic state, the enjoyment of landscape aesthetics, and a true wilderness experience may be diminished by outdoor artificial light, glare and sky glow;

RECOGNIZING that astronomy, both scientific and amateur, and night sky viewing by the general public are essential contributions to understanding and enjoying our natural world;

BEING aware that cultural traditions, mythology and ceremony throughout the world bear a close relationship to night sky phenomena; and

NOTING that energy efficiency, human health and personal safety are all enhanced by the use of proper lighting and diminished by excess lighting;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

1. CALLS UPON environmental and natural resource management agencies to recognize that outdoor artificial light should be subject to effective standards in order to help restore and/or maintain the ecological integrity of natural areas and the commemorative integrity of cultural sites, to respect traditional beliefs related to the night sky, and to protect species and ecosystems everywhere;
2. SUGGESTS that urban and non-urban infrastructure management authorities regulate and control outdoor lighting in the areas under their jurisdiction so as to achieve just the right amount, spectrum and timing of outdoor lighting necessary for public use and safety;
3. ENCOURAGES natural area managers and non-governmental organizations to promote awareness of dark sky values and the need for and methods of reducing outdoor artificial light;
4. RECOMMENDS that universities, science-funding agencies, and scientific institutions foster and support research into the nocturnal aspects of biological and ecological function;
5. URGES protected area management authorities to develop visitor activities that lead to public appreciation and understanding of nocturnal ecology and the night sky; and
6. RECOMMENDS that protected area and other conservation agencies seek out opportunities to cooperate with scientific and amateur astronomy organizations and aboriginal peoples on optimum outdoor lighting design, darkness monitoring, delivery of visitor activities, and outreach related to the night sky, the nocturnal aspects of ecosystems and the importance of the night sky to traditional cultures.

Annex 1

Statement of the United States Government on the IUCN Motions Process

Submitted during the 1st Sitting of the Members' Assembly IUCN World Conservation Congress, Jeju, Republic of Korea, 8 September 2012

“Mr. President, the United States welcomes the opportunity to again renew our commitment to IUCN. The United States recognizes the importance and value of an organization such as IUCN with its broad and determined membership dedicated to protecting the natural world. We look forward to the events of the Forum and our business in the Assembly over the course of the next week or so. As a member of IUCN, it is our responsibility to engage fully and actively; be assured the United States takes this responsibility seriously.

We are very interested in learning more about the perspectives and priorities of IUCN members, particularly the nongovernmental members, as reflected in the 175-plus motions put forward for consideration by this Congress. We recognize and believe that IUCN as an organization has an important contribution to make to the international environmental dialogue.

We applaud the efforts to improve and strengthen the motions process. This process remains a challenging one for us as a government. Building on our experience in Barcelona, Bangkok and Amman, we have continued to reflect on how best we, as a State member, can participate in this motions process. Because of the high priority we place on IUCN's programs which contribute significantly to the conservation goals we all share, we remain convinced that we should focus our attention on those motions that deal with issues related to IUCN as an institution, its governance and its broad programmatic issues.

We greatly appreciate the outstanding efforts made by the Resolutions Committee to review and provide guidance on all motions and to identify their relevance to the proposed IUCN quadrennial Program and their cost implications. We find the procedures of screening motions to avoid duplication and repetition to be a valuable approach and applaud the Resolutions Committee and the

IUCN secretariat for their efforts. There are, however, still motions that we believe do in fact duplicate previous motions and would ask that when it comes time to prepare for the next Congress and Assembly, even stricter attention might be paid to this.

As in the past, a number of motions would require a significant shift in priorities, resources and funding allocations within the 2013–2016 program. This raises the central issue of how the motions process fits into the IUCN Programme 2013–2016 which we are to finalize during this Congress. We appreciate the efforts made to ensure that we do not allow the tail to wag the dog.

We would note, however, that a number of motions reflect the strong views of a small number of members on what actions State members should take nationally, regionally or internationally on complex and often controversial issues.

We remain convinced that there are some types of resolutions on which it may not be appropriate for us, as a government, to engage or negotiate.

Among these is a large group of motions directed primarily to a single government or group of governments on national, bilateral or regional issues. We often lack sufficient factual information about such issues and believe that responses to these motions are best left to the country or countries affected. We will not take a position as a government on such motions, except as they have direct implications for the U.S. Government. In such instances, we may provide a statement for the record to help clarify the issues raised and provide our perspective.

A second group of issues are those focused on global issues that we agree are important but that are topics of ongoing international policy debate in other fora, such as climate change and biodiversity in areas beyond national

jurisdiction. We respect the interest of members in issues of global concern and we share many of these interests, especially on emerging issues such as the role of ecosystems in food security and the importance of the illegal trade in wildlife. However, we do not intend to take national government positions on the particular views presented in motions here or to vote on the outcome.

In keeping with our past practice, we will provide you with a list for the record of those resolutions the U.S. Government will refrain from engaging on.

We would request that this statement be entered in full for the record in the report of this Congress.”

In a letter to the IUCN Director General dated 2 October 2012, the US Department of State listed the US Government’s position on individual Motions, including 101 Motions that State and agency members of the US had abstained from voting on and a further 12 Motions that State and agency members of the US had voted against. The letter requested that these positions be recorded in Congress outputs and this has been done in the relevant sections of the Congress *Proceedings*. The letter confirmed that the US voted in favour of all other Motions.



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