



Resolutions and Recommendations

World Conservation Congress, Barcelona, 5–14 October 2008



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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 Barcelona, Spain, from 5 to 14 October 2008. 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 Resolutions process remains a central element of IUCN’s governance system and an important means by which members can influence future directions in the conservation community and seek international support in various conservation issues. These Resolutions and Recommendations, together with the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*, constitute the foundation for the work of the Union and assist IUCN in achieving its Mission.

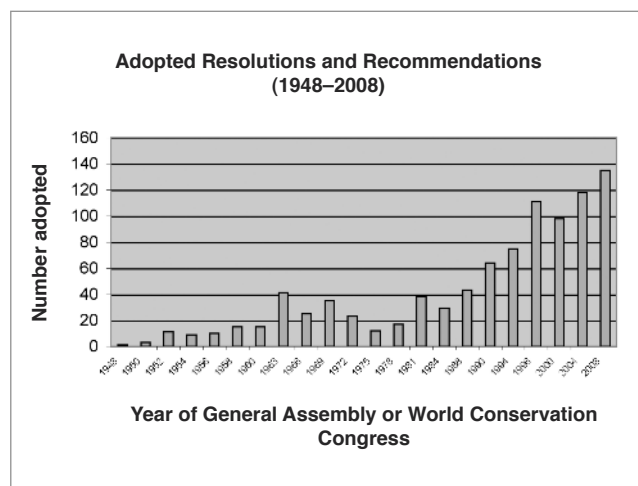
The number of motions submitted before and during the World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session is higher than in previous sessions, as demonstrated in the following graph (the graph demonstrates the number of motions adopted, not submitted):

In view of the increasing number of motions submitted, the newly elected Council will undertake a careful review of the motions process, and building on the successes we achieved at this Congress, propose concrete changes in

the Statutes and procedures to further improve the motions process.

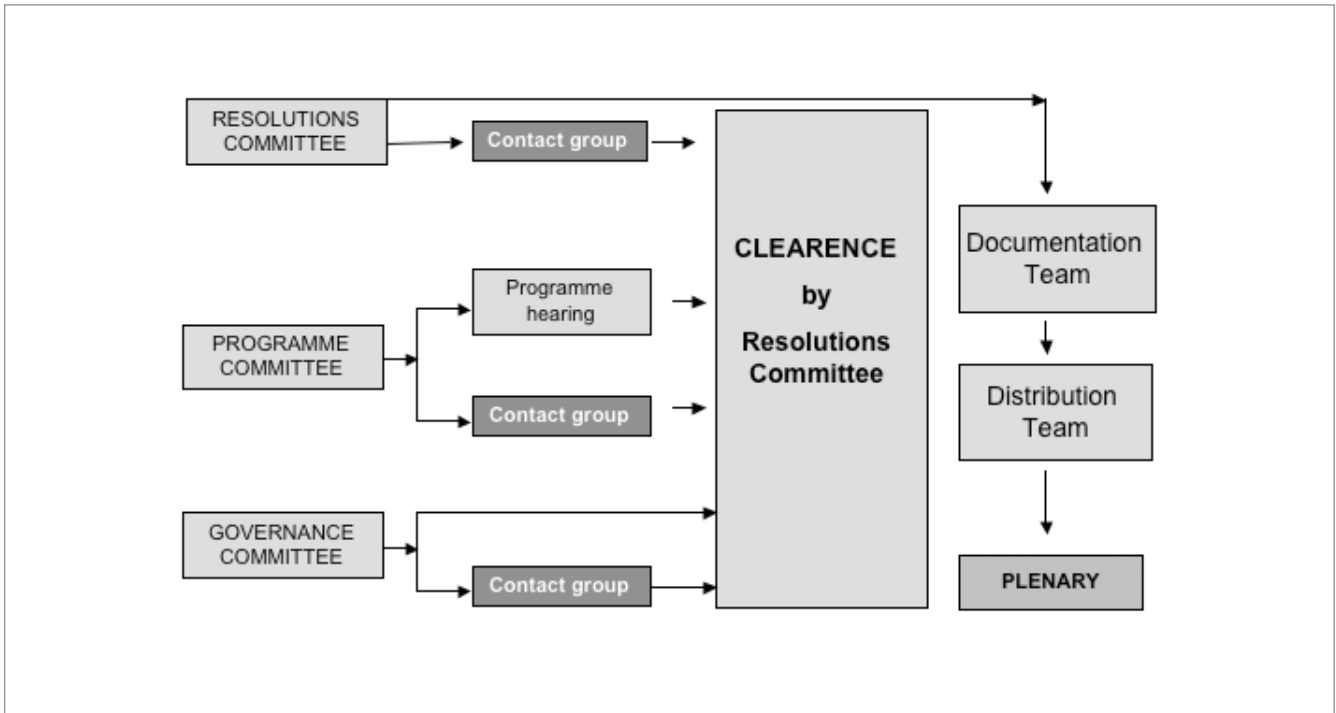
The table below provides a tally of the number of motions received, considered and adopted:

Motions submitted, considered and adopted by 4 th Session of the World Conservation Congress	
Status/Action	No.
Motions received by the statutory deadline	156
Motions not accepted for lack of sufficient sponsors	-6
Motions found to be redundant or other reasons	-13
Adjustment for consolidation of motions	-12
Total motions forwarded to Congress	125
Motions introduced at Congress	19
Adjustment for consolidation	-3
Motions withdrawn	-3
Total motions voted on	138
Motions not approved	-2
Total Resolutions and Recommendations approved	136



The chart overleaf illustrates the process followed during the Congress.

The newly elected Council, at its first meeting in February 2009, will agree on an appropriate plan for implementation of the adopted Resolutions.



We wish to convey our gratitude to Pierre Hunkeler, co-chair of the Resolutions Working Group. Pierre's thoughtful leadership provided the procedural framework within which submissions were reviewed and approved. The principles that guided the Working Group's review and decisions were invaluable. Likewise, we are grateful to the Secretariat for the overall management and support that they provided to the process and which ensured that all motions were treated in an equitable manner, both before and during the Members' Assembly. In addition, 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 technical experts that reviewed the motions submitted and the motion managers for their commitment to the process and their hard work

in the follow up of all the motions considered at Congress. We wish to also 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.

Aroha Mead and Lynn Holowesko
Co-Chairs
Resolutions Committee
IUCN World Conservation Congress
Barcelona, Spain, 2008

Acknowledgements

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General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process

The State member United States of America provided the following statement for the record during the 6th Sitting on 11 October 2008:*

“Mr President, the United States welcomes the opportunity to renew our commitment to IUCN. The United States recognizes the importance and the value of IUCN with its broad and determined membership dedicated to protecting the natural world. Let me extend our congratulations to the IUCN Secretariat and to all those many members who made this Forum so valuable and successful. But our work as members of IUCN really begins now with the Assembly. 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 non-governmental members, as reflected in the 125-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 environment dialogue.

This motions process remains a challenging one for us as a government. Building on our experience in Bangkok and in Amman, we have continued to reflect on how best we, as a State member, can participate in the motions process. Because of the high priority we place on IUCN's programs which contribute significantly to the conservation goals we share, we have concluded that, in keeping with our approach at the past two Congresses, 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 found the procedures of screening motions to avoid duplication and repetition to be a valuable and welcome approach and applaud the Resolutions Committee, particularly its Chair, and the IUCN Secretariat for their efforts. There are, however, 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, stricter attention might be paid to this. In addition, we ask that greater efforts be made to reduce the number of motions. Further, we believe we should consider changing the deadline for submission of motions to two weeks prior to the start of the Assembly to allow members sufficient time for review.

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 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, countries or regions 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, for example, climate change or human rights. We respect the interest of members in issues of global concern and we share many of these interests. However, we do not intend to take national government positions on the particular views presented in motions here or to vote on the outcome.

We will provide you with a list for the record of those resolutions on which the U.S. Government will refrain from engaging.

We would request that this statement be entered in full for the record in the report of this Congress.”

***Chief Rapporteur's note:** In a letter to the IUCN Director General dated 21 October 2008, the US Department of State provided details of the US Government's position on individual Motions, requesting that these positions be recorded in the record of the meeting and at the end of the final text of each adopted Motion.

Resolutions

4.001 Strengthening the links between IUCN members, Commissions and Secretariat

BEING AWARE of the Global Survey of IUCN members undertaken in 2007 (*The Voices of Members: Global Survey of IUCN Members*, IUCN Office of Performance Assessment, November 2007);

ALSO BEING AWARE of the External Review of IUCN undertaken in 2007 (*External Review of IUCN*, January 2008);

NOTING that these reports confirmed that members strongly believe in the concept and Mission of IUCN and reaffirm its importance in today's world;

FURTHER NOTING that the reports demonstrated that there is a gap between members' expectations and their actual experience;

RECOGNIZING that members do not feel sufficiently involved in the work of IUCN's Regional and Global Thematic Programmes, projects or policy process, but tend to be satisfied when they are involved;

NOTING that members reported low levels of involvement with the Commissions, but a high interest in becoming more involved;

ACKNOWLEDGING that Council, at its 68th Meeting, in November 2007, established a joint Working Group of Councillors and staff to propose new ways of working that would lead to a closer engagement of members and Commissions in the Programme;

NOTING that this One Programme Working Group has produced a report on the changes in IUCN that would be desirable to improve membership and Commission participation in the work of the Union, but that this report is 'work in progress' and that this matter requires the attention of the Director General and the incoming Council if it is to become the new IUCN way of working; and

NOTING ALSO the Director General's organizational development plans for the Union;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. COMMENDS the work of the outgoing Council to follow up on the Global Survey of IUCN members and the recommendations of the 2007 External Review;
2. ENDORSES the general approach being recommended to improve collaborative working within the Union; and
3. URGES the incoming Council to establish at its first meeting an intersessional working group to:
 - (a) actively continue the work of the One Programme Working Group to oversee the implementation of these recommendations;
 - (b) receive regular reports on the Director General's organizational development process; and
 - (c) obtain systematic feedback from National and Regional Committees, Commission members and members on their satisfaction on progress in achieving the intended changes.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.002 Coordination of the IUCN Programme

NOTING that IUCN is composed of the Secretariat, state, non-governmental and international non-governmental members, and six Commissions;

CONCERNED that in the past there has been little interaction among these components of IUCN in the implementation of the IUCN Programme and, in particular, little involvement of members in IUCN's work;

ALSO CONCERNED that the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* does not explicitly link action on Thematic Programme Area 2 (*Changing the climate forecast*) and Thematic Programme Area 3 (*Naturally energising the future*), with issues that are inextricably connected if the current projections for climate change-caused social and environmental chaos are correct;

ASSERTING that within the IUCN membership and Commissions there is a large body of professional expertise that can inform, advise and assist the Director General in the implementation of the Programme; and

HOPING to contribute to the implementation and greater effectiveness of IUCN's Programme;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

CALLS ON the Director General to establish a process by which the work of the Secretariat on the IUCN Programme is integrated with the thematic programme areas as well as coordinated with the work of IUCN's state and NGO members, IUCN National and Regional Committees, and IUCN's Commissions.

4.003 Strengthening IUCN's National and Regional Committees

RECOGNIZING that IUCN's National and Regional Committees are important instruments for involving the IUCN membership in carrying out the Mission of IUCN worldwide;

RECALLING that Article 66 of the IUCN Statutes states that: "Members of IUCN within a state, a Region or a part of a Region may organize committees restricted to members of IUCN or their representatives to facilitate cooperation among members, coordination of the components of IUCN, and participation of members in the programme and governance of IUCN";

RECOGNIZING that IUCN National Committees meet regularly to consider national and international issues related to the Mission of IUCN and to undertake joint activities on these issues and provide an important conduit for member participation in the design and implementation of the IUCN Programme;

RECALLING that while Article 71(b) of the IUCN Statutes states that National and Regional Committees "shall be self-governing and shall not impose financial obligations or liabilities upon IUCN, which shall not be responsible for commitments entered into by a Committee unless these have prior authorization of the Council"; this does not bar the Director General from implementing a programme designed to strengthen the capacity of National and Regional Committees;

NOTING that during the meeting of Chairs of IUCN National and Regional Committees held in February 2006 in The Hague, the lack of resources and means for members to implement the IUCN Programme were identified as one of the principal problems confronting the Committees;

RECOGNIZING that Article 66 of the IUCN Regulations states that "Committees recognized by the Council shall:... b) be solely responsible for any funds they raise and any debts and legal obligations incurred";

RECALLING that in the 2003 *Tarragona Declaration*, ratified by the Iberoamerican Committees, the creation of a Patrimony Operating Fund to facilitate the effective operation and functioning of National Committees was instituted as a common line of work among National Committees in search of financial support;

CONCERNED by the inability of some Committees, due to lack of resources, to comply fully with their statutory obligations contained in Articles 66(f) and 66(g) of the IUCN Regulations, which stipulate that Committees must "endeavour to ensure the full participation of their members" and "cooperate with the Secretariat and the Commissions to advance the work of IUCN", and NOTING that lack of compliance has even led to some Committees becoming defunct;

OBSERVING the great potential of IUCN's membership, through its wide diversity and expertise, for making a greater impact on conservation, were cooperation with members to be strengthened;

CONVINCED of the capacity of IUCN members to implement the IUCN Programme, thus contributing to delivering the Mission of the Union and disseminating its ideas within their regions and locations;

AWARE of the potential of IUCN Committees to facilitate and coordinate members' interactions with the Union's Programme in the regions and countries in which

Committees operate, thus contributing to Programme implementation in the field through the membership;

CONSIDERING that IUCN must support this function of the National and Regional Committees in order to achieve the objectives of the Union;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that IUCN National and Regional Committees generally lack the financial means to undertake the necessary activities for providing a national or regional platform for IUCN members;

CONVINCED that when IUCN National Committees obtain the necessary means to adequately perform their role as national and regional convenors of members, IUCN's Mission and Programme will be better served;

RECALLING that members of IUCN pay annual dues to IUCN;

CONSIDERING that National Committees do not receive financial support from the IUCN Secretariat; and

FURTHER RECALLING Article 68 of the IUCN Regulations that stipulates that "The Director General shall nominate a Secretariat official responsible for liaison with each Committee and shall: (a) keep the Committee informed of IUCN activities; (d) consult with the Committee about the development of IUCN initiatives in its State or Region; [and] (e) inform the Committee when IUCN has been consulted on issues of importance to the State or Region";

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. APPLAUDS the important contribution of National and Regional Committees to the Mission and Programme of IUCN; and
2. ENCOURAGES IUCN's members to support and finance the activities of National and Regional Committees;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

3. REQUESTS the Director General to initiate, no later than in two years, a programme to strengthen the capacity of National and Regional Committees so that they can perform their national and/or regional convening role adequately;

4. REQUESTS the Director General to develop jointly with National and Regional Committees mechanisms to support and finance more integrated and sustained participation of the National and Regional Committees in the execution of the Union's Programme; and
5. CALLS ON the Director General in consultation with IUCN's National and Regional Committees to:
 - (a) enhance coordination within membership as well as coordination with the IUCN Secretariat; and
 - (b) involve IUCN members in the implementation of the *Programme 2009–2012*, including:
 - (i) creating instruments for providing resources to the Committees, assuring their sustainability over time;
 - (ii) strengthening the institutional capabilities of the Committees;
 - (iii) reinforcing liaison between IUCN's Secretariat, the Commissions and the National and Regional Committees and therefore with the members, keeping them informed of its activities and initiatives within their territorial ranges; and
 - (iv) establishing greater cooperation between IUCN's Secretariat, the Commissions, the National and Regional Committees and the membership.

State member Switzerland abstained during the vote on this motion. The Swiss Federal Office for the Environment provided the following statement for the record during the 11th Plenary Session:

Taking into account the large number of motions, which is growing steadily from one Congress to the next and the difficulties in implementing a certain number of motions; and noting that several interventions are heading in the direction of better governance concerning motions; the Swiss delegation recommends that Council deals with this matter at three levels: 1. Find a mechanism to ensure that motions are truly operational, that they correspond to the general thrust of the programme and available finances; 2. Improve the voting system by introducing a rule that a motion is only accepted if more than 50% of the votes cast are in favour in the two categories of membership (States and NGOs). The votes cast to which we refer include abstentions. 3. Set up monitoring of implementation of the various motions that is regularly updated and

transparent, in line with Motion 128 [editorial note: now Resolution 4.010] already adopted.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.004 Strengthening IUCN's institutional presence in South America

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

RECOGNIZING that the vast geographical area covered by the South American sub-continent, as well as its extraordinary biological, cultural and institutional diversity, require the largest possible geographical coverage by IUCN offices;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that, in order to ensure the most efficient and effective implementation of the IUCN Programme, it is necessary to define the most appropriate locations in view of the goals pursued;

UNDERSTANDING that cooperation, advising, linking and follow-up activities for the initiatives relating to regional, sub-regional and national policies which are essential to IUCN Programme implementation, require an ongoing IUCN presence and proximity in key South American locations, at geographical as well as institutional level; and

DULY NOTING the encouraging progress achieved by IUCN through its South American Regional Office (SUR) in order to establish and retain an ongoing institutional presence in Brazil;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

REQUESTS the Director General to further strengthen IUCN's regionalization process in South America by:

- (a) supporting and further developing the process of establishment of a permanent IUCN institutional presence in Brazil; and
- (b) exploring the possibility of establishing an IUCN institutional presence in the Southern Cone of South America.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.005 Mainstreaming gender equity and equality within the Union

CONSIDERING that the relevance and impact of gender equity and equality on the use, management and conservation of natural resources, environmental management and sustainable human development planning have become apparent at conferences, meetings, forums, congresses and summits which have taken place on the subject of environment and development over the last 15 years (e.g. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, *Agenda 21*, World Water Forum II and III, World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Beijing Platform for Action, the *Millennium Development Goals*);

NOTING that the gender and environment issue is now a priority issue on the international agenda;

BEARING IN MIND that IUCN has been playing a major role in mainstreaming gender in international forums (e.g. development of Plan of Action for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); gender and climate change consideration in the Commission on Status of Women);

REMEMBERING that during the 1st, 2nd and 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congresses (Montreal, 1996; Amman, 2000; Bangkok, 2004), Resolutions were passed with a view to mainstreaming the gender perspective in the work of IUCN, and that IUCN currently has a policy on gender equity and equality (*Mainstreaming Gender in IUCN – A Policy Statement*, 1998), which was revised by IUCN's Council in 2007;

NOTING that while a Gender and Biodiversity Task Force has been functioning since November 2006 within IUCN's Council and has supported the fulfilment of IUCN's gender equity and equality policy, there is much work remaining; and

RECOGNIZING that the Union, in recent years, has begun to make substantial efforts to incorporate the gender perspective into the way it operates as an institution, but that these initiatives do not yet comply fully with the standards set in the institution's gender policy and the mandates adopted by previous IUCN World Conservation Congresses;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS IUCN's Council to continue efficiently to mainstream gender equality and equity through the continuation of Council's Gender and Biodiversity Task Force according to the *IUCN Gender Policy*;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that gender equity and equality are an imperative in the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* as well as annual plans of programmes, initiatives and projects carried out by the Secretariat; and
3. URGES the Chairs of IUCN's Commissions to work toward the fulfilment of *IUCN's Gender Policy*.

4.006 IUCN's name

WHEREAS IUCN was created as the 'International Union for the Protection of Nature' (IUPN);

WHEREAS the 5th IUPN General Assembly (Edinburgh, 1956) changed the name to properly reflect the objectives of IUCN laid down in the Statutes to 'International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources';

WHEREAS the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) amended Article 1 of the Statutes by adding the clause stating that IUCN is "also known as the World Conservation Union";

NOTING that the French and Spanish versions of the phrase "The World Conservation Union" did not include the word "conservation", and used the word "nature";

NOTING that Article I of the Convention on Biological Diversity clearly delineated its objectives as "the conservation of biological diversity" and "the sustainable use of its components", thus reflecting general public understanding that the word "conservation" does not always embody the term sustainable use;

FURTHER NOTING that IUCN's Council decided at its 69th Meeting, in March 2008, to change the formulation "International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources" contained in Part I, Article 1 of the Statutes to "International Union for Conservation of Nature" without the required formal amendment;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the proposed amendment solves the problem of coherence of the IUCN name in English, French and Spanish; and

CONCERNED that this decision has not eliminated the problems of translating the word "conservation" into some languages, such as German, where the current translations imply that IUCN deals only with nature protection and not environmentally sustainable development and use of natural resources;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

REQUESTS IUCN's Council to draft a procedure that enables the approval of the short version of IUCN's legal name in cases where a given language does not provide for a formulation which correctly reflects the objectives laid out in the Statutes and to ensure conformity when translated into other languages.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.007 Changing IUCN's Statutory Regions

CONSIDERING that IUCN's Statutory Regions were established many years ago and have been criticized by some as not well reflecting modern conservation thinking or political realities;

RECALLING that the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) requested Council to review the Statutory Regions and to make proposals for their amendment;

BEING AWARE that IUCN consulted members in early 2008, but that the results of this consultation did not clearly demonstrate a single favoured solution; and

NOTING that the present Council considered four alternative scenarios that would respond to the mandate to review the Statutory Regions;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

REQUESTS Council to propose to the next Session of the World Conservation Congress an amendment of the Statutes to change IUCN's Statutory Regions to give effect to the changes proposed in the following scenario:

- (a) Africa would retain the same boundaries as at present but would elect four (4) Councillors, which would increase representation by one Councillor.
- (b) North America and the Caribbean would retain the same boundaries as at present and elect three (3) Councillors.
- (c) Meso- and South America would retain the same boundaries as at present but would elect four (4) Councillors, which would increase representation by one Councillor.
- (d) Oceania would retain the same boundaries as at present and elect three (3) Councillors.
- (e) Pakistan would move to South and East Asia.
- (f) South and East Asia would elect five (5) Councillors rather than the current three, which would increase representation by two Councillors.
- (g) West Asia would elect three (3) Councillors.
- (h) West Europe and East Europe, North and Central Asia would be combined and elect six (6) Councillors, with sub-regions being established to retain regional diversity within the six elected Councillors.
- (i) The number of co-opted members of Council would be one. Council should consider the implications of this when bringing a proposal to the next Congress.

- (j) Overall, the present size of Council would be retained.

4.008 Including local and regional governmental authorities in the structure of the Union

RECALLING the recognition during the Earth Summit in 1992 of the key role played by local and regional governmental authorities in sustainable development and their commitment to the implementation of *Agenda 21* on a local scale;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the role played by local and regional authorities throughout the world in land-use planning and nature conservation and in devising policies to complement those of States;

RECALLING Resolution 3.003 *Engagement by IUCN with local and regional government authorities* and Resolution 3.063 *Cities and Conservation* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

COMMENDING the Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity launched at the 4th Session of the World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) on 7 October 2008; and

BEING OF THE OPINION that IUCN must convene all conservation actors and encourage all policies which enable biodiversity loss to be halted;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. TAKES NOTE of the amendments to the Statutes, Rules of Procedure and Regulations agreed by the present Session of the World Conservation Congress;
2. AGREES ON the need for IUCN to give further and serious consideration to including regional and local government authorities as members within the IUCN structure;
3. RECOGNIZES that regional and local authorities are critical actors in making progress on the conservation of nature in many countries;
4. RECOGNIZES the work done by the sponsors in developing and submitting the proposed amendments

to the Statutes on a new membership category for local and regional government authorities; and

5. REQUESTS the IUCN Council to take actions, *inter alia*, to:

- (a) seek legal advice from experts within the IUCN network and the Commission on Environmental Law on how local and regional authorities might be included in the structure of the Union, to distribute a legal technical report for discussion by the IUCN Council before the end of 2009 and to distribute this document to IUCN members;
- (b) develop options on the basis of this legal advice and with the support of the IUCN Legal Advisor to address issues raised by members at the 4th Session of the World Conservation Congress to present to Council by the middle of 2010;
- (c) consult, at the latest by 2011, the IUCN membership on these options, including through National and Regional Committees, and IUCN members representing local and regional government authorities, and also to bring into the discussion local and regional government authorities through representative organizations; and
- (d) recommend to the 5th Session of the World Conservation Congress a reform to the IUCN Statutes to include local and regional authorities in the structure of the Union, as appropriate.

4.009 Transparency of the IUCN Council

RECALLING Resolution 3.002 *Improving the transparency of the IUCN Council* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which called on the Council "... to establish firm procedures to improve... [its] ... transparency";

WELCOMING Council Decision C165124 taken during the 65th Meeting of Council (22–24 May 2006), "... to make available to the members through the password protected Members' Portal, the Council agenda and the final adopted minutes of each Council meeting with immediate effect and that these documents be made available in IUCN's three languages...";

PLEASED that the draft agendas and minutes of Council meetings and important discussions since May 2006 have been available on the Members' Portal;

CONCERNED, however, that it took almost two years for this action to be taken and that minutes of earlier meetings and actions of IUCN's Council have not been posted;

FURTHER CONCERNED that the Members' Portal, <http://members.almlet.net/>, has not been widely used by the IUCN membership, is not fully maintained as an IUCN website, and has had major site and document access problems;

RECALLING that Resolution 3.002 proposed a number of additional actions to further improve the transparency of the Council's deliberations, including provisions for direct and regular transmission of the Council agendas, background materials and minutes to members who request them;

CONCERNED that IUCN's Council has not taken additional actions or adopted other provisions to improve the members' access to its discussions and action;

RECOGNIZING that the World Conservation Congress provides an opportunity for IUCN's Council to report on and discuss its work with the full IUCN membership; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the ideal time and location for all current and future Councillors to be informed of their obligations and responsibilities is during the World Conservation Congress;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's Council to continue its efforts to improve its transparency to the members including:
 - (a) improvement in access to and functioning of the Members' Portal, or, if necessary, development of a more appropriate site that provides full and timely reporting of Council's deliberations and actions;
 - (b) establishment of procedures that ensure direct and regular transmission of the Council agendas, background materials, committee reports and minutes to members who request them, and

provide members with full information about these procedures; and

(c) convening one or more open meetings at each Session of the World Conservation Congress, with sufficient time allowed for questions and comments from the delegates:

(i) to receive and review a written report by the current Council members on their experience with the work of the Council, the support of the Secretariat and proposals for improvement of Council work; and

(ii) for all candidates for election as Councillors or Commission Chairs (both those running again and new candidates) to say what they would do if elected and how to improve on the past; and

2. CALLS ON IUCN's Council, beginning with the 5th Session of the World Conservation Congress, to schedule a meeting at each Session of the World Conservation Congress to be attended only by all current and newly elected Councillors, to review and discuss Council's obligations and responsibilities to the membership, as well as major issues facing the new Council.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.010 Implementation of Congress Resolutions

RECOGNIZING that the members of IUCN collectively compose the World Conservation Congress, which is "the highest organ of IUCN" (IUCN Statutes, Part V, Article 18) and which has the functions, *inter alia* "(a) to define the general policy of IUCN" and "(b) to make recommendations to governments and to national and international organizations on any matter related to the objectives of IUCN" (Statutes, Part V, Article 20);

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that resolutions adopted by the World Conservation Congress establish the fundamental policy, objectives and programme of IUCN;

NOTING that in the past the implementation of the resolutions adopted by the World Conservation Congress has been the responsibility of the Director General with

no specific process for involving the members who adopted them;

RECOGNIZING that the IUCN membership has a direct and appropriate interest in how and when the resolutions approved by the Congress are implemented; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that members can provide useful information and advice on the implementation process;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

CALLS UPON the IUCN Council:

(a) at its first meeting in 2009, to create a Task Force of the Council to work with the Director General on the prioritization and implementation of resolutions adopted by the World Conservation Congress;

(b) to charge this Task Force with the additional responsibility of communicating as necessary and appropriate with members regarding substantive issues concerning the prioritization and implementation of resolutions;

(c) to post the implementation status of resolutions at least semi-annually on an internet website easily accessible by the membership; and

(d) to communicate to members the composition of the Task Force along with information on how to contact the Task Force and how to access the status reports described in sub-paragraph (c) above.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.011 Development of an automated system to record members' actions on Resolutions and Recommendations to improve reporting at, and between, World Conservation Congresses

FOLLOWING discussions at the IUCN South African National Committee meetings since the previous World Conservation Congress;

NOTING the repeated requests expressed by members at the current IUCN World Conservation Congress for feedback on how motions adopted by previous World Conservation Congresses have been taken up and implemented;

CONCERNED that to date no formal, structured and readily collated mechanism exists for members to report on, monitor, coordinate and manage their contributions to the implementation of the motions adopted by each World Conservation Congress; nor is there any mechanism to identify and respond to those Resolutions and Recommendations which may be inadequately implemented or taken up during the intersessional period;

RECOGNIZING that an ability to monitor progress in implementation of motions, including allowing breakdown at different scales, as appropriate, i.e. global, regional, national and local, will allow individual members, national and regional members' groupings, and IUCN in general to better implement and monitor the implementation of the motions adopted; and

NOTING that current information technologies easily allow for on-line multi-party reporting systems;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. RECOMMENDS that an on-line, automated system for members to submit contributions on their activities in relation to implementing the Resolutions and Recommendations adopted by each World Conservation Congress is developed as soon as possible;
2. REQUESTS that the system is constructed in such a way as to be readily customized for different scales and uptake as appropriate to the geographic scope of each Resolution or Recommendation as well as the geographic mandates of individual members and members' groupings; and
3. RECOMMENDS that IUCN National and Regional Committees be mandated to mobilize their members to populate this system and to include progress on this in their reports as required in IUCN Regulations, paragraph 66(d): "... send a report on their activities to the Director General and the Council once a year";

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

4. CALLS ON the Director General to expedite the development of such a system.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.012 IUCN policy and strategy for the management of biodiversity data and information

WHEREAS the Mission of 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;

NOTING that IUCN's core strategies include ensuring the best available knowledge for the conservation of biodiversity;

RECALLING that IUCN is a signatory to the *Principles of the Conservation Commons*, supporting open access and fair use of biodiversity data, information and knowledge;

FURTHER RECALLING Principle 10 of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, noting that environmental issues are best handled with participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level, and that at the national level each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, along with the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes;

RECOGNIZING that it is widely agreed that comprehensive knowledge on the status and extent of biodiversity is essential to successful conservation efforts on the ground, to the sustainable use of biodiversity, and to ensure effective policy and decision making;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that Resolution 2.23 *Improving IUCN capacity for strategic information management/information technology* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) calls on IUCN to develop and implement a strategic plan for information management and information technology; and

UNDERSTANDING that IUCN is a major contributor of data and information on the status of biodiversity worldwide and its conservation, and that open access to this information directly supports the Mission, strategy and Programme goals of IUCN;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

1. URGES the Director General to develop a clear policy and strategy for the management of biodiversity data, information and expert analysis generated through the work of the IUCN Secretariat and Commissions;
2. REQUESTS that this policy and strategy, including clear access and use guidelines, support the fundamental principle of open access to these assets as called for in the *Principles of the Conservation Commons*; and
3. CALLS FOR IUCN to play an active leadership role in the work of global, regional and national-level biodiversity data-sharing initiatives, and to ensure that all non-sensitive biodiversity data generated by the Secretariat and Commissions be made freely and openly available through these processes.

4.013 Sustainable use and accountability

NOTING that the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) adopted Resolution 2.29 *IUCN Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources* which concluded that the sustainable use of wild living resources is an important conservation tool because the social and economic benefits derived from such use provide incentives for people to conserve them;

RECALLING Recommendation 2.92 *Indigenous peoples, sustainable use of natural resources, and international trade* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) which urges: "... all national governments,... 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 non-tariff barriers, which discourage the sustainable use of natural products derived from non-endangered species";

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 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to honour the commitments they made through the *Addis*

Ababa Principles and Guidelines, which are fully congruent with Resolution 2.29 *IUCN Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000); and

UNDERSTANDING that the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines* include a commitment by all Parties to identify, and remove or mitigate perverse incentives that inhibit sustainable use, and were duly adopted at the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (Kuala Lumpur, 2004) by Decision VII/12, as a framework for advising governments, resources managers and other stakeholders;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. INVITES IUCN members to seek the advice and guidance of the Director General regarding the consistency of policies, initiatives and/or legislation with the above-mentioned *IUCN Policy Statement* and the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. CALLS ON the Director General, where inconsistencies have been identified through the process outlined in paragraph 1 above, to:
 - (a) provide advice and facilitate dialogue among affected and interested IUCN members so that legislation and other disincentive measures affecting importation and/or sale of products from wild species reflect, as appropriate, the provisions of international law, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the *IUCN Policy Statement*, and the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*; and
 - (b) to show leadership to IUCN members and others, by providing research findings, analysis, information on the policy environment, legislation and best practices, and guidance on the application of sustainable use principles, and to share this material via IUCN online resources and other accessible means.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took

no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.014 Conservation of global plant diversity

RECOGNIZING the fundamental importance of global plant and fungal diversity in maintaining life on Earth;

KNOWING that each nation and community depends on their use of plants for their livelihoods and well-being;

RECOGNIZING that sustaining and enhancing plant diversity *in situ* is one of the most effective responses that can be made to meet the dual challenges of climate change and sustainable development, now and for future generations;

CONCERNED at the lack of understanding of these issues and thus the imperative of sustained conservation action;

NOTING the success of the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) *Global Strategy for Plant Conservation* (GSPC) in providing a framework for improving the conservation of global plant diversity, and the urgent need for full implementation of all targets;

NOTING FURTHER the collaborative efforts of the members of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation (GPPC) including IUCN, and its secretariat provided by Botanic Gardens Conservation International, in maintaining awareness of and momentum for the delivery of the Global Strategy's objectives;

ACKNOWLEDGING the significant progress delivered through an increasing number of national plant conservation strategies and regional initiatives, including the *European Strategy for Plant Conservation*, which addresses emerging issues such as climate change and natural energy, by embedding adaptive management measures within each target up to and beyond 2010; and

AWARE of the decision by the 9th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (Bonn, 2008), to consider the further development and implementation of the GSPC beyond 2010, including inputs from the GPPC in this process;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. ENCOURAGES IUCN members to engage with and support the development and implementation of national and regional initiatives for plant conservation;
2. CONGRATULATES IUCN on the successful implementation of Resolution 2.25 *Conservation of Plants* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), with particular note of the role IUCN played in developing the GSPC; and
3. COMMENDS the IUCN Species Programme for its work to implement the GSPC, especially in relation to preliminary Red Listing for plants and promoting the conservation of Important Plant Areas and Key Biodiversity Areas;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

4. WELCOMES the focus of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* on Shaping a Sustainable Future, particularly in view of the current lack of external initiatives and resources aimed at securing the sustainable use of plant resources and the *Millennium Development Goals* dependent upon them, which are addressed in targets 6, 9, 11, 12, 13 of the GSPC;
5. CALLS ON the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) network with the support and expertise of the IUCN Species Programme to:
 - (a) assist in the delivery of the GSPC beyond 2010 and specifically the accessible provision of plant conservation tool kits; and
 - (b) bring the skills, resources and expertise of the Species Programme to bear on implementation of the GSPC beyond 2010; and
6. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure:
 - (a) effective engagement on implementation of the GSPC across external sectors and programmes; and
 - (b) that the Species Programme, regional offices and the IUCN SSC plant networks work with and invigorate the GPPC in developing the GSPC beyond 2010.

4.015 Guidelines regarding research and scientific collecting of threatened species

NOTING that the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) is responsible for maintaining the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* (hereafter referred to as the *IUCN Red List*);

APPRECIATING that species are listed by IUCN as ‘threatened’ through the application of scientifically-based quantitative criteria, and are assigned to the appropriate *Red List* Category based on the level of threat they face;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the *IUCN Red List* is the most comprehensive resource detailing the global conservation status of plant and animal species and that due to its authority and objective, scientific credibility, governments and non-governmental organizations are increasingly giving high priority to the conservation of species listed as threatened;

MINDFUL that IUCN urges scientists to ensure that a responsible approach is taken to research, avoiding research that will detrimentally affect threatened-species conservation;

RECALLING that the *IUCN Policy Statement on Research Involving Species at Risk of Extinction* (approved at the 27th Meeting of the IUCN Council, June 1989) encourages basic and applied research on threatened species that contributes to the likelihood of their survival;

AWARE that some governments are prohibiting the scientific collection of species included in the *IUCN Red List* and which may be detrimental to the conservation of those particular species;

ALSO AWARE that many scientists are increasingly reluctant to provide data to the *Red List* process, due to the risk that the listing of a species in one of the threat categories will, in some cases, lead to government restrictions on scientific collecting or a requirement for expensive research permits;

RECALLING Resolution 3.013 *The uses of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which identified these concerns and requested SSC to develop technical guidance regarding scientific collecting;

NOTING that SSC has undertaken a comprehensive consultation and review process and that draft *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 have been prepared; and

RECOGNIZING the need for prompt finalization, adoption and implementation of these guidelines to provide more guidance to IUCN members and others on these issues;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN members, scientists, governments, NGOs, universities and research institutions to follow and implement fully 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* when adopted (see Annex);

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that 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* are finalized and adopted (see Annex).

Annex

Draft 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

The IUCN Species Survival Commission recommends that:

1. In the spirit of the *IUCN Policy Statement on Research Involving Species at Risk of Extinction* (IUCN, 1989), governments and research institutions should encourage and facilitate research on globally threatened species by competent scientists to enhance our understanding of the natural history and conservation needs of these species. For conservation programmes focusing on globally threatened species to

be successful, they will normally need to be fully integrated with dedicated research programmes on these species, and in many cases such research will require the collection of scientific specimens.

2. Blanket prohibitions on research and the collection (including lethal collection) of scientific specimens of globally threatened species hinder conservation efforts, and SSC recommends that governments should avoid imposing them. Although careful review of any scientific research application is important, complex or time-consuming procedures for issuing research and collecting permits act as a disincentive to the implementation of such research. Permit-issuing agencies should attach high priority to the timely review of applications related to threatened species. Where appropriate, SSC encourages involving the academic community in an advisory role for permit decisions. Conversely, scientists should be aware that many permit-issuing agencies have very limited capacity and resources, and so there is a need for applicants to understand the permitting process and to apply in a timely manner.
3. Much modern research involves analysis of material collected non-lethally from animals (often by live-trapping or mist-netting) and plants, including body fluids, faeces, hair, feathers, scales, and leaves. Governments are encouraged to minimize the administrative burden involved in the issuing of permits for non-lethal samples of species listed as threatened by IUCN.
4. Scientists working on globally threatened species should act responsibly to ensure that their research is either directed towards enhancing the conservation status of the species that they are studying, or providing important information that will assist in the conservation of the species. They should ensure that:
 - (a) the material they need is not already available in museum or other institutional collections;
 - (b) they do not collect more than the minimum number of specimens necessary for the accomplishment of their research;
 - (c) they use non-lethal sampling methods instead of lethal collecting when the research objectives allow this;
 - (d) they place all specimens collected in institutions where they can be preserved in perpetuity and be made available to other scientists, thus limiting the need for further collections; and

- (e) they submit copies of reports and publications based on their research in a timely manner to permit-issuing agencies.

5. In the case of species listed as Vulnerable under criterion D1 (less than 1,000 mature individuals and stable), or Endangered under criterion C (less than 2,500 mature individuals and declining), scientists should provide evidence to permit-issuing agencies that the number of specimens that they wish to collect lethally is very unlikely to increase the risk of extinction of the species in question, and that the research proposed is important for assisting in the conservation of the species.
6. In the case of species listed as Critically Endangered under criteria C or D, and as Endangered under criterion D (in all these cases there are less than 250 mature individuals), the lethal collection of scientific specimens (i.e. collections that involve killing of wild individuals within the population) should not normally take place, and should only be permitted when it is clear that the research proposed is essential for enhancing the survival prospects of the species.
7. In issuing permits for the lethal scientific collection of species listed as Vulnerable under criterion D1, and as Endangered and Critically Endangered under criteria C or D, permit-issuing agencies should take into account the cumulative effects of scientific collecting within a generation of the species in question, and should not consider each permit application relating to the same species independently from each other.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.016 Development of climate change guidelines for *IUCN Red List* assessments

AWARE that it has been suggested that over one million species may be at risk of extinction due to climate change;

RECOGNIZING that estimating extinction risk from climate change is a controversial topic of research and that reliable estimates of species at risk are urgently needed;

AWARE that urgent action is required to abate human greenhouse-gas emissions and to implement dynamic conservation strategies to prevent extinctions from climate change, even where such extinctions may occur years or decades into the future;

RECALLING that the *IUCN Red List* is the primary international vehicle for identifying species in need of urgent conservation action;

NOTING that the number of species currently on the *IUCN Red List* because of climate change is relatively small, due in part to lack of guidance on how climate change contributes to assessment of the extinction risk; and

RECOGNIZING that the scientific basis required for identifying the adaptation mechanisms that will best enable species to adapt to climate change, relies on information from species specialists and from the *IUCN Red List*;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Species Survival Commission, in consultation with the other Commissions and members of IUCN, to pursue actively the development of guidelines to help speed up red-listing, as a pre-requisite step to prioritizing sound scientific modelling to underpin effective conservation actions for species at risk of extinction from climate change, including:

- (a) implementation, within one year of the adoption of this Resolution, of interim guidelines for listing species as threatened with extinction due to climate change; and
- (b) issuance of approved guidance as soon as possible thereafter, but in any case, prior to the 5th Session of the World Conservation Congress.

4.017 Stopping the amphibian crisis

REALIZING that over 300 million years ago amphibians were the first vertebrate animals to occupy terrestrial environments;

NOTING that amphibians are sensitive indicators of the quality of the environments they inhabit and that in many parts of the world they have considerable economic and cultural importance for many people;

FURTHER NOTING that the Species Survival Commission (SSC) has been concerned with the rapid declines of amphibian species populations worldwide since 1990;

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts for the Global Amphibian Assessment, a collaboration led by scientists from IUCN, Conservation International and NatureServe, with participation by over 600 amphibian experts from more than 60 countries;

AWARE of the alarming initial results of this work, in which, of the 5,918 known amphibian species assessed, 1,896 species (32%) are classified as Threatened, with 456 of these being Critically Endangered;

NOTING this is considerably higher than the comparable figures for Threatened birds (12%) and mammals (23%), the only other animal groups for which comprehensive global assessments have been completed;

ALARMED that 34 amphibian species are known to have become extinct, one is classified as Extinct in the Wild, 130 have not been found in recent years and are possibly extinct, and another 1,382 species are Data Deficient and many of these may be in trouble;

APPLAUDING the development and publication by IUCN in 2007 of the *Amphibian Conservation Action Plan* that calls for immediate actions to:

- (a) expand understanding of the causes of rapid declines and extinctions of amphibian species globally, including the effects of pathogens, pollutants and climate change;
- (b) further document amphibian diversity, and how it is changing;
- (c) develop and implement long-term conservation programmes, including regulation of unsustainable trade in many species; and
- (d) undertake emergency responses to immediate critical situations involving a pandemic fungal disease and also imminent obliterations of the habitats of species with extremely small geographical ranges;

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 Ramsar Convention, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), WWF, World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA), and many governmental and donor organizations; and

DEEPLY CONCERNED that it is unlikely that the 2010 goal – to achieve a significant reduction in the rate of loss of biological diversity – posited by the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) will be reached in respect of amphibians;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) use the existing partnerships with international bodies to help implement amphibian conservation, encompassing assessment, research and both *in situ* and *ex situ* measures;
- (b) establish a focus within the core programme area “Conserving Biodiversity” on the implementation of existing policies and governance systems with a goal of:
 - (i) bolstering research;
 - (ii) establishment of protected area management systems and ecological corridors especially for amphibians; and
 - (iii) concomitant renewal of the Global Amphibian Assessment efforts with special attention to the species previously classified as Data Deficient; and
- (c) have the Secretariat support and cooperate with the continuing efforts of the Amphibian and the Conservation Breeding Specialist Groups of SSC to:
 - (i) address this unparalleled conservation crisis; and
 - (ii) support the development of other collaborative efforts to implement the *Amphibian Conservation Action Plan* of IUCN, especially those involving diverse disciplines.

4.018 Increased participation of scientists from relevant countries in the preparation of the *IUCN Red List*

CONSIDERING that the *IUCN Red List* is a point of reference *par excellence* for authorities and potential project donors when making decisions on conservation actions;

AWARE of the lack of communication within the framework of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) and of the need to change the working mechanisms that lead to the publication of national *Red Lists*, so that the opinion of national experts is fundamentally taken into account;

BEARING IN MIND that IUCN, through SSC, is recognized as the voice authorized to define the conservation status of species at a global level;

RECALLING that SSC is made up of over 7,000 scientists from almost every country in the world;

CONSIDERING that lists of species threatened to some degree are published by country and are taken into account by national authorities and potential project donors; and

FURTHER CONSIDERING that each country’s *Red List* benefits greatly from contributions by local scientists, who, moreover, are those best able to prepare, assess and comment on their own country’s *Red List*;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

REQUESTS the Director General in consultation with SSC to:

- (a) increase participation of national scientists in the preparation of the *IUCN Red List*; and
- (b) develop a mechanism that guarantees that all members of the SSC Specialist Groups can contribute their experience of the corresponding field or taxa, so that the *IUCN Red List* contains the best and most relevant information on each country’s species.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.019 The World Species Congress

RECALLING that the Preamble to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979) states: “*Recognizing* that wild animals in their innumerable forms are an irreplaceable part of the Earth’s natural system which must be conserved for the good of mankind” and “*Conscious* of the ever-growing value of wild animals from environmental, ecological, genetic, scientific, aesthetic, recreational, cultural, educational, social and economic points of view”;

NOTING the inextricable and increasingly well recognized contribution that wild species make in providing ecosystem goods and services;

ACKNOWLEDGING the lead role of IUCN, including contributions from thousands of individuals through the Species Survival Commission (SSC), in providing authoritative information on the status of species through the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*;

ALARMED that the *IUCN Red List* shows that rates of species extinction and threat are extremely high, and rising, at great cost to the integrity of the natural world and its human inhabitants alike;

RECALLING that the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in response to rising extinction rates, committed themselves “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”;

WELCOMING the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of a new biodiversity target for *Millennium Development Goal 7*, which addresses Environmental Sustainability, calling for nations of the world “to reduce biodiversity loss, achieving, by 2010, a significant reduction in the rate of loss” with progress to be measured by the *IUCN Red List Index*;

CONCERNED that, despite this commitment, society’s response to mass extinction remains insufficient to prevent it;

FURTHER CONCERNED that continued loss of biodiversity will have serious consequences for human communities whose livelihoods and well-being depend on the maintenance of healthy, free-living, self-sustaining populations of a diversity of species;

NOTING that at the first meeting of the Chairs of the SSC Specialist Groups, 11–14 February 2008, a resolution in support of a World Species Congress was adopted unanimously;

NOTING as a model the great impact of the World Parks Congress, convened by IUCN’s World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), in shaping policy and practice for protected area conservation; and

RECOGNIZING the convening role and power of IUCN relative to the global conservation community;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

REQUESTS the Director General, in consultation with the Commissions and IUCN’s members, and the wider conservation community from all sectors of society, including but not limited to governments, multi-lateral agencies, foundations, non-governmental organizations, accredited zoos and aquaria, botanic gardens, academia, the media and the business sector, to:

- (a) consider and consult with the intent to convene a World Species Congress within a reasonable timeframe;
- (b) note that the objectives of the proposed World Species Congress, which should be scientifically based, would be to highlight the status of the planet’s species, articulate and review the consequences of the threats that they face, and chart their future conservation;
- (c) ensure that the substantial funding required for the proposed World Species Congress is secured from external sources, and does not represent a drain on IUCN’s flexible financial or human resources;
- (d) ensure that the outcomes of the proposed World Species Congress support and enhance the objectives of international agreements related to species conservation; and
- (e) ensure that the proposed World Species Congress draws together and synthesizes activities already included in the *IUCN Programme*, and does not add new elements to the *Programme*.

4.020 Quantitative thresholds for categories and criteria of threatened ecosystems

EMPHASIZING the leadership of IUCN in developing and establishing global standards for biodiversity assessment;

ACKNOWLEDGING the successful and widespread application of the *IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria* at the national, regional and global level;

RECOGNIZING the policy impact of the data summarized in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* in global processes such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the *Millennium Development Goals* (MDGs), as well as in national and regional policies;

APPRECIATING efforts carried out by the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) for the development of indicators of ecosystem status;

RECOGNIZING ongoing efforts around the world to classify, map and assess the distribution and status of ecosystems, as well as the increased availability of the required data and technology from global to local levels;

CONSIDERING the findings of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) that “over the past 50 years, humans have changed ecosystems more rapidly and extensively than in any comparable period of time in human history... result[ing] in a substantial and largely irreversible loss in the diversity of life on Earth...”;

ALSO CONSIDERING the need for a standardized process for assessing threat status and risk at the ecosystem level;

AWARE that the systematic identification of conservation priorities allows for improved investment of financial resources;

CONCERNED that the functioning and extent of ecosystems is likely to be impacted by climate change in the next decades, as well as by other major drivers of biodiversity change;

AWARE that human well-being is ultimately dependent on the services provided by functional ecosystems; and

CELEBRATING the commitment of the nations of the world to significantly reduce the rate of decline of biodiversity at all levels from global to local;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

REQUESTS the Director General, in consultation with IUCN’s Commissions and members, to initiate 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, with a view to submitting it to a future Session of the World Conservation Congress for adoption.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.021 Elimination of the illegal use of poisoned bait as a method for controlling predators in the European Union

CONSIDERING that there is evidence that poisoned bait is being used widely as an illegal method of controlling native or feral predators in the European Union (EU);

ALSO CONSIDERING that the EU is an institution that should take a leading role in environmental protection and that it can also set an example in combating the illegal use of poison for the rest of the world to learn from;

NOTING that every year thousands of animals are killed in this way in Europe, including individuals of threatened species such as Spanish Imperial Eagle *Aquila adalberti*, Eastern Imperial Eagle *A. heliaca*, Eurasian Black Vulture *Aegypius monachus*, Bearded Vulture *Gypaetus barbatus*, Red Kite *Milvus milvus*, Common Wolf *Canis lupus* and Brown Bear *Ursus arctos*. According to a number of sources, between 1990 and 2005 in Spain alone, poison caused the death of at least 70 Spanish Imperial Eagles, 16 Bearded Vultures, 420 Eurasian Black Vultures, 435 Red Kites, 182 Egyptian Vultures *Neophron percnopterus* and 767 Black Kites *Milvus migrans*, among other species protected under environmental law;

NOTING that some EU Member States, Spain among them, have initiated plans and strategies that, if developed properly, can serve effectively to combat the illegal use of poison; and

RECOGNIZING that under strictly supervised conditions and on a selective basis, the legal and regulated use of poison baits can have important conservation benefits through the control of alien invasive species;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES IUCN's members, Commissions, Council, international organizations, the EU and its Member States to engage in a cooperative effort using all available means to eliminate the illegal use of poison bait in the natural environment; and
2. URGES the EU and its Member States to carry out a programme that promotes national action plans and facilitates their development using all available means to enforce existing controls over any use of poison baits in order to reduce negative impacts on native species;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

3. ASKS the Director General to promote and collaborate in efforts to eliminate the illegal use of poisoned bait in the natural environment in order to reduce negative impacts on native species.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.022 Promotion of Dugong *Dugong dugon* during the UN 2010 International Year for Biodiversity

RECALLING the 2002 *Dugong Status Report and Action Plans for Countries and Territories* of the United Nations Environment Programme/Department of Early Warning and Assessment (UNEP/DEWA), which warned about the alarming status of the Dugong in most of its range;

FURTHER RECALLING Recommendation 7.5 *Range State Agreement for Dugong (Dugong dugong) Conservation* adopted by the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS, Bonn, 2002), which called on all Dugong Range States to develop and conclude a

memorandum of understanding and an action plan for the conservation and management of the Dugong throughout its range;

RECOGNIZING that the Knowledge Marketplace Session *Dugong Conservation Network in Asia and Pacific* held during the World Conservation Forum of the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) acknowledged the alarming status of the Dugong and the urgent need to strengthen the network to support Dugong conservation in the Asia and Pacific region;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the Asia-Pacific Dugong Protection Network Symposium held by NGOs in Tokyo and Nago, Japan in 2006, addressed the urgent need to establish an international framework for Dugong conservation; that the Governments of Australia and Thailand co-hosted the first meeting on Dugong conservation in the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asian region under the auspices of CMS in 2005; and that the *Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Dugongs (Dugong dugon) and their habitats throughout their Range* was adopted and signed by Range States under the auspices of CMS in 2007;

RECALLING Recommendation 2.72 *Conservation of Dugong (Dugong dugon), Okinawa Woodpecker (Sapheopipo noguchii) and Okinawa Rail (Gallirallus okinawae)* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Recommendation 3.114 *Conservation of Dugong Dugong dugon, Okinawa Woodpecker Sapheopipo noguchii, and Okinawa Rail Gallirallus okinawae in Japan* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which urged the Government of Japan to establish a Dugong protected area and consider a zero option alternative in its environmental impact assessment (EIA) for the construction of the United States (US) Marine Corps facility in the habitat of the Okinawa Dugong in the northern part of Okinawa Island, and urged the Government of the United States of America (USA) to cooperate with the Government of Japan in its EIA;

WELCOMING that the Governments of Japan and the United States reconsidered in 2005 the previous offshore plan to construct the US Marine Corps facility in the habitat of the Okinawa Dugong in the northern part of Okinawa Island;

NOTING that the Government of Japan has begun its EIA for the new coastal plan to construct the US Marine Corps facility, requiring reclamation of a portion of the

coastline of the Okinawa Dugong's habitat in the same area as its previous plan; and

CONSIDERING that the US Federal District Court has ruled that the United States Government failed to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in its planning of the construction of the US Marine Corps facility in the habitat of the Okinawa Dugong, and that the US Federal District Court has ordered the US Government to comply with the NHPA, in particular, in taking into account the effects of the construction of the facility on the Okinawa Dugong;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) to promote especially the conservation of the Dugong during the UN 2010 International Year of Biodiversity;
2. RECOMMENDS that all range countries with Dugong habitats make efforts to minimize adverse effects on the Dugong and participate in the CMS *Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Dugongs and their habitats throughout their Range*;
3. COMMENDS the efforts of the Government of Japan, in consultation with academics, researchers and NGOs, to conduct an EIA, including all options for the construction of the US Marine Corps facility in the habitat of the Okinawa Dugong considering environmental conservation and wild animal protection;
4. REQUESTS the Government of Japan to establish and declare an action plan to avoid or minimize adverse effects on the Okinawa Dugong caused by the construction of the US Marine Corps facility in the habitat of the Okinawa Dugong; and
5. REQUESTS the Government of the United States of America to work together with the Government of Japan to complete the EIA and the set-up of the action plan;

In addition, the IUCN World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance in the implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

6. CALLS ON the IUCN Director General and the Species Survival Commission (SSC), in line with Recommendation 2.72 (adopted in Amman, 2000) and Recommendation 3.114 (adopted in Bangkok, 2004) to promote Dugong conservation during the UN 2010 International Year for Biodiversity.

State and Government Agency members from Japan indicated that they would abstain in the vote on this motion.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.023 Conservation and recovery of the Mediterranean Monk Seal
Monachus monachus

CONSIDERING that the Mediterranean Monk Seal is a species of high biological as well as cultural and symbolic value, the recovery of which is directly related to the condition of coastal and marine ecosystems;

NOTING that the species numbers less than a thousand worldwide and is on the list of the ten most endangered mammal species in the world;

BEARING IN MIND that there are now two geographically separated concentrations, in the eastern Atlantic (Saharan coast and Madeira) and the Aegean Sea (Cyprus, Greece and Turkey);

AWARE that indicators of the presence of the species on the south-eastern Mediterranean coast are increasingly more sporadic and alarming, and suggest that the population may be in a state of actual or imminent collapse;

REMEMBERING that half a century ago the Monk Seal was present less than 200 km from Barcelona where the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress is being held;

GRATIFIED by the significant efforts made in the last few years on the coasts and islands of the eastern Atlantic and the Aegean Sea, some of which have been extremely successful, such as those in the Islas Desertas, the Saharan coast and at some Greek and Turkish colonies;

TAKING into consideration:

- (a) our greater knowledge and experience of management, thanks to the efforts of government agencies, academic institutions and NGOs;
- (b) the notable efforts of various Mediterranean countries in establishing marine parks and reserves, which have enabled sub-aquatic ecosystems to recover at a significant rate; and
- (c) the existence of a Pinniped Specialist Group within the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC);

RECOGNIZING that, in spite of these positive factors, the species is still in a critical situation, and that both populations, Aegean and Atlantic, are becoming increasingly isolated, which adds a genetic risk to the fragility of the species and its demographic dispersal; and

REITERATING the contents of the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* and of all international and regional documents that categorize this species as having maximum priority for recovery;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CONGRATULATES the authorities, NGOs and researchers of Greece, Mauritania, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and the European Union that have worked to help this species in recent years;
2. PROPOSES that all IUCN's members from Mediterranean countries maintain and increase their efforts to aid the recovery of the species;
3. REITERATES the importance of extending the network of Marine Protected Areas and improving their management, in accordance with the Barcelona Convention's *Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Biodiversity in the Mediterranean*, as one of the guarantees to ensure the species' recovery; and
4. ASKS the States of the western Mediterranean, in collaboration with other countries harbouring populations in better condition, to draw up and apply a regional strategy to enable existing or recently extinct populations to recover, as a key initiative so that, in future, the genetic flow between the Atlantic and Aegean populations can be re-established;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008,

provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

5. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) stimulate and facilitate collaborative Monk Seal conservation projects among IUCN's Mediterranean members with the assistance of the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation and of the SSC Pinniped Specialist Group; and
 - (b) communicate this decision to all entities named in this Resolution.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.024 Conservation of the habitat of the Iberian Lynx *Lynx pardinus*

AWARE that the Iberian Lynx is symbolic of the conservation of Mediterranean ecosystems, and that it is an endemic species in Spain and Portugal;

CONSIDERING that the Iberian Lynx was once distributed throughout the Iberian Peninsula, but that its numbers have been declining at least since the 19th century to the point where its current world population is estimated at between 150 and 200 animals;

RECOGNIZING that the loss of and damage to its natural habitats, in both present and potential areas of distribution, is one of the main factors leading to declining numbers in the wild;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the habitat of the Iberian Lynx is also the habitat of many other species with an unfavourable conservation status and that conservation of the Iberian Lynx benefits a whole community of flora and fauna;

NOTING that transport and hydrological infrastructure projects, urban development, changes in land use and alterations to the habitat caused by the intensification of agriculture and certain hunting activities are having a serious impact on the habitat of the Iberian Lynx;

AWARE that bilateral and multilateral funding bodies have promoted projects that have negative effects on the integrity of the habitats of the Iberian Lynx; and

RECOGNIZING the efforts made in the past few years by various administrations towards the recovery of this species and its habitat;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. RECOMMENDS to the Governments of Spain and Portugal, as well as to the Governments of the Autonomous Communities of Andalucía, Castilla-La Mancha, Extremadura, Castilla y León, and Madrid, pertaining to the Spanish State, to give, within the framework of their sectoral policies, greater priority to conservation of the habitat of the Iberian Lynx;
2. URGES bilateral and multilateral funding bodies, as well as national, autonomous and local governments, not to authorize projects or participate in financial investments that may have negative effects on the habitats of the Iberian Lynx; and
3. REQUESTS IUCN's members to promote conservation of the habitat of the Iberian Lynx throughout its present and potential areas of distribution;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

4. REQUESTS the Director General, with the assistance of IUCN's Commissions, to promote conservation of the habitat of the Iberian Lynx throughout its present and potential areas of distribution.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.025 Avoiding extinction of the Vaquita porpoise *Phocoena sinus*

RECALLING that the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* has classified the Vaquita – a porpoise species endemic to

the Upper Gulf of California, Mexico – as 'Vulnerable' in 1978, 'Endangered' in 1990 and 'Critically Endangered' since 1996;

FURTHER 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, 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;

RECOGNIZING that the scientific committee of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) and the International Committee for the Recovery of the Vaquita (CIRVA) agree on the need to eliminate gill nets from the Vaquita's entire habitat immediately, since they constitute the greatest single cause of Vaquita mortality;

THANKING the President of Mexico for his commitment to the Vaquita, by including it in the Conservation Programme for Endangered Species 2007–2012, and the Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources for developing a socio-economic compensation strategy for the reduction of fishing, the elimination of gill nets and the increased surveillance of the Upper Gulf of California and Colorado River Delta Biosphere Reserve;

ALSO THANKING the Governments of Canada, Mexico and the United States, and Mexican and international conservation groups that have supported the scientific, technical and financial side of the process to provide the institutional support needed to ensure that the proposal for the recovery of the Vaquita becomes a reality in the medium term;

COMMENDING IWC Resolution 2007-5 for the concern expressed about the Vaquita, and its request to the international community to support Mexico's efforts to eliminate by-catch of the Vaquita;

ALARMED that, despite two decades of generalized international concern, the species' population is believed to have decreased to a mere 150 individuals;

NOTING that the market demand for shrimp from the Upper Gulf of California drives the fishing activities in the Vaquita's habitat;

RECOGNIZING that the socio-economic effect on the region's fishing communities of the elimination of gill nets should be taken into account;

CONCERNED that the implementation of the current recovery plans lacks the support of Mexico's National Commission of Aquaculture and Fisheries (CONAPESCA), which is delaying the elimination of permits and gill nets from the Vaquita's habitat, by focusing on a lesser threat to the species, such as the level of the flow of the River Colorado towards the Upper Gulf; and

ALSO CONCERNED that illegal fishing continues in the Vaquita's habitat and because surveillance efforts are insufficient;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES the National Commission for Natural Protected Areas of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT-CONANP), and the National Commission of Aquaculture and Fisheries of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA-CONAPESCA) of Mexico to sign an intersectoral agreement, the contents of which:
 - (a) establish immediately a gill-net fishing exclusion zone that covers the entire Vaquita Refuge decreed by the SEMARNAT on September 8th, 2005;
 - (b) continue withdrawal of fishing and gill-net permits in the Upper Gulf of California and River Colorado Delta Biosphere Reserve between 2009 and 2012, simultaneously promoting productive alternatives and means of fishing that are safe for the Vaquita;
 - (c) allocate financial resources to ensure the long-term strategy;
 - (d) implement effectively the Action programme for the protection of the Vaquita (PACE); and
 - (e) reinforce the monitoring and surveillance of the Upper Gulf of California and River Colorado Delta Biosphere Reserve;
2. URGES CONAPESCA, the fishing agency of the Mexican Government, to:
 - (a) complete a register of all legal fishermen in the Upper Gulf of California in order to gain a better understanding of the fishing activities in the Vaquita's habitat;
 - (b) publish this register on their website and the transparency portal of the Federal Institute of Access to Public Information (IFAI);
 - (c) work in collaboration with the Federal Attorney's Office for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA) in order to ensure compliance with the fishing and environmental regulations in the Vaquita Refuge;
 - (d) implement, in collaboration with CONANP, a single registration and identification system for vessels authorized to operate in the Upper Gulf of California, in order to eradicate illegal fishing;
 - (e) ensure that a mechanism for the provision of economic compensation is developed for the withdrawal of fishing permits in the Upper Gulf of California before the end of the 2008 shrimp fishing season; and
 - (f) promote a change to Vaquita-friendly fishing techniques among fishing communities in the Upper Gulf of California;
3. RECOMMENDS that all organizations, states, sponsors and private importers of shrimp from the Upper Gulf of California, including, but not limited to, Ocean Garden Products, support the Mexican Government, providing technical and financial support in order to eliminate gill nets, and to promote economic alternatives and means of fishing that are safe for the Vaquita in the Upper Gulf of California region;
4. ENCOURAGES the Governments of Canada and the United States of America to continue to support the strategy for the conservation of the Vaquita and to provide Mexico with technical and financial assistance in order to protect the Vaquita through the *North American Conservation Action Plan for the Vaquita (NACAP Vaquita)*, which has the approval of the Canadian Government; and
5. URGES governments and appropriate international organizations to follow the example of Mexico and its many partners that have mobilized to prevent the extinction of the Vaquita, seeking solutions to prevent the extinction of other cetaceans, which are threatened through incidental capture in fisheries;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

6. ASKS the Director General to provide, as far as possible, technical and scientific help to Mexico in order to avoid the extinction of the Vaquita.

4.026 Trust building for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in line with the *European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity*

CONSCIOUS of the fact that Resolution 3.012 *Governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) called for IUCN to formulate principles for and approaches to ‘good governance’ for conservation and sustainable development;

NOTING that Resolution 3.074 *Implementing the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* also adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress requested the Director General of IUCN to promote initiatives to enable relevant components of the Union to work together to develop tools for the implementation of sustainable use principles in practice;

CONSIDERING that an important and innovative example of such an initiative is the adoption by the Council of Europe through its Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (the ‘Bern Convention’) of a *European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity*, containing 12 Principles explicitly based on the *CBD Principles of the Ecosystem Approach* (Decision V/6 of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)) and the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* (CBD Decision VII/12), with implementation guidelines for biodiversity regulators and managers on one hand and hunters and hunting tour operators on the other;

OBSERVING that the principles and the approach of the *European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity* are equally applicable to the governance of other consumptive and non-consumptive uses of biodiversity;

AWARE of the findings of the recent Governance and ecosystems management for the conservation of biodiversity

(GEM-CON-BIO) research study funded by the 6th *Framework Programme* of the European Commission in which numerous IUCN Commission members participated and which showed the importance of leadership and trust building for maintaining the status and sustainable use of biodiversity and other ecosystem services; and

WELCOMING the leadership in trust building shown by the European Commission in its *Sustainable Hunting Initiative*, especially its recognition of the conservation potential from sustainable use and its co-signature of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the European Union (FACE) and BirdLife International;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. NOTES WITH APPRECIATION the adoption by the Council of Europe of the European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity;
2. ENCOURAGES further cooperation between the Council of Europe, governments and other stakeholders to prepare guidelines under the same principles for new European charters to promote conservation through sustainable use of other components of biodiversity;
3. REQUESTS IUCN’s members to:
 - (a) promote the *European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity* and comparable social tools where appropriate in the implementation of the Union’s policies and Programme;
 - (b) innovate other similar measures that build trust to aid the conservation of biodiversity; and
 - (c) encourage positive synergies and resolution of tensions between stakeholders who offer different contributions to conservation; and
4. INVITES governments and NGOs more widely to develop similar trust-building tools and otherwise harmonize efforts for conservation;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

5. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN's Commissions to implement and support the actions called for in paragraph 3 above.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.027 Relationship between fisheries and great whales

CONCERNED about the global status of fisheries resources, which are, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) more than 50% fully exploited and 25% overexploited, depleted or recovering from depletion;

NOTING that this situation has arisen as a result of human activities, predominantly documented overfishing on a global scale including illegal, unregulated, unreported (IUU) fishing and wasteful and destructive fishing methods;

ACKNOWLEDGING that better understanding of marine ecosystems would contribute to the conservation and management of living marine resources and is of interest to nations as well as to Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) and international research organizations;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the improvements in the global status of fisheries resources should first and foremost be addressed through direct improvements in the management of fisheries;

ALSO NOTING that the International Whaling Commission (IWC) determined in 2003 that it was not in a position to provide quantitative management advice on the impact of cetaceans on fisheries or of fisheries on cetaceans, and that the IWC Scientific Committee has established a sub-committee on ecosystem modelling; and

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 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;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October, 2008:

1. ACKNOWLEDGES that the great whales play no significant role in the current crisis affecting global fisheries;
2. URGES its members that are engaged in fisheries management to improve the status of commercial fish stocks and marine biodiversity, including great whale populations, by:
 - (a) relieving excessive fishing effort;
 - (b) controlling and preventing wasteful and destructive fishing methods;
 - (c) improving gear selectivity and fishing exploitation patterns;
 - (d) protecting habitat and endangered species; and/or
 - (e) designating and effectively managing new and additional Marine Protected Areas;
3. REMINDS members of the need to apply the Precautionary Approach in fisheries management, in line with the 1995 UN Fish Stocks Agreement; and
4. ENCOURAGES the use of non-lethal research methods by members engaged in studies on the biology and behaviour of whales, including their feeding habits;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

5. REQUESTS the Director General to forward this decision to the Secretary of the IWC, the Secretary of the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO), the Secretary General of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the Executive Secretary of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine

Living Resources (CCAMLR) and the Director General of FAO.

The State member Australia made the following statement for the record in proposing the adopted wording for operational paragraph 1:

It is correct that the contact group for this motion came to a somewhat reluctant consensus. We would like to make it clear that, in the spirit of cooperation, Australia did not block that consensus. However, we will be unable to support the motion as it stands. With due respect to all members of IUCN, Australia believes it is important for the Union to be aware of the key area of disagreement within the contact group. In Australia's view, the substantive issue covered in operative paragraph 1 of Motion 37 should limit its reference to the status of science and what science can say about interactions between two parts of the marine ecosystem (in this case whale numbers and the amount of fish available to fishers). Australia would support an amendment to the current operative paragraph 1 that would capture this in a more accurate and succinct manner. Our suggestion is:

“ACKNOWLEDGES that the great whales play no significant role in the current crisis affecting global fisheries”.

Such an amendment clearly reflects a consensus on what the science is telling us. Equally importantly, it avoids the highly contentious and scientifically unsupportable notion that a management response such as culling whales should be considered if there was a link between whale numbers and fishing yields. Australia believes this amendment clearly reflects the discussions and outcomes of the very useful ‘whales and fisheries interactions’ workshop that was held during the IUCN World Conservation Forum. Australia supports the conclusions that great whales are indeed not a threat to fisheries and that more science to investigate this issue is a waste of valuable research finding and effort.

Australia requests that this statement be incorporated into the official record of this meeting.

The State member United Kingdom indicated that it wished its name to be appended to the statement for the record made by Australia.

The State member Japan provided the following statement for the record:

The delegation of Japan expresses appreciation to the sponsors of this motion for their work to develop a text that could be adopted by consensus. We participated in the contact group on this motion in good faith and indicated we could go along with the text agreed to in the contact group. It is in our view regrettable that, at the Ple-

nary Session, the Government of Australia introduced an amendment to the agreed text particularly since they had participated in the contact group and did not propose their change at that time. For this reason, Japan voted against the amended motion.

4.028 Action for recovery of the East Atlantic and Mediterranean population of Atlantic Bluefin Tuna *Thunnus thynnus*

NOTING that, in its latest estimate of East Atlantic and Mediterranean stocks of Atlantic (or Northern) Bluefin Tuna, the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) recommends that catches of these stocks should not exceed 15,000 metric tonnes (mt), and that a catch quota of more than 29,000 mt has been approved for 2008 by the ICCAT in the *Multi-Annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean (ICCAT Recovery Plan)* adopted in November 2006;

FURTHER NOTING that all scenarios which, according to the latest SCRS assessment of East Atlantic and Mediterranean Bluefin Tuna stocks, would allow this population to recover, provide for closure of the fishery during the month of June to allow the species to reproduce, and that the *ICCAT Recovery Plan* only establishes closure of the fishery to the purse-seine fleet from 1 July;

CONCERNED by the fact that fishing capacity is at least double that needed to catch the current legal quota and that recent catches have been four times greater than the maximum catch recommended by scientists to prevent the collapse of the population, with a purse-seine fleet operating in the Mediterranean capable of catching at least 54,000 mt, not counting the fishing capacity of other types of net;

RECOGNIZING that illegal catches of this species are estimated to be up to 30,000 mt, which clearly indicates the absence of adequate means of control over this fishing activity and the systematic failure to implement the *ICCAT Recovery Plan*;

CONCERNED by the recommendations of the SCRS, which indicate that a 78.4% cut would be needed in the fishing effort by the fleet targeting East Atlantic and Mediterranean Atlantic Bluefin Tuna;

RECOGNIZING that catches made by the tuna traps known as *almadrabas*, which are considered as a good indicator of the stock status, fell by 80% in the southern Iberian Peninsula between 2000 and 2006, and that the average size of fish has fallen sharply (from 220 kg to 145 kg);

CONCERNED by the difficulty of controlling and supervising the fishery caused and made worse by the development of the tuna farming industry towards the end of the 1990s, which has also made it more difficult to obtain data on catches and their geographical origin, as well as estimates of the fishing effort and information on the size distribution of fish caught; and

CONSIDERING that the loss of groups of older fish in the shoals present in the Eastern Atlantic fishery and the drastic fall in the reproductive biomass, which is currently only 36% of the level that existed at the beginning of the 1970s, are clear symptoms that this population is in imminent danger of collapse;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES IUCN's members to immediately adopt and implement effective measures to protect and restore the Bluefin Tuna population in the East Atlantic and Mediterranean;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) ask ICCAT, at its next annual meeting (Marrakech, November 2008), to:
 - (i) establish a science-based recovery plan which contains and enables the implementation of measures in accordance with the recommendations of the SCRS in 2008, and specifically to drastically reduce the length of the open season, especially in the crucial months of May and June, and to adhere to the scientific advice on Total Allowable Catch (TAC), and to consider a mandatory fleet-reduction scheme;
 - (ii) establish immediately an interim suspension of the East Atlantic and Mediterranean Bluefin Tuna fishery; and

- (iii) permit resumption of fishing activities only according to the following conditions:

– each Flag State must adopt and implement a proper fishery plan in accordance with a revised, science-based ICCAT population-recovery plan;

– such state fishing plans must include an effort-reduction scheme to adapt its fleet to its fishing possibilities, as well as means of monitoring, control and surveillance of activities, relating to, among others, fishing, farming, ports and markets to ensure effective control; and

– resumption of each Flag State's fishing activities would be subject to a timely review process to be developed and implemented under ICCAT; and

- (b) request ICCAT, as a first step towards the species' recovery and in accordance with all scientific information available to SCRS, to set up protection zones for spawning grounds in the Mediterranean, including the waters within the Balearic Sea, Central Mediterranean, and Levant Sea, during the spawning season.

4.029 Conservation and sustainable use of fish in Río de la Plata Basin

RECALLING that with a surface area of more than 3,200,000 km² the Río de la Plata Basin is the second largest river basin in South America and the fourth largest in the world, that it covers the territory of Paraguay and borders on considerable parts of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Uruguay, including within its central plain the most extensive corridor of fluvial wetlands on the planet, extending nearly 4,000 km from the Mato Grosso marshlands to the Río de la Plata River;

TAKING into account that the Basin provides water resources and environmental services to more than 100 million inhabitants, that it constitutes a region of great economic and ecological importance, including a high level of biodiversity, a wide variety of climates, soils, forests and wetlands, and a unique cultural heritage, and that fishing in the Basin is essential for the food security of its populations;

EMPHASIZING that the rich fish diversity in the Río de la Plata Basin, including more than 300 species of fish in the Parana River alone, is due to the extraordinary complexity and diversity of its aquatic ecosystems, particularly its wetlands, and to the convergence of species from different ecosystems such as Amazonia, the Cerrado, the Grand Chaco, the Mata Atlantica, the Pampa and the Pantanal;

RECOGNIZING that the freshwater biodiversity in the Río de la Plata Basin is being impacted by the overexploitation of fish resources, the fragmentation of natural ecosystems, the expansion of the agricultural frontier, large public-works infrastructure projects, urban development, pollution, inadequate watershed management, among other factors, affecting not only wetlands and populations of aquatic species but also local human communities that depend upon these resources;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the riverine communities of the Paraguay-Parana wetlands system, particularly fishermen, themselves being an essential part of the Río de la Plata Basin, face serious threats due to the decline in and loss of access to natural resources, particularly fish, and that the role of freshwater biodiversity and its economic and social benefits have not been sufficiently studied and recognized by environmental and social policy makers;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the lack of standardized information needed to assess the status of threats to fish species at a regional stage, in order to contribute to sustainable biodiversity management;

RECOGNIZING that training programmes for artisanal fishermen are necessary for strengthening institutions, developing appropriate and sustainable business-management skills, and adding value to their fishery products thus contributing to reducing poverty;

AWARE of the need: (a) to promote efforts that upgrade current information and its application to sustainable management practices, thereby contributing to the maintenance of fish populations and improvement in the quality of life of local communities depending on these resources; (b) to support examples of good sustainable fishery management practices that include the participation of communities and local governments, in coordination with all sectors; and (c) to develop the capabilities of both actors on the ground and the relevant authorities to manage the fisheries of the Río de la Plata Basin in a sustainable manner;

RECALLING Recommendation 2.85 *Conservation of Middle and Lower Parana River* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Recommendation 3.097 *Conservation of the Wetland Corridor of the Fluvial Littoral, Argentina* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

FURTHER RECALLING that the area under consideration represents a model case study demonstrating important achievements; and that it is necessary to deepen the coordinated work of all actors in the application of the wise use criterion of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and of the Ecosystem Approach adopted by the Convention on Biological Diversity;

RECOGNIZING regional achievements such as the Pocone Accord (2005), the Paraguay-Parana System Alliance initiative, the *Strategy for the Conservation and Wise Use of Fluvial Wetlands in La Plata Basin* presented as a Regional Initiative to the Standing Committee of the Ramsar Convention, and the Merida Accord (2007) as important precedents; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that it is necessary to contribute to poverty reduction, sustainable development, adoption of appropriate public policies, environmental security, and governance of the Río de la Plata Basin, in ongoing coordination with other initiatives that seek to achieve the sustainability of water ecosystems and their resources, particularly fisheries;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. RECOGNIZES governmental and non-governmental initiatives in the countries of the Río de la Plata Basin that encourage conservation and wise use of the region's aquatic resources, with special emphasis on fishery resources, of vital importance for the region's economies, for food security and health, and for maintaining the work, culture and quality of life of riverine communities;
2. CALLS ON governments as well as state agencies, academic and technical/scientific organizations of the five countries to give the highest priority to implementing conservation and wise use measures for wetlands and their resources and to maintaining the essential ecological conditions and processes of the freshwater ecosystems of the Basin, and to the sustainable management of its fisheries, in coordination with the Ramsar Convention;

3. URGES the Basin States to support cooperative conservation programmes and the participatory management/administration and sustainable use of fisheries, promoting fishery resources through community-based fair trade, and access to information and participation in decision making on the part of the local communities, including support to replicable model experiences in sustainable fishery resource management;
4. CALLS ON IUCN's members in the region to support governments and NGOs in this mission, deepening the processes of coordination, consensus and capacity building with riverine communities, grass-roots groups, NGOs, local governments and academic/scientific institutions; and
5. RECOMMENDS that international organizations support governments and IUCN members working in the region in implementing public policies and obtaining resources for the conservation and sustainable use of the fisheries of the Río de la Plata Basin;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

6. CALLS ON the Director General to support governments and NGOs to:
 - (a) conserve and make wise use of the region's aquatic resources, with special emphasis on fisheries; and
 - (b) enhance coordination, consensus and capacity building with the riverine communities, grass-roots groups, NGOs, local governments and academic/scientific institutions.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.030 Promoting transparency to achieve sustainable fisheries

NOTING that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), along with several instruments,

mandates and international agreements, leads toward the conservation, management and regulation of fisheries resources and the sustainability of aquatic ecosystems;

FURTHER NOTING that Article 7 of the *Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries*, which refers to fisheries management, recognizes in paragraph 7.1.9 that, "States and sub-regional or regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements should ensure transparency in the mechanisms for fisheries management and in the related decision-making process";

RECALLING Resolution 2.21 *IUCN Marine Component Programme* and Recommendation 2.78 *Promoting Sustainable Fishing* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), and Resolution 3.066 *The protection of seamounts, deep-sea corals and other vulnerable deep-sea habitats from destructive fishing practices, including bottom trawling, on the high seas* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

CONCERNED that in spite of global rulings promoting the sustainability of aquatic ecosystems and fishing there still exist substantial conflicts impairing implementation of such rulings;

WELCOMING technological advances that increase accessibility to global information about sustainable fisheries practices;

AWARE that management systems established by some governments are often inadequate because they lack transparency, probity and rigour, which leads to the squandering of natural capital;

ENCOURAGED by the engagement thus far, and increased levels of understanding and commitment, of States, governmental entities, civil society, and other stakeholders, to protect, conserve and sustainably use natural resources, including fisheries; and

RECOGNIZING the importance and need for the global community to attain transparency with regard to fishery activities information and management decision-making processes;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's members to:
 - (a) stress the importance and value of transparency in fisheries management on their public agendas; and

- (b) promote free and timely access to information in accordance with relevant protocols governing data confidentiality to increase awareness and accountability for the sustainability of natural resources; and
- 2. CALLS ON the global community to commit to taking effective action to deter corruption and/or avoidance of fisheries control systems, which result in discards, non-reported captures and other forms of non-compliance with fisheries regulations, and therefore, the degradation of fish stocks around the globe;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

- 3. REQUESTS the Director General to take all necessary actions to promote transparency of activities and decision-making processes related to fisheries.

4.031 Achieving conservation of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdictions

RECOGNIZING the key role oceans play in sustaining life on our planet;

ALARMED at the multiplying threats to marine biodiversity resulting from regulated and unregulated human activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction, which comprise 64% of the world's oceans;

CONCERNED that the accelerating rate of degradation of the marine environment in areas beyond national jurisdiction due to human activities has not been stemmed, as well as by the projected impacts of climate change;

FURTHER CONCERNED by the lack of systematic prior assessment of the individual and cumulative impacts of human activities in oceans beyond national jurisdiction;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides the overarching legal framework for governance of human activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction, including the conservation and management of living resources and the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING 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 with respect to areas beyond national jurisdiction as set forth in Decision VIII/24, paragraph 42, of the 8th Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP8) to the CBD;

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 (including the water column and seabed) and the establishment of a representative system of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) at regional and global scales that includes areas beyond national jurisdiction, for example: Resolution 2.20 *Conservation of marine biodiversity*, adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Resolution 3.064 *Conservation and sustainable management of high-seas biodiversity* and Recommendation 3.098 *Conservation and sustainable management of high-seas biodiversity* that were adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

FURTHER RECALLING IUCN's commitment to the goal of prior environmental impact assessment – including through Resolution 19.28 *Environmental Impact Assessment* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994), which called on governments to adopt environmental impact legislation;

RECOGNIZING the obligations on states contained in Article 206 of UNCLOS which provides that “When States that have reasonable grounds for believing that planned activities under their jurisdiction or control may cause substantial pollution of or significant and harmful changes to the marine environment, they shall, as far as practicable, assess the potential effects of such activities on the marine environment and shall communicate reports of the results of such assessments in the manner provided in Article 205”;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that Article 14 of the CBD calls for each Contracting Party, as far as possible and as appropriate, to: “Introduce appropriate procedures requiring environmental impact assessment of its proposed projects that are likely to have significant adverse effects on biological diversity with a view to avoiding or minimizing such effects and, where appropriate, allow for public participation in such procedures”;

RECALLING that Chapter 15.5(k) of *Agenda 21* calls on governments to: “Introduce appropriate environmental impact assessment procedures for proposed projects likely to have significant impacts upon biological diversity, providing for suitable information to be made widely available and for public participation, where appropriate, and encourage the assessment of the impacts of relevant policies and programmes on biological diversity”;

ALSO RECALLING that Chapter 17.22(b) of *Agenda 21* states that it is necessary to: “Ensure prior assessment of activities that may have significant adverse impacts upon the marine environment”;

NOTING the calls for action to protect and maintain biodiversity and biological productivity in areas beyond national jurisdiction and calls for the establishment of networks of marine protected areas as expressed in international instruments including the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) *Plan of Implementation* (Johannesburg, 2002), UN General Assembly (UNGA) Resolutions adopted in 2002–2007, Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), and CBD COP7 and COP 8;

RECALLING Articles 80–86 of UNGA Resolution 61/105 on *Sustainable Fisheries*, require prior assessment of individual bottom-fishing activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction to determine whether such activities would have significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems, and to ensure that such fishing activities are managed to prevent such impacts, or not authorized to proceed;

NOTING that the deadline of 31 December 2008 set in Article 83 of UNGA Resolution 61/105 is quickly approaching and that there has not yet been full implementation of the measures called for in areas where new agreements are under negotiation, or where such agreements have not yet entered into force, or in respect of some existing Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs); and

TAKING NOTE of the Chairs’ reports of the first and second meetings of the ‘United Nations 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’, established by the UNGA in 2005;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON states to:
 - (a) become party to UNCLOS and its Implementing Agreements, the CBD and other relevant binding instruments, if states have not already done so, and to implement appropriate measures associated with these and other instruments aiming to protect the marine environment and marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction, in particular the UN Food and Agriculture Organization’s (FAO) *Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries*, the *FAO Guidelines for Deep-Sea Fisheries on the High Seas*, the *FAO International Plans of Action* and the *WSSD Plan of Implementation*;
 - (b) enhance efforts under current arrangements and agreements to protect the marine environment and biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, including *inter alia*, to identify ecologically and biologically significant areas using scientific criteria and guidelines of the CBD and other relevant criteria, to protect habitats and species in such areas through the application of multiple tools including the establishment of MPAs, and to facilitate the development of representative networks of MPAs in areas beyond national jurisdiction;
 - (c) promote arrangements, processes and agreements that ensure the consistent, coordinated and coherent application of the best conservation and governance principles and approaches, including integrated ecosystem-based management and the precautionary approach; and
 - (d) examine the need for further agreements to implement UNCLOS with respect to the conservation and protection of the marine environment and marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction; and
2. URGES the UNGA to adopt a resolution calling on states to:
 - (a) develop assessment processes, including the assessment of cumulative impacts, of human activities with a potential for significant adverse impacts on the marine environment, living marine resources and biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction; and
 - (b) ensure that assessed activities with the potential for such significant adverse impacts are subject

to prior authorization by states responsible for nationals and vessels engaged in those activities, consistent with international law, and that such activities are managed to prevent such significant adverse impacts, or not authorized to proceed;

In addition the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

3. CALLS ON the Director General to promote and strive to achieve the actions described in paragraphs 1 and 2 above.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.032 Coordination of the *Pacific Ocean 2020 Challenge*

COMMENDING the work of IUCN's Global Marine Programme and current regional and international commitments to conserve the natural environments and protect the livelihoods of small islands in the Pacific Ocean through, *inter alia*, the Global Islands Partnership (GLISPA), the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI), the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy (PIROP), and the Action Strategy for Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in the Pacific Island Region;

ALSO COMMENDING the work of many Pacific Rim states and countries to develop and implement innovative policies and programmes to address ocean health, conservation and management issues to reduce pollution and habitat destruction, and improve living marine resources, in light of the additional challenges of global climate change;

CONSCIOUS of the need to 'scale up' the number, scope and range of these programmes to improve the environmental health and economic livelihood of Pacific communities and peoples;

AWARE that the Pacific Ocean is the largest single geographic feature on Planet Earth, representing almost half the global ocean space and covering approximately one third of the Earth's surface;

NOTING that small island nations are particularly vulnerable to challenges presented by climate change, sea-level rise, ocean acidification, introduction of invasive species, pollution, overfishing, destructive fishing practices, Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing activities and seabed mining;

ALSO NOTING the need to develop and implement national and regional policies and programmes to anticipate and address such impacts and to control such activities, including through environmental impact assessments and sustainable use criteria;

RECOGNIZING that some of the threats to the long-term sustainability of the Pacific Ocean and its people are exacerbated by the activities of nations outside the Pacific region;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the health and well-being of the Pacific Ocean directly affects the economic and food security of nations beyond the Pacific islands and Pacific Rim region;

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts of the Micronesia Challenge and the Coral Triangle Initiative to develop transboundary approaches to marine conservation in the Pacific;

CONCERNED however, that there remains a need for additional large-scale, collaborative, inter-connected, multi-jurisdictional marine conservation efforts in the Pacific Ocean;

AWARE of the many limitations of small Pacific island and lesser developed nations to manage and enforce marine conservation policies and legislation in their waters;

MINDFUL of the vast array of available private, governmental and multilateral funding possibilities in the Pan-Pacific region;

UNDERSTANDING that accessing new funding sources requires significant coordination, political advocacy and communication;

RECOGNIZING that the *Pacific Ocean 2020 Challenge* presents an innovative approach to securing political will and thus, financial commitments from Pan-Pacific nations for conservation and protection of the Pacific Ocean; and

WELCOMING the establishment of an IUCN Regional Office for Oceania in Fiji and the opportunity this presents for more effective networking in conservation approaches in the island region;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. ENDORSES the concept of the *Pacific Ocean 2020 Challenge* as an instrument for highlighting Pacific Ocean conservation and management issues throughout the Pan-Pacific region, securing strong financial commitments from new partners and donors, and developing a process to develop an integrated approach to Pacific Ocean conservation; and
2. URGES IUCN's members and partners, particularly those in and around the Pacific Rim, to participate in and support the *Pacific Ocean 2020 Challenge* as part of their ongoing marine conservation initiatives;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

3. CALLS ON the Director General to explore mechanisms to provide Pan-Pacific coordination for implementation of the *Pacific Ocean 2020 Challenge* and to ensure that this initiative is coordinated with IUCN's existing and proposed marine conservation activities.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.033 Arctic legal regime for conservation

RECALLING Resolution 1.7 *An IUCN Strategy for the Arctic* and Recommendation 1.106 *Protection of the Arctic Ocean* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), Resolution 2.22 *IUCN's work in the Arctic* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), and Resolution 3.037 *Arctic legal regime for environmental protection* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 86 *Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind*

adopted by the 62nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);

ALSO RECALLING Decision 5 *Sustainable Development of the Arctic* of the 10th Special Session of the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Governing Council;

NOTING the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (IPCC) *Fourth Assessment Report* concluded that average Arctic temperatures have increased at almost twice the global average rate in the past 100 years;

ALSO NOTING that annual average Arctic sea ice extent has shrunk by 2.7% (2.1 to 3.3%) per decade, with larger decreases in summer of 7.4% (5.0 to 9.8%) per decade;

FURTHER NOTING that the northern sea route is expanding and resource development will likely accelerate;

TAKING NOTE that the maximum extent of seasonally frozen ground has decreased by about 7% in the Northern Hemisphere since 1900, with decreases in spring of up to 15% and that temperatures at the top of the permafrost layer in the Arctic have generally increased since the 1980s by up to 3°C;

AWARE of the ongoing activities of the International Polar Year, 2007/2008;

ALSO AWARE of the possible need for new international arrangements or enhancements to existing arrangements;

RECOGNIZING that the Arctic Ocean Conference (Ilulissat, 2008) reconfirmed its commitment to the legal framework and to the orderly settlement of any possible overlapping claims;

CONCERNED that because of the cumulative effects of climate disruption on Arctic biodiversity, including sea-ice biomes, migratory birds, mammals and higher predators will be seriously impacted;

ACUTELY AWARE that the Arctic is a barometer for global climate disruption;

CONCERNED that the climate disruption is presently and significantly affecting the lives of Arctic indigenous peoples;

NOTING that Arctic indigenous peoples are recognized as among the key players in Arctic conservation; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the Statement of the 7th Conference of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region (Kiruna, 2006);

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON relevant IUCN State members to utilize the Annual UN Treaty Event initiated by the Secretary General to deposit the legal instruments for those international agreements with an impact on the Arctic, which have not yet been deposited;
2. CALLS ON relevant IUCN members to consider:
 - (a) supporting activities to fulfil the overall recommendation of the joint UNEP, Nordic Council of Ministers, and Arctic Parliamentarians seminar: Multilateral Environmental Agreements and their relevance to the Arctic (Arendal, 2006); and
 - (b) examining the need for new international arrangements or enhancements to existing arrangements; and
3. CALLS ON member states of the Arctic Council to implement marine ecosystem-based management approaches in the Arctic, including consideration of the establishment of a marine protected area covering high seas portions of the Arctic Ocean beyond national jurisdiction;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

4. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) ensure that IUCN is well represented by appropriate experts at relevant negotiations dealing with the Arctic;
 - (b) take initiative to involve more volunteers among IUCN's members in furthering its Arctic work; and
 - (c) undertake initiatives to further involve Arctic indigenous peoples' organizations in furthering IUCN's Arctic work.

4.034 IUCN's engagement on Antarctica and the Southern Ocean

RECALLING Resolution 2.54 *Antarctica and the Southern Ocean* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Resolution 3.036 (*Antarctica and the Southern Ocean*) adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 16.9 *Antarctica (II)* adopted by the 16th IUCN General Assembly (Madrid, 1984), Resolution 18.74 *The Antarctic Conservation Strategy* and Recommendation 18.75 *Antarctica* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990), and Resolution 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);

NOTING that Annex V to the *Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty* (the Madrid Protocol) allows establishment of Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPAs) and Antarctic Specially Managed Areas (ASMAs) in both terrestrial and marine environments;

CONCERNED about the potential for cumulative impacts on wilderness and scientific values of the Antarctic should the numbers of tourists coming to the Antarctic continue to grow rapidly, along with the sizes of tourism vessels, without effective and legally binding regulations covering the tourism industry being in place;

NOTING the increasing numbers of vessels using the Southern Ocean and the absence of an integrated approach to setting appropriate ice-classification standards for those vessels, regulating discharges of waste and ballast water, or controlling the types of fuels used by the vessels;

WELCOMING the progress made in recent years in reducing Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in Antarctic waters;

CONCERNED however by the continued IUU fishing in Antarctic waters for certain fish species, especially toothfish *Dissostichus* spp. and the increasing interest in the Antarctic Krill *Euphausia superba* fishery;

CONCERNED at the slow pace of Parties to the Madrid Protocol in ratifying and bringing into force Annex VI on liability and emergency response action;

RECALLING the IUCN *Strategy for Antarctic Conservation* (1991) which is now well out of date and the commitment from the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) to assist in revising and updating this Strategy;

NOTING IUCN's previous engagement with SCAR on Antarctic protected areas and Antarctic environmental education and training;

FURTHER NOTING that no IUCN region represents Antarctica and that there is no longer an Antarctic Region and associated Vice-Chairperson of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA);

RECOGNIZING the important 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;

WELCOMING the interest in Antarctic issues from a range of IUCN members; and

REAFFIRMING the importance to conservation of IUCN's engagement in Antarctic and Southern Ocean issues;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to:

- (a) reactivate and strengthen the IUCN Antarctic Advisory Committee with membership appointed by Council, and representatives of interested members and IUCN Commissions;
- (b) seek funding to establish and resource an Antarctic Network with membership from the Antarctic Advisory Committee, WCPA, the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL), interested members, and relevant components of the Secretariat to strengthen IUCN's Antarctic engagement; and
- (c) ensure that IUCN is represented by appropriate experts at all relevant Antarctic Treaty System meetings and other meetings addressing Antarctic issues, including the International Maritime Organization (IMO); and

2. REQUESTS the Director General and the Chairs of WCPA, CEL and other IUCN Commissions as appropriate, to work closely together to:

- (a) complete and implement IUCN's Strategy for Antarctica, as a matter of priority and to ensure there is a locus of responsibility for IUCN's work in this region;
- (b) undertake, as a priority, and in consultation with SCAR, a review and update of the *1991 IUCN Strategy for Antarctic Conservation*, including its application to marine areas (the Southern Ocean) to guide IUCN's engagement on Antarctic and Southern Ocean issues;
- (c) assist the Antarctic Treaty System to develop by 2012 a comprehensive and representative network of marine protected areas in the Southern Ocean pursuant to Annex V of the Madrid Protocol; and
- (d) promote Antarctic conservation and protection and IUCN policy related to Antarctica at Antarctic fora by ensuring strategic use of IUCN's observer status at the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) and the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR).

4.035 Strengthening IUCN's work on protected areas

RECOGNIZING the fundamental importance of protected areas in the resolution of global and regional problems of poverty, water shortages, climate change and biodiversity loss, and in the provision of essential environmental goods and services for society;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the strong position of the Union through its expert network on protected areas – the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) – and the exemplary working relationship between WCPA and the staff of the Protected Areas Programme of IUCN's Secretariat;

NOTING that, through the World Parks Congress, protected areas are the focal topic of the only themed Congress that is held periodically by IUCN;

ALSO NOTING that protected areas are a substantial part of the programme of the IUCN World Conservation Congress held in Barcelona in 2008;

MINDFUL that a recent survey reaffirmed that the membership views IUCN's work on protected areas as a central flagship role of the Union;

NOTING that 314 out of 562 responses to a recent IUCN member survey indicated that they were involved in protected areas (55.9% of respondents) (*Annexes to the Global Survey of IUCN Members, Supplementary Data to the Main Report*, December 2007);

NOTING that IUCN Council Resolution No. C/69/35 of March 2008 identified protected areas and climate change as the highest priorities in the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* and requested the IUCN Commissions and Secretariat to support these priorities in an integrated and strategic manner;

RECALLING Decision VII/28 of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP7 CBD) that specifies the roles that IUCN should play in implementation of the *CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas*;

AWARE that the Programme of IUCN should represent all of the work of the Union, including its Commissions;

NOTING that the total core funding allocated by IUCN to its Programme on Protected Areas is less than 1% of its current budget; and

CONCERNED that this level of funding allocation does not reflect the priority that IUCN should give to its Programme on Protected Areas and is insufficient to meet the Programme's pressing needs, or those of WCPA and IUCN's regional protected areas programmes;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) ensure that there is sufficient allocation of funds to the Programme on Protected Areas, including adequate staff and financial support at the regional level, and that funding is consistent with requirements of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*;
- (b) allocate adequate financial and technical resources for WCPA to fulfil all its responsibilities, including those

specified in the *CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas*; and

- (c) develop a strategy to ensure the long-term financial support of IUCN's work on protected areas.

4.036 Best practice protected area guideline for ecological restoration

NOTING that the first objective under the IUCN World Commission on Protected Area's (WCPA) strategic direction for *Knowledge, Science and Management of Protected Areas* is to implement systems to assess the effectiveness of protected area management, leading to an improvement in protected area management;

FURTHER NOTING that a specific target for this objective is to develop by 2013, guidance and standards relating to ecological restoration, protected area design and other key protected area topics;

NOTING that the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) has identified Ecosystem Restoration as one of its five priority programmatic elements and has issued a joint call to action with the Society for Ecological Restoration International to further the principles of the Ecosystem Approach by identifying how ecological restoration can provide enhanced biodiversity outcomes as well as improve human well-being in degraded landscapes;

RECALLING that Resolution 2.16 *Climate change, biodiversity, and IUCN's Overall Programme*, adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), requested the Director General, within available resources, to promote activities to enhance ecosystem resilience to climate change through *inter alia* ecosystem restoration;

RECALLING the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* adopted by Decision VII/28 of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and particularly:

- (a) 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
- (b) Section 3.3.3, which calls for the development and use, as well as the transfer of, appropriate technology related to restoration; and

RECOGNIZING that Parks Canada, along with Canadian and international protected areas agencies, representatives of Canadian and international academic institutions and representatives of the Society for Ecological Restoration International and its Indigenous Peoples Restoration Network Working Group, has developed best practice *Principles and Guidelines for Ecological Restoration in Canada's Protected Natural Areas* aimed at making ecological restoration effective, efficient, and socially and culturally engaging;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REAFFIRMS the values of ecological restoration and the role and values of public education, societal engagement, and indigenous and local community knowledge in undertaking such initiatives;
2. WELCOMES progress made internationally in developing ecological restoration best practice guidance;
3. AFFIRMS that ecological restoration should be effective, practical and affordable, enable full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, and contribute to long-lasting outcomes of enhanced biodiversity, enhanced ecosystem resilience to climate change and global changes, improved protected area management, and improved human well-being; and
4. ENCOURAGES all IUCN members to support governments and other stakeholders in implementing the initiatives enumerated in paragraph 5 below;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

5. REQUESTS the Director General to work in close cooperation with IUCN's Commissions, particularly the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), with international terrestrial and marine protected area organizations, indigenous peoples, learned societies, sectoral management bodies, industries and non-governmental organizations involved in restoring the world's ecosystems to:

- (a) produce, prior to the next World Conservation Congress, a *Best Practice Protected Area Guideline for Ecological Restoration*;
- (b) work with governments on the dissemination, application and use of the Guideline; and
- (c) develop and implement programmes for further guidance, awareness raising, capacity building, monitoring and research with regard to ecological restoration in protected areas.

4.037 Municipal Conservation Areas

UNDERSTANDING that the concept of governance of protected areas refers to the interaction among structures, processes, and traditions that determine how power is exercised and responsibilities carried out, how decisions are made and how citizens and different social sectors participate in the management of these areas;

EMPHASIZING that the concept of good governance of protected areas is associated with fair methods, negotiation processes and the search for consensus among the plurality of actors and interested parties, which results in building better bases for societal decision making;

RECOGNIZING that the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* approved by the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Kuala Lumpur, 2004), identified challenges related to promoting broad participation of interested parties in the management of protected areas, good-governance practices and the fair and equitable distribution of the benefits derived from conservation;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that IUCN identifies four forms of governance of protected areas: governmental, shared, private and community-based;

CONSIDERING that Municipal Conservation Areas are natural or modified spaces, marine or continental, that contain biodiversity and/or important natural resources, provide ecosystem services and/or possess cultural importance, and are established or recognized by the municipality through a legal or municipal instrument in accordance with the environmental and land-use policies and the development policies of the country concerned and of the corresponding protected area system;

NOTING that Municipal Conservation Areas are a suitable instrument for attempting to reach the goals of biodiversity conservation, socio-environmental conflict management, poverty reduction, attaining *Millennium Development Goals*, and implementing the principles of the ecosystem approach, by linking conservation efforts with local needs, conservation of water resources, environmental services, and promotion of ecotourism, among others;

RECOGNIZING that Municipal Conservation Areas contribute to efforts to decentralize and de-concentrate the management of protected area systems and to the recognition of territorial, local and ethnic autonomy; and that they arise out of municipal and civil society structures linked to natural spaces, fostering a sense of ownership and participation in those involved, including traditionally marginalized actors, such as women, youth and ethnic minorities;

NOTING that Municipal Conservation Areas are still seen as vulnerable spaces given the little recognition they receive in legislation and from national protected area systems;

AWARE of the necessity to identify training sites and to strengthen management skills, as well as to improve the development of indicators and follow-up, making possible the monitoring of experiences in this area; and

ALSO AWARE that Municipal Conservation Areas, due to their origins and conservation objectives, are closely linked to other forms of protected area governance: shared, community-based and private;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON all countries of the world to:
 - (a) recognize the value of Municipal Conservation Areas for biodiversity conservation and their importance for increasing the effectiveness of protected area systems; and
 - (b) disseminate the lessons learned through material and exchanges relevant to this theme; and
2. REQUESTS IUCN State members, to integrate, as far as possible, Municipal Conservation Areas into their national systems of protected areas;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

3. URGES the Director General to:
 - (a) recognize the value of Municipal Conservation Areas for biodiversity conservation and their importance for increasing the effectiveness of protected area systems; and
 - (b) develop the capacity to promote and assist initiatives involving members in the creation and strengthening of Municipal Conservation Areas through technical and financial support; and
4. REQUESTS IUCN's Commissions to promote and support:
 - (a) carrying out of technical, legal and political studies in each of the regions of the world supporting Municipal Conservation Areas as effective tools for the conservation of biodiversity and promotion of local development;
 - (b) development of training sites and dissemination of materials promoting Municipal Conservation Areas;
 - (c) construction of a global data bank that would make possible the monitoring of the progress of this conservation instrument; and
 - (d) introduction of Municipal Conservation Areas into the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of Parties in 2010, in order to influence global policies that regulate this kind of protected area governance.

The California Institute for Public Affairs noted for the record that this Resolution was drafted in Spanish and refers to a level of government that may cover both urban and rural in many countries, although in the English language the word 'municipal' commonly refers to local government units that are mainly urban.

4.038 Recognition and conservation of sacred natural sites in protected areas

RECOGNIZING that one of the oldest forms of culture-based conservation has been the protection of the sacred natural sites of indigenous communities and mainstream faiths, and that these sacred natural sites often harbour rich biodiversity and safeguard valuable landscapes and ecosystems;

AWARE that Sacred Natural Sites are defined in the *Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines* published in 2008 by IUCN and UNESCO as: “Areas of land or water having special spiritual significance to peoples and communities” (*Sacred Natural Sites: Guidelines for Protected Area Managers*, No. 16, IUCN, 2008, page xi);

UNDERSTANDING that sacred natural sites – springs of pure water, glaciated mountains, unusual geological formations, forest groves, rivers, lakes and caves – are today and have long been integral to human identity, survival and evolution;

AWARE that many sacred natural sites are at risk and subject to a wide range of pressures and threats, such as:

- (a) impacts from the operations of extractive industries (e.g. mining, logging);
- (b) encroachment by outsiders (e.g. poaching, illegal fishing, vandalism, looting of burial grounds and archaeological sites);
- (c) poverty and population dynamics (e.g. new settlers, conversion to other faith groups);
- (d) disrespectful tourism and recreational activities;
- (e) degradation of neighbouring environments; and
- (f) climate change (e.g. extreme weather events, sea-level rise, drought, floods and erosion);

ACKNOWLEDGING that many sacred natural sites have been integrated into legally declared protected areas without adequate recognition of the local communities’ cultural and spiritual values and the traditional beliefs, practices and knowledge that have sustained the associated locations, cultures and resources;

CONCERNED that legally recognized protected areas sometimes deny access to sacred natural sites to indigenous peoples or religious groups who have utilized and cared for them for many generations; and

RECALLING that protection of sacred natural sites has been encouraged in the Man and the Biosphere Programme (1970), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (1971), the World Heritage Convention (1972), the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003), Recommendation V.13 *Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas* endorsed by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), Resolution 3.049 *Community Conserved Areas* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007);

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. AFFIRMS that urgent action is needed for culturally appropriate sacred natural site conservation and management within (and near) official protected areas;
2. CALLS ON:
 - (a) government agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to recognize the rights, the skills and the knowledge that local and indigenous custodians and mainstream faith communities have in managing the resources and ecosystems associated with sacred natural sites;
 - (b) government agencies, NGOs and conservation agencies to work with and support local traditional and indigenous communities and custodians to directly confront threats affecting sacred natural sites by improving the management of sacred natural sites, and where appropriate by adopting laws and policies – with the full and effective participation of communities or organizations concerned – that protect the biological and cultural integrity of sacred natural sites; and
 - (c) protected area agencies and managers to recognize the cultural and spiritual values of sacred natural sites included within their designated boundaries, and to recognize and facilitate the rights and interests of the communities or organizations concerned to manage and use those sacred natural sites

where possible as places for their cultural and spiritual realization and reverence;

3. CALLS FOR increased scientific research into the complex relationship between biological diversity, cultural diversity and sacred natural sites;
4. ENCOURAGES additional investment in public education and international networks dedicated to the conservation and protection of sacred natural sites; and
5. REQUESTS the conservation community to promote and participate fully in intercultural dialogue and conflict resolution with indigenous peoples, local communities and mainstream faiths to improve collaborative protection of sacred natural sites;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

6. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) implement and field test the 2008 Sacred Natural Site Guidelines in all IUCN protected area categories; and
 - (b) encourage their implementation and field testing in UNESCO Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage Sites.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.039 Cross-Commission collaboration on sustainable use of biological resources

RECALLING the IUCN *World Conservation Strategy* (1980) that defined conservation as embracing “... preservation, maintenance, sustainable utilization, restoration, and enhancement of the natural environment”;

RECALLING FURTHER that the Mission of IUCN is: *To ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable*;

AWARE that sustainable use is the second of three pillars of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

NOTING that the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* have been adopted by the CBD;

ALSO NOTING that Resolution 3.074 *Implementing the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) called for relevant components of the Union to work together to implement the Addis Ababa Principles;

FURTHER NOTING that Resolution 18.4 *Role and Mandates of the IUCN Commissions, Standing Committees and Task Forces* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990), Recommendation 1.42 *Collaborative Management for Conservation* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) and Resolution 3.012 *Governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) called on IUCN Commissions to strengthen collaboration and exchange to achieve the Vision and Mission of IUCN;

CELEBRATING that TILCEPA – a cross-Commission Theme/Strategic Direction linking the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) – has been extremely successful in furthering an understanding of protected areas compatible with the concerns and capacities of indigenous peoples and local communities and has spearheaded related international and national policies;

RECOGNIZING that sustainable use of renewable natural resources requires the combination of biological knowledge and expertise, especially in relation to populations of threatened species, with historical, institutional, cultural, social and economic knowledge and expertise;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that in the area of human-wildlife conflict, it is similarly crucial to bring together species knowledge and expertise with knowledge of the socio-cultural and economic factors affecting the incidence and severity of such conflicts; and

BELIEVING that there are opportunities for mutual learning and synergies to be harnessed through closer cooperation and joint work between the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and CEESP in general, and most

directly and specifically on matters of sustainable use of biological resources and opportunity costs of living with wildlife;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

1. CALLS ON the Commissions, especially SSC and CEESP, to establish a mechanism for increased cooperation on:
 - (a) the conservation, social, cultural and economic benefits of sustainable use of renewable natural resources; and
 - (b) other positive and negative interactions between people and wildlife in the context of conservation; and
2. ENCOURAGES cross-Commission exchanges, linkages and collaboration, especially among Commission members seeking the mutual enrichment and benefits that their different backgrounds and expertise are likely to generate.

4.040 Conservation of geodiversity and geological heritage

NOTING that the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 2008 to be the International Year of Planet Earth, initiated jointly by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in order to increase awareness of the importance of Earth sciences in achieving sustainable development and promoting local, national, regional and international action;

AWARE of the rapidly growing interest and commitment of States, NGOs, and communities to save, study and sustainably use their geodiversity and geological heritage;

RECALLING that geodiversity, understood to include geological and geomorphological diversity, is an important natural factor underpinning biological, cultural and landscape diversity, as well as an important parameter to be considered in the assessment and management of natural areas;

FURTHER RECALLING that geological heritage constitutes a natural heritage of scientific, cultural, aesthetic, landscape, economic and/or intrinsic values, which needs to be preserved and handed down to future generations;

NOTING the pioneering work led by UNESCO and other international institutions, to promote the conservation and sustainable use of geological heritage through the development of the Global Geoparks Network (GGN);

RECOGNIZING the escalating impact of development, that is frequently unsustainable, upon the world's geodiversity and geological heritage;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that in planning such development, the intrinsic values, both material and intangible, of the geodiversity, geoheritage and geological processes present at natural areas are often underestimated or even ignored;

AWARE that the GGN and Global Geosites Programme of UNESCO cover less than 1% of the world's land surface and less than 1% of the marine area, and that most of the geological heritage lies in the wider landscape outside protected areas;

RECALLING that the preamble to the World Heritage Convention recognizes that the deterioration or disappearance of any item of the natural heritage constitutes a harmful impoverishment of the heritage of all the nations of the world, and that Article 2 of the Convention considers geological and physiographical formations of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation as natural heritage;

RECALLING ALSO the pioneering trend set by the adoption of Recommendation Rec(2004)3 *Conservation of the Geological Heritage and Areas of Special Geological Interest* by the Council of Europe in 2004, and its call to strengthen cooperation among international organizations, scientific institutions and NGOs in the field of geological heritage conservation, and to participate in geological conservation programmes;

RECOGNIZING that the conservation of geodiversity and geological heritage contributes to dealing with species loss and ecosystem integrity;

NOTING that the IUCN guidelines for applying protected area management categories explicitly consider among the objectives common to all protected areas the

need to: (a) maintain diversity of landscape or habitat, (b) conserve significant landscape features, geomorphology and geology, and (c) conserve natural and scenic areas of national and international significance for cultural, spiritual and scientific purposes;

RECALLING that the conservation of geodiversity and geological heritage at international, national and local levels contributes to the objectives of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014);

RECOGNIZING the important role of geological and geomorphological conservation in maintaining the character of many landscapes;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that the conservation and management of geological heritage need to be integrated by governments into their national goals and programmes;

NOTING that some areas with geological and geomorphological values will deteriorate if they are not taken into account in planning and development policies; and

AWARE of the need to promote the conservation and appropriate management of the world's geological heritage, in particular areas of special geological interest;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's members to support the Secretariat in the design, organization, hosting and funding of future IUCN World Conservation Forum sessions on geodiversity and geological heritage to ensure that this mechanism will achieve the widest possible involvement of government, independent-sector groups and international organizations around the world;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) convene a continuing series of meetings on geodiversity and geological heritage in the Regions, in partnership with members and other organizations; and

- (b) establish a Secretariat focal point to facilitate the organization of these meetings and to provide continuity while maintaining the minimum organization and administration possible; and

3. CALLS ON IUCN's Commissions, especially the World Commission on Protected Areas, to support the Secretariat in the implementation of the actions called for in paragraph 1 above.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.041 Following up on actions called for by the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007)

CONSIDERING that the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas, (Bariloche, 30 September to 6 October 2007), was attended by more than 2,200 participants representing a broad spectrum of varied interests, including managers of protected areas, representatives of national and local governments and regional integration organizations, civil organizations devoted to the conservation of nature and social development, international organizations, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, scientists, academics and private business people;

SHARING a concern and common commitment that was expressed in the *Bariloche Declaration*;

RECOGNIZING that the protected areas of the region are part of a Latin American natural and cultural heritage, constituting indispensable instruments for achieving the objectives of sustainable development and for improving the well-being of the peoples of the region, while at the same time contributing solutions to major global environmental problems;

EMPHASIZING the emergence, advance and strengthening of various forms of social organization that have arisen in recent decades, out of which developed shared management of protected areas by states and local actors;

REAFFIRMING support for and commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* as a fundamental means for

achieving the goals of protected area systems in a financially sustainable and efficiently managed manner;

RECOGNIZING the advances achieved in the development of national protected area systems, the evaluation of management effectiveness in many of these areas, and the growing capacity of the park ranger corps and other conservation workers;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the experience gained through the decentralization of governmental functions with respect to the establishment and management of protected areas, the development ecological and functional connectivity initiatives, and the contribution of various governance schemes, such as the co-management of protected areas, areas administered by sub-national and local governments, indigenous peoples, local communities and private property owners;

CONSIDERING that the region is a global leader in joint management and co-management of protected areas along with indigenous peoples, afro-descendants and various ethnic groups whose territories, lands and resources have been in many cases preserved through their traditional knowledge and practices, but that there is insufficient participation of these groups and less than full exercise of their collective and individual rights, which are guaranteed by national and international legislation;

CONCERNED because the impact of climate change, in the form of changes in temperature and precipitation, as well as the consequent variations in the pattern of distribution of biomass and species, constitutes a new threat for the protected areas of Latin America;

ALSO CONCERNED that coastal and marine areas are being subjected to ever-increasing pressures by uses such as fishing, tourism and urban development, which exacerbate their vulnerability; and

RECOGNIZING that the knowledge, innovations and traditional practices of indigenous peoples contribute to the conservation of biological diversity, and therefore to the environmental quality and the sustainable development of Latin America;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. INVITES the governments of Latin America and regional integration organizations to recognize the fundamental role of protected areas in strategies for

adapting to climate change, in combating desertification and in promoting regional monitoring, mitigation and adaptation strategies in response to these phenomena;

2. CALLS ON governments, international aid institutions and civil society, for the 2008–2012 period, to agree upon concrete annual budgetary goals and to implement the necessary legal and administrative reforms to close the financial gaps that have been identified in the financial sustainability plans of protected area systems;

3. REQUESTS governments to ensure that commitments, commercial agreements, economic development and infrastructure initiatives do not negatively affect protected areas and reduce the possibility of achieving the conservation and development objectives for which they were created, thus assuring the fulfilment of international conventions, which have a binding character for countries in the region;

4. PROPOSES that governments declare the 2008–2018 period the Decade of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), prioritizing in Latin America the creation of national and regional networks of MPAs and the integrated management of the seas in order to achieve the commitments and goals of 2012 and 2015, increasing during this decade both the number and surface area of MPAs in the region, in coastal zones as well as in the high seas, thus contributing to the conservation and integrated management of biodiversity and marine processes and the maintenance of sustainable fisheries;

5. CALLS FOR the informed participation of local communities, indigenous peoples and afro-descendants, organizations of civil society, women's associations, scientists and academics, users, and the private sector in the participatory planning of protected areas, applying the principles of good governance such as transparency, fairness, accountability and access to conflict management and development mechanisms and initiatives that make possible the effective management of these areas and the equitable distribution of the costs and benefits associated with the establishment and sustainable management of protected areas;

6. CALLS ON civil society to make available and promote widely the results of the II Latin American

Congress on National Parks and Other Protected Areas (the ‘Bariloche Congress’) and the application of its conclusions and recommendations in developing policies and practices designed to strengthen the protected areas of the region; and

7. CALLS ON multilateral cooperation organizations and agencies to adopt the conclusions and recommendations of the Bariloche Congress;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

8. REQUESTS the Director General, in consultation with IUCN’s Commissions and membership, to incorporate and implement, as appropriate, the recommendations of the Bariloche Congress.

4.042 Establishment of a transboundary Peace Park between Honduras and Nicaragua

RECOGNIZING that the mountains between the Republic of Honduras and the Republic of Nicaragua are a uniquely valuable natural resource and hold La Botija Natural Protected Area and Multiple-Use Area Cerro Guanacaure in Honduras and Tepesomoto-La Patasta Reserve and National Monument Cañón de Somoto in Nicaragua;

AWARE that this southernmost limit of the natural American pine range provides non-timber forest products, forest carbon stocks, critical habitats and a biological corridor for endangered, threatened, migratory and endemic species, and water catchment areas that feed transboundary watersheds and provide vital water supplies to urban, rural and indigenous populations;

EMPHASIZING that improving the management of existing protected areas and providing sustainable practices in surrounding areas will foster tourism and environmental goods and services for present and future generations;

RECALLING that, despite times of armed conflict, this mountain region continues to exhibit unique ecological attributes that justify transboundary collaborative conservation approaches which foster peaceful relations while addressing common environmental threats;

GRATEFUL that both Honduras and Nicaragua promote cooperation and peace-building, sustainable development, poverty alleviation, and ecological and environmental conservation through the System of Central American Integration (SICA) of the Central American Commission on Environment and Development, the Central American System of Protected Areas, the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor and IUCN, as well as through being State Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), all of which are implemented through the respective environmental laws of Honduras and Nicaragua;

RECOGNIZING that the Constitutions of both countries guarantee the right to a healthy environment, including for the rural populations of this region, and that subsequent legislation with its respective particularities in both nations authorizes the establishment of systems of protected areas and the participation in transboundary conservation projects;

MINDFUL that the *Bishkek Mountain Platform* established by the United Nations Bishkek Global Mountain Summit (Kyrgyzstan, 2002) identifies the importance of transboundary mountain regions in protecting ecosystems, eliminating poverty and food insecurity, and promoting peace and economic equity;

RECALLING that Recommendation V.15 *Peace, Conflict and Protected Areas* noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) recognizes that effectively managed protected areas contribute to a just peace as a fundamental precondition for the conservation of biodiversity and other natural and cultural resources;

AWARE that the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) has contributed to the Parks for Peace Initiative through its study on *Transboundary Protected Areas for Peace and Co-operation*, and that many states have furthered biodiversity conservation and peace by establishing peace parks; and

CONSCIOUS that the ministerial studies by the Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources of Honduras and by the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of Nicaragua, facilitated by scientists at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Pace University School of Law, the United Nations University for Peace,

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and other institutions in Honduras and Nicaragua, indicate that social and ecological conditions could be improved by transboundary management and would be facilitated by designation and management as a transboundary protected area;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CONGRATULATES and THANKS the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua for recognizing the cultural and ecological importance of the mountainous regions along their shared border and their commitments to sustainable development and nature conservation in these areas, including efforts to create management plans in the protected areas;
2. COMMENDS local stakeholders for their initiatives and efforts to identify opportunities for transboundary conservation and management; and
3. CALLS ON the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua to:
 - (a) develop cooperatively a transboundary protected area with a regional joint management system to integrate existing protected areas (La Botija Natural Protected Area and Multiple-Use Area Cerro Guanacaure in Honduras and Tepesomoto-La Patasta Reserve and National Monument Cañon de Somoto in Nicaragua) and surrounding areas, so that shared and common resources can be managed harmoniously for conservation and sustainable development;
 - (b) recognize and support civil society and local authorities, in accordance with Principle 10 of the 1992 *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, in their efforts to organize themselves in order to have a leading role so that shared and common resources in this area can be managed harmoniously for conservation and sustainable development; and
 - (c) work within a multi-stakeholder participatory framework to identify common management practices that are based on the parallel laws of each nation, as well as customary laws, to facilitate capacity building and information and technology exchanges, and to identify funding opportunities and assist in the procurement of funds, in order to ensure sustainable development, natural resource conservation and peaceful resolution of conflicts in the management of the transboundary area;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

4. RECOMMENDS that the Director General, in consultation with the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and other interested international organizations, support and encourage Honduras and Nicaragua, in consultation with the IUCN National Committees in those countries, to jointly manage this transboundary protected area by:
 - (a) providing guidance to and facilitating cooperation among stakeholders on both sides of the border;
 - (b) undertaking studies of natural and cultural resources in the area; and
 - (c) supporting inclusion of the area in the programme of work of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.043 Environmental and social suitability of the Initiative for Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America (IIRSA)

CONSIDERING that in the twelve South American countries the Initiative for Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America (IIRSA) has begun implying the construction of large infrastructure projects; that the Initiative is based on the idea that “development in the transport, energy and telecommunications sectors will help overcome geographic obstacles, strengthen markets, and promote new economic opportunities in the region”;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the IIRSA and other large infrastructure development plans have been negotiated and decided in regional settings where the populations, local communities, and indigenous peoples who will be affected have not been able to participate;

CONSIDERING moreover that the governments of the region, upon accepting the IIRSA and other large infrastructure projects, have not honoured the international commitments that they have subscribed to: *Agenda 21*, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, nor the International Labour Organization's Convention 169 on Indigenous Peoples and Tribal Groups in independent countries;

RECOGNIZING that the design of the IIRSA and other large infrastructure projects has been presented in scenarios where climate change is a very low risk factor, and that this situation has changed radically, considering that today it is recognized that various Latin American countries and shared watersheds face critical conditions because of climate change; and recognizing that the economic and social consequences of these large works projects in this new situation are not known, nor have they been evaluated;

CONSIDERING that this type of infrastructure mega-project has, in many cases, irreversible socio-environmental impacts, causing or aggravating the expulsion of human populations, causing chaotic resettlement, promoting greater forest exploitation, and resulting in unregulated replacement cattle ranching, and increased poaching of wild animals; and considering that all these activities have a huge impact on biodiversity and generate social conflicts, including those that occur in indigenous territories, national parks and other protected areas, in accordance with the warnings of the *Bariloche Declaration* adopted by the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007);

AWARE that the principal interest of the IIRSA and its associated projects is the establishment of large inter-ocean highways and channels of communication to increase raw material exports, without taking into account the needs of local communities; and aware that its financing comes from loans that will generate large-scale indebtedness that will have to be assumed by present and future generations of Latin Americans;

CONCERNED that the implementation of these huge infrastructural works projects and large-scale development plans could exacerbate the loss of species and the deterioration of watersheds, as well as levels of poverty and inequality, tending to generate benefits solely for large producers and transnational corporations; and

ALSO CONCERNED by the evidence of the significant impacts that the initiative has already had on natural protected areas and other efforts for conserving biological and cultural diversity in various countries of the continent;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES the governments of South America to:
 - (a) take actions that guarantee the fulfilment of agreed-upon national commitments to international agreements and conventions such as the CBD, (UNFCCC), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, UNCCD, ILO 169, among others, including in cases where these imply adjustments or modifications to projects already designed or in the planning and development stage;
 - (b) put into practice the Precautionary Principle in all of those cases in which the social and environmental impacts that could arise from the IIRSA projects and other large investments in infrastructure are not clearly known; and
 - (c) implement, with the participation of local actors, all the environmental and social safeguards needed to prevent these large-scale infrastructure and development plans from worsening current levels of poverty and environmental deterioration, as well as those safeguards needed to minimize their impact on climate change, biological diversity, and on the populations and economies of the region;
2. CALLS ON South American governments and IUCN members to strengthen the capacities of local actors to construct collective visions of sustainability and fairness, permitting them to define their priorities as to regional development processes and integration, and to evaluate with foresight and in an integrated manner the environmental, social and cultural impacts so that they can take timely and adequate measures to avoid these impacts;
3. URGES civil society to become a strong force in environmental, social and cultural monitoring and follow-up of the IIRSA projects and other large investments in infrastructure, generating appropriate channels of information and consultation for the benefit of the actors involved, mainly the communities and local territorial organizations; and

4. REQUESTS that sub-regional and international financial institutions promote and support development and infrastructure initiatives that are environmentally and socially sustainable and in accordance with the priority of integration aimed at solving the most important problems of the region;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

5. CALLS ON the Director General to:
- (a) strengthen IUCN's capacity to monitor ongoing infrastructure projects in South America;
 - (b) collaborate with IUCN's members in the region and IUCN's Commissions to engage in a process of confidence-building, transparency and implementation of environmental and social safeguards; and
 - (c) facilitate bilateral and multilateral cooperation between States and civil society to improve transparency and implementation of environmental and social safeguards.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.044 Actions to conserve the Pampas and Campos of South America

BEARING in mind that the grasslands of the Rio de la Plata, formed by the plains and open lands of Argentina, Uruguay and southern Brazil, make up one of the largest temperate grassland regions in the world, with an area of nearly 750,000 square kilometres;

CONSIDERING that the biodiversity of these grasslands is very high, with thousands of species of vascular plants of diverse origin, including more than 550 grasses, that these areas are inhabited by between 450 and 500 species of birds – of which at least 60 are considered to be grassland-only species – and nearly 100 land mammals, one of which is the Pampas deer *Ozotoceros bezoarticus*, a

species with emblematic status in the region and in serious danger of extinction;

AWARE that grassland systems provide a wide range of environmental goods and services, which, apart from the customary supply of meat, milk, wool and hides produced by pastoral systems, include aspects such as the role of grasslands in maintaining the gas composition of the atmosphere through CO₂ capture, their role in controlling soil erosion, and as a source of genetic material for large numbers of plant and animal species that today form the basis of the world's food supply;

NOTING that, due to the importance of the region as one of the world's principal areas for agricultural production, the grassland areas there have been shrinking in the last few decades at the rate of 1% per year, and in some places are being given over entirely to other uses (agriculture or forestation) at a rate of 10% per year;

RECALLING that the IIIrd IUCN World Parks Congress (Bali, 1982) established that, to be satisfactorily protected, a biome must have at least 10% of its area under protection;

RECOGNIZING that, despite these important characteristics and functions, temperate grasslands are one of the least protected types of biomes globally – barely 4.59% of their area is protected – and that this situation is even worse in the grassland region of Rio de la Plata: Argentina, 1.2%; Uruguay, 0.21%; Brazil, 2.23%; and

AWARE of the need to boost the most recent activities and achievements obtained through the efforts of the following programmes and initiatives:

- (a) identification of Valuable Grassland Areas in the Plains and Open Lands of Argentina, Uruguay and southern Brazil (Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina);
- (b) Important Bird Areas for the Conservation of Birds in Argentina, Priority Sites for Biodiversity Conservation (Aves Argentinas);
- (c) the initiative 'Alianzas del Pastizal' for the conservation of grasslands in the southern cone of South America (BirdLife International, Aves Argentinas, Aves Uruguay, Save Brazil, Guyra Paraguay);
- (d) Priority Areas for Conservation, Sustainable Use and Distribution of Benefits of Biodiversity of Brazil;

Update (Ministry of the Environment, Department of Biodiversity and Forests); and

- (e) Temperate Grasslands Conservation Initiative (Grasslands Protected Areas Task Force, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas);

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON the Governments of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay to:
 - (a) intensify their efforts to designate more protected areas in the temperate grasslands of the plains and open lands of South America, in order to extend the area protected to 10%; and
 - (b) develop and promote natural grassland utilization and management practices that aim to establish agroecological systems capable of providing and sustaining the diverse environmental services and wildlife of the temperate grasslands of the plains and open lands of South America;
2. URGES the relevant agencies of the Governments of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay to:
 - (a) develop integrated management and conservation policies, particularly for species under threat in the temperate grasslands of the plains and open lands of South America; and
 - (b) include in their agendas the development of actions for the conservation and sustainable use of natural grasslands and to raise public awareness of their importance;
3. ASKS international funding bodies to increase support for initiatives seeking to preserve the temperate grasslands of the plains and open lands of South America, in keeping with the regional priorities determined by member governments; and
4. URGES interested non-governmental organizations to take cognizance of the need to preserve the temperate grasslands of the plains and open lands of South America, and to promote an understanding of their role in sustaining a range of environmental services upon which society depends;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

5. ASKS the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) to assist State members seeking advice in drafting appropriate environmental laws.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.045 Accelerating progress to establish marine protected areas and creating marine protected area networks

AWARE of the mounting pressures being suffered by marine ecosystems, nearly all of which are threatened by anthropogenic activities;

ALARMED by the two-fold increase every ten years since 1963 of marine ‘dead zones’;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that analyses conducted by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) have established that 25% of fish stocks are overexploited and 50% are fully exploited, and that there is a subsequent risk of the disappearance of commercial species and the collapse of fish resources while hundreds of millions of people depend upon fish products for their livelihoods;

RECALLING several IUCN resolutions and recommendations which, since 1963, have exhorted states to create marine protected areas, and in particular Recommendation 17.38 *Protection of the coastal and marine environment* adopted by the 17th IUCN General Assembly (San José, 1988) and Resolution 1.37 *Marine Protected Areas* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), which urged coastal states to quickly establish national systems of representative Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), in cooperation with local communities and resource users, and to set a percentage target for such representation where this would be useful and appropriate;

FURTHER RECALLING Recommendation IV.11 *Marine protected areas* of the IVth IUCN World Parks Congress (Caracas, 1992) and Recommendations V.22 *Building a Global System of Marine and Coastal Protected Area Networks* and V.23 *Protecting Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Processes through Marine Protected Areas beyond National Jurisdiction* noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) which highlighted the importance of integrating MPAs with terrestrial and marine landscapes and called on the international community to establish by 2012 a global system of effectively managed, representative networks of marine and coastal protected areas, consistent with international law and based on scientific information, that greatly increases the marine and coastal area managed in MPAs; is designed to be resilient, particularly in the face of large-scale threats linked to global change; and builds the best available science on connectivity into marine and coastal protected area network design, in order to create networks that are ecologically coherent;

RECALLING that in the *Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development* (Johannesburg, 2002), paragraph 32(c) called for the establishment of MPAs consistent with international law and based on scientific information, including representative networks by 2012;

NOTING that Decision VII/5 on marine and coastal biological diversity adopted by the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP7, Kuala Lumpur, 2004) established that the goal for CBD work relating to marine and coastal protected areas should be the establishment and maintenance of marine and coastal protected areas that are effectively managed, ecologically based and contribute to a global network of marine and coastal protected areas;

FURTHER NOTING that Decision VII/28 of CBD COP7 (Kuala Lumpur, 2004) reaffirmed that effectively managed MPAs are one of the tools essential to ensuring the conservation and sustainable management of marine and coastal biodiversity, and laid out a *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*, with the objective of establishing and maintaining by 2012 for marine areas comprehensive, effectively managed, and ecologically representative national and regional systems of protected areas;

FURTHER NOTING that paragraph 22 of the same decision VII/28 “recalls the obligations of parties towards indigenous and local communities in accordance with article 8(j) and related provisions and notes that the establishment, management and monitoring of protected

areas should take place with the full and effective participation of, and full respect for the rights of, indigenous and local communities consistent with national law and applicable international obligations”;

WELCOMING the efforts and commitments by many governments and civil societies to significantly and urgently increase the coverage and effectiveness of MPA networks within their jurisdiction;

FURTHER WELCOMING extensions of existing protected coastal areas to connect to adjacent marine zones;

CONCERNED that, despite these commitments, as of the end of 2006, only 0.65% of the area of the seas and oceans and 1.6% of the area within exclusive economic zones worldwide is covered by MPAs, with the lowest levels of protection occurring in temperate and polar areas, and that average annual increases remain at less than 5% per year, according to the MPA Global Database;

RECOGNIZING that there is a need for better reporting and accurate tracking of progress and better mapping of MPA achievements, as well as a scaling-up of efforts towards achieving the global MPA targets; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the difficulties posed by the increasing costs of effectively managing MPAs;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. INVITES the United Nations to declare an International Year of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems to highlight the importance of the world’s oceans and coasts to human well-being and to ensure that the systematic creation and effective management of MPAs receives strong support;
2. CALLS ON the CBD Secretariat, together with partners, to expand technical support, training, and the development of tools and resources to assist Parties to the Convention to accelerate their efforts to create and improve the effectiveness of MPAs and MPA networks;
3. INVITES the conveners of the 2nd International Marine Protected Area Congress in 2009, and of CBD COP10 in 2010, to include in their deliberations a comprehensive report on progress toward the goal of creating MPA networks by 2012;

4. CALLS ON states to:

- (a) accelerate their efforts to increase the establishment of MPAs and to create, by 2012, a global and effectively managed system of marine and coastal protected areas in accordance with the goals set by the WSSD and CBD;
- (b) recognize the need to improve the management effectiveness of existing and future MPAs to increase marine resilience in the face of climate change and ocean acidification;
- (c) define MPA systems based on a diversity of complementary tools which allow the combination of highly protected areas with managed multiple use areas;
- (d) promote the creation of effectively managed MPAs beyond national jurisdictions, in accordance with international law;
- (e) increase integration of MPAs within other policies for the governance and management of marine, coastal and terrestrial areas in accordance with integrated watershed management practices; and
- (f) increase cooperation amongst those that are signatories to the CBD, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to ensure the harmonization of methods and tools to assist the Parties in fulfilling their responsibilities for the creation and management of networks of coastal and MPAs;

5. RECOMMENDS that governments, donors and other development agencies undertake systematic analyses of the effects and impacts of marine and coastal protected areas in the context of sustainable development and management of natural resources, and to undertake in particular, economic and sociological evaluations, in order to increase understanding of the contribution of such areas to sustainable development, especially poverty alleviation;

6. URGES policy makers to improve the legal framework that embraces the concept of MPAs in their respective national laws;

7. URGES international financial institutions to increase and expedite their support for initiatives aimed at establishing MPAs, as well as at implementing management plans for these areas; and

8. CALLS ON civil society, regional organizations, and bilateral and multilateral assistance agencies, to support the commitments of governments to create and improve the effectiveness of MPAs and MPA networks;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5 –14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

9. REQUESTS the Director General to;

- (a) increase efforts to support the commitments of governments and other IUCN members to create and improve the effectiveness of MPAs and MPA networks through the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* and through the work of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), including an increase in funding allocated towards addressing the 2012 targets for MPAs and MPA networks;
- (b) establish, in consultation with WCPA and working with the World Database on Protected Areas and others, a regular and transparent process for tracking and reporting commitments and progress toward creating MPAs and MPA networks, as well as significant remaining gaps in MPA coverage; and
- (c) report to the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress in 2012 on the extent to which the goal of creating MPA networks has been achieved; and

10. REQUESTS the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) to assist those State members requesting advice in developing regulations that recognize MPAs.

4.046 Artisanal fishing organizations active in the sustainable management of the Mediterranean

OBSERVING that the Mediterranean Sea is one of the areas of the world with the highest biodiversity and that it is home to unique endemism and ecosystems, which form part of the natural heritage of the countries in the Mediterranean Basin;

ALSO OBSERVING that for years now, the Mediterranean Sea and its marine resources have been suffering from severe degradation (overexploitation, pollution, changes in the coastline, etc.), bringing it near to the point of collapse, and that its biodiversity has decreased dramatically over the last few years;

OBSERVING that the Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Basin are totally insufficient, since they only represent 1% of the protected zone, and do not guarantee the long-term conservation of marine biodiversity or the sustainable use of natural resources;

RECOGNIZING that 80% of the Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean have no management plans or are inadequate to protect marine ecosystems properly and, moreover, have not been implemented with the participation of users;

HIGHLIGHTING the anthropological and social importance of the artisanal fishing sector for the communities in the Mediterranean Basin and the crisis that the sector is experiencing due to overexploitation, the high price of oil, the deterioration in the sector's social image and the decrease in generational succession;

FURTHER HIGHLIGHTING the fact that artisanal fishermen, as some of the main users of the sea, represent key organizations that have an essential role to play in ensuring the conservation of the marine biodiversity of the Mediterranean;

OBSERVING that, over the years, the artisanal fishing sector has generated very extensive traditional ecological knowledge, transmitted from one generation to the next, which complements scientific knowledge and is in danger of being lost due to the crisis in the sector;

ALSO OBSERVING that the disappearance of traditional ecological knowledge would entail a loss of opportunity to improve the quality of scientific knowledge about ecosystem functioning and biodiversity;

WARNING that the lack of participation by artisanal fishermen in fishery resources management models jeopardizes the future of conservation;

RECALLING Resolution 3.052 *Protected areas in the Mediterranean* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

RECOGNIZING the work carried out by IUCN through the Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation in the

establishment of cooperation and programme exchanges in the Mediterranean region; and

ALSO RECOGNIZING the work carried out by the Network of Artisanal Fishing Communities for Sustainable Development (RECOPADES) and by the Lonxanet Foundation, in recognition and defence of the social, cultural, economic and environmental rights of the men and women in fishing communities;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES Mediterranean countries to:
 - (a) coordinate actions to facilitate the culture of change within the fishing sector, promoting sustainable development, the importance of Marine Protected Areas and following a participative philosophy and methodology;
 - (b) recognize the value of the artisanal fishing sector's traditional ecological knowledge, and to generate mechanisms and alliances that will allow this to be transferred and systematized for the scientific community and the rest of society;
 - (c) encourage Mediterranean artisanal fishing organizations to play an active role in making decisions on the design and implementation of Marine Protected Areas, on the sustainable management of marine resources and, in short, to lead the movement for the conservation of marine biodiversity; and
 - (d) increase the tools for training artisanal fishing organizations to carry out this management, and to facilitate the technical support and advice on various issues provided by strategic partnerships of scientific institutions and NGOs;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. URGES the Director General to cooperate with Mediterranean countries in carrying out the actions called for in sub-paragraphs 1(a) to (d) above.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took

no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.047 Empowering local communities to conserve and manage natural resources in Africa

RECOGNIZING that local people have been managing their natural resources for millennia as an essential part of their livelihoods;

OBSERVING that many natural resource policies of the last century undermined the rights of communities to manage and benefit from their environments;

ACKNOWLEDGING that independent African governments have gone some way towards re-dressing this situation through ‘Community-Based Natural Resource Management Programmes’ which grant limited rights of access to local resources;

CONCERNED that these measures have not gone far enough to restore the essential rights needed to develop the adaptability and resilience of local communities in the face of new emerging threats such as climate change, food shortages and pan-African human and animal health pandemics;

NOTING that robust management institutions can only be realized, and that economic incentives for sustainable natural resource management are only likely to be optimized, when people have full authority and responsibility for their resources;

EMPHASIZING that the strengthening of these rights is a pre-requisite for local peoples to adapt and survive the growing crisis affecting Africa; and

RECALLING Resolution 3.012 *Governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which “urges IUCN to serve in a leadership role in relation to governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development”;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON African governments to confer legal rights on local people to:

(a) establish institutions for communal conservation and management of natural resources; and

(b) define the structure and membership of such institutions;

2. CALLS ON local communities or collectives in Africa to establish institutions to conserve and manage the natural resources on which they depend for their security;

3. URGES local institutions in Africa established to conserve and manage natural resources to be given the authority and responsibility, *inter alia*, to:

(a) take all necessary measures to protect their natural resources;

(b) take all decisions on use of local resources and collaborate with neighbouring institutions when issues of scale demand a wider consideration;

(c) retain all income and non-monetary benefits from their management; and

(d) decide on the distribution of all income and benefits from their management; and

4. URGES all interested IUCN members to:

(a) advocate the case for such rights to be granted to local peoples and to assist governments with the legal basis for conferring such rights; and

(b) when requested by local communities, to advise and assist them to establish institutions to manage and conserve the natural resources on which they depend for their security;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

5. CALLS ON the Director General, where practicable and within the parameters of the Programme, to advise and assist communities wishing assistance to establish institutions to conserve and manage natural resources; and

6. URGES all IUCN Commission members to advise and assist communities wishing assistance to establish

institutions to conserve and manage natural resources.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.048 Indigenous peoples, protected areas and implementation of the Durban Accord

RECALLING previous IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations recognizing, promoting and calling for 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;

WELCOMING the adoption by United Nations General Assembly in September 2007 of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;

UNDERLINING that the use of the term “indigenous peoples” is consistent with the above-mentioned *Declaration*;

RECALLING that the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) adopted the *Durban Accord and the Durban Action Plan*, which *inter alia*:

- (a) established a ‘new paradigm’ of protected areas according to which indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ rights are recognized, respected and upheld in the planning, establishment and management of protected areas;
- (b) called for a halt to forced resettlement and involuntary sedentarization of indigenous peoples without their free, prior and informed consent;
- (c) encouraged national reviews of innovative governance for protected areas; and
- (d) called for the establishment by 2010 of participatory mechanisms for the restitution of indigenous peoples’ lands that were incorporated into protected areas without their free, prior and informed consent;

ALSO RECALLING Decision VII/28 of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Kuala Lumpur, 2004) which required “that establishment, management and monitoring of protected areas should take place with the full and effective participation, and the full respect for the rights of, indigenous and local communities consistent with national law and applicable international obligations”; and

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 3.055 *Indigenous Peoples, Protected Areas and the CBD Programme of Work* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress, called:

- (a) for IUCN and its members to take action to promote the implementation of the *Durban Accord* and the *Programme of Work* of the CBD related to indigenous peoples; and
- (b) on the Director General to conduct an implementation review of Resolution 1.53 *Indigenous peoples and protected areas* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) and the document *Indigenous and Traditional Peoples and Protected Areas: Principles and Guidelines* published by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and WWF in 1999;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. RESOLVES to apply the requirements of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* to the whole of IUCN’s Programme and operations;
2. CALLS ON governments to work with indigenous peoples’ organizations to:
 - (a) reform national legislation, policies and practices so that they contribute to the realization of the relevant parts of the Durban Accord, CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas, as well as the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; and
 - (b) 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; and

3. CALLS ON IUCN members and international agencies to revise the policies and programmes that fund biodiversity conservation, to ensure their consistency with the *Durban Accord* and IUCN resolutions on indigenous peoples;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

4. CALLS ON the Director General, in consultation with IUCN's Commissions to:
 - (a) develop a mechanism to bring together representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations, other supportive member organizations of IUCN, and relevant partners, to work in collaboration to:
 - (i) review the extent to which all relevant resolutions and recommendations referenced in the preamble have been implemented;
 - (ii) advance the key recommendations of the *Durban Accord* and *Durban Action Plan* and the decisions and elements of the *CBD Programme of Work*;
 - (iii) develop practical proposals for enhancing IUCN's capacity to work with indigenous peoples; and
 - (iv) promote the recognition of indigenous peoples' rights and systems pertaining to the use, management, conservation and governance of their territories, lands and natural resources; and
 - (b) raise funds for carrying out these activities; and
5. REQUESTS IUCN Commission Chairs to include experts from indigenous peoples in all the Commissions and their Steering Committees.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

The State member Australia provided the following statement for the record:

Australia has not yet adopted the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Australia has stated it intends to adopt the Declaration after it has consulted with indigenous organizations, other jurisdictions in Australia and other players. This is consistent with Australia's national apology earlier this year, which began a new relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples based on respect, cooperation and mutual responsibility. Australia will abstain from this and subsequent Motions that call for the adoption of measures in support of the Declaration until these consultations are completed.

The State member Canada provided the following statement for the record:

The Government of Canada takes this opportunity to restate its position on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN DRIP). Canada was unable to support the UN DRIP because the text fails to adequately address Canada's key concerns and lacks clear, practical guidance for States. The UN DRIP is not a legally binding instrument. It has no legal effect in Canada, and its provisions do not represent customary international law. Canada will continue to take effective action, at home and abroad, to protect and promote the rights of indigenous peoples based on our existing human rights obligations and commitments.

The State member New Zealand provided the following statement for the record:

While New Zealand fully supports the principles and aspirations of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (DRIP), the Declaration does not enjoy universal support. On 13 September 2007 New Zealand, along with a number of other countries with significant indigenous populations, voted against the Declaration when it was adopted by the UN General Assembly. Some of the Declaration's key articles are fundamentally incompatible with New Zealand's legal, constitutional and democratic arrangements. Our explanation of vote is a matter of public record.

For the reasons explained, New Zealand will not support those Motions containing references such as adopting, endorsing or implementing the Declaration.

New Zealand will continue to support efforts to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples.

The State member United Kingdom provided the following statement for the record:

The UK fully supports the provisions in this Declaration which recognize that indigenous individuals are entitled to the full protection of their human rights and fundamental freedoms in international law, on an equal basis to all other individuals. Human rights are universal and equal to all.

We would like to recall here that, since equality and universality are the fundamental principles underpinning human rights, we do not accept that some groups in society should benefit from human rights that are not available to others. With the exception of the right to self-determination (Common Article 1 of the two International Human Rights Covenants), we therefore do not accept the concept of collective human rights in international law. Of course certain individual human rights can often be exercised collectively, in community with others. Examples are freedom of association, freedom of religion or a collective title to property.

This remains a long-standing and well-established position of the UK. It is one we consider to be important in ensuring that individuals within groups are not left vulnerable or unprotected by allowing rights of the group to supersede the human rights of the individual. This is without prejudice to the UK's recognition of the fact that the governments of many states with indigenous populations have granted them various collective rights in their constitutions, national laws and agreements. Indeed, we warmly welcome this fact, which has served to strengthen the political and economic position of and protections for indigenous peoples in those states.

4.049 Supporting Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas

AWARE that a considerable part of the Earth's surviving biodiversity is located on territories and areas under the ownership, control and/or management of indigenous peoples and local communities, including mobile peoples;

NOTING that such peoples and communities exercise their governance through both customary laws and other effective means, and that their territories and areas add considerably to humanity's efforts to protect and conserve biodiversity, agricultural diversity and cultural diversity;

ALSO NOTING that their conserved territories and areas serve often as examples of ways to reconcile biodiversity conservation, livelihoods and food sovereignty, and are crucial to local sustainable development and cultural identity;

RECALLING Resolution 3.049 *Community Conserved Areas* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which provides a clear direction on the need to recognize and support "natural or modified ecosystems, including significant biodiversity,

ecological services, and cultural values, voluntarily conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities through customary laws or other effective means";

CELEBRATING the 2007 United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, and stressing that the 2004 *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) recommends that Parties to the CBD should recognize and support Community Conserved Areas;

WELCOMING the work carried out by TILCEPA – a joint Theme of the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) – to support inventories and participatory action research studies of Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in various parts of the world, provide technical advice on issues at the interface of CCAs and livelihoods, equity, poverty eradication and food sovereignty, and facilitate innovative thinking on the subject leading to improved policies and practices;

CONSCIOUS that Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas (ICTs and IPCCAs) are recognized by IUCN as important governance types in protected area systems;

ACKNOWLEDGING the tremendous variety of situations on a regional basis and that concepts and approaches are evolving among governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, including traditional fishing folks, pastoralists and peasants;

CONSIDERING that while most ICTs and IPCCAs remain unrecognized and largely outside official protected area networks, national recognition of these areas relies at times on hastily developed or otherwise inappropriate mechanisms that include the top-down imposition of homogenized institutional structures, rules or governance mechanisms;

ALSO CONSIDERING, on the other hand, that a number of countries have recognized ICTs and IPCCAs in appropriate ways within or outside their protected area systems, including through laws and policies that fully acknowledge the rights of indigenous peoples and other communities;

HIGHLIGHTING that ICTs and IPCCAs are facing ongoing and imminent threats, including from unsustainable

development policies and projects, aggressive practices of extractive industries and industrial agriculture, insecure tenure arrangements, de-legitimization of customary rights, inequities of a social, economic and political nature, loss of knowledge, cultural change and climate change and – most recently – inappropriate forms of recognition by governmental agencies and conservation organizations; and

RECOGNIZING that indigenous peoples and local communities need support to be able to respond to these threats in ways that are both effective and equitable and which restore local adaptability and resilience;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's members to:

- (a) fully acknowledge the conservation significance of Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas – comprising conserved sites, territories, landscapes/seascapes and sacred places – governed and managed by indigenous peoples and local communities, including mobile peoples;
- (b) support the fair restitution of territorial, land and natural resource rights, consistent with conservation and social objectives as considered appropriate by the indigenous peoples and local communities governing existing ICTs and IPCCAs and/or interested in establishing new ones;
- (c) ensure that any inclusion of ICTs and IPCCAs within national systems is made with indigenous peoples' free prior and informed consent and after full consultation with local communities and proper consideration of their concerns; and
- (d) support indigenous peoples and local communities to protect ICTs and IPCCAs against external threats by applying the principles of free prior and informed consent, participatory social, environmental and cultural impact assessments, and other measures as elaborated in CBD decision VII/28 or other international agreements with reference to new development and conservation initiatives;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008,

provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. URGES the IUCN Director General and the Chairs of all IUCN Commissions to provide leadership and supportive roles in the national and international recognition of ICTs and IPCCAs as a legitimate form of biodiversity conservation, through:
 - (a) providing assistance to CBD members in implementing the relevant elements of the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* within a strict framework of respect for human rights in conservation; and
 - (b) facilitating self-monitoring and evaluation of ICTs and IPCCAs consistent with their own governance systems by relevant indigenous peoples and local communities in collaboration with outside agencies/actors, as appropriate, and establishing effective mechanisms of internal and external accountability; and
3. REQUESTS CEESP and WCPA to renew and strengthen support and continue work in:
 - (a) understanding ICTs and IPCCAs in their regional, national and culture-specific dimensions and identifying examples of mechanisms and safeguards that can ensure their appropriate and non-intrusive national and international recognition;
 - (b) promoting the recognition of ICTs and IPCCAs, within or outside national protected area systems and the wider conserved landscape/ seascape, as local governance types unique to the indigenous peoples and local communities concerned (observing the requirements in paragraph 1(c) below);
 - (c) supporting the CBD Secretariat and Parties in regional workshops and other processes to enhance capacities and promote appropriate policies and practices for the implementation of the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*, and its element 2 in particular; and
 - (d) guiding relevant bodies in the updating of the *World Database on Protected Areas*, the *UN List of Protected Areas*, the *State of the World's Protected Areas* and other relevant databases or documents to ensure inclusion of ICTs and IPCCAs only where and as appropriate.

The Statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada and New Zealand in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Resolution.

The State member Norway indicated that it would vote against the motion.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.050 Recognition of Indigenous Conservation Territories

NOTING that Latin America provides global leadership in co-management and shared responsibility for protected areas along with indigenous peoples, afro-descendants and various ethnic groups, whose territories, lands and resources have been in many cases preserved through their traditional practices and knowledge;

ALSO NOTING that there is still insufficient participation of these groups and that they do not fully exercise their collective and individual rights, which are guaranteed by national and international legislation;

RECOGNIZING how important it is that this rich human resource, in regard to experience and lessons learned, be appropriately utilized for policy making and establishing global and regional technical guidelines on protected areas, and for promoting scientific and traditional knowledge, as well as respect for the human rights of the peoples and communities that have inhabited these areas from time immemorial;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the knowledge, innovations and traditional practices of indigenous peoples contribute to the conservation of biological diversity, and therefore to environmental quality and sustainable development in Latin America and other parts of the world;

AWARE that the range of options for protecting areas of high ecological and cultural value must be broadened, for which it is necessary to use the range of existing options in the various categories of protected areas, under different schemes of administration and governance; and

NOTING the need to facilitate and strengthen the informed participation of local communities, indigenous peoples, afro-descendants, civil society organizations, women's associations, scientists and academics, consumers, as well as the private sector in the participatory planning of protected areas, applying the principles of good governance, such as transparency, fairness, accountability and access to conflict management mechanisms, and the development of mechanisms and initiatives that permit the effective management of these areas and the equitable distribution of the costs and benefits associated with the establishment and sustainable management of protected areas;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON states, in a framework of cooperation that takes into account national and regional particularities, to make available the means to enable the full exercising and effective implementation of all the rights recognized by the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. CALLS ON the Director General to promote and support the recognition of Indigenous Conservation Territories as a legitimate model of governance of protected areas superimposed over the territories of indigenous peoples, following the governance guidelines contained in the IUCN publication, *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories*, independent of the management category, taking into account the need for the integration of culture and nature, the role of customary law, traditional constituted authority, and the exercise of indigenous authority in such territories.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

The Statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada and New Zealand in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Resolution.

4.051 Indigenous peoples and protected areas of La Mosquitia in Mesoamerica

RECALLING previous IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations that address the roles and rights of indigenous peoples:

- (a) Recommendation 18.16 *Recognition of the Role of Indigenous Communities* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990);
- (b) Resolution 19.20 *IUCN Action on Indigenous People and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources*, Resolution 19.23 *The Importance of Community-based Approaches*, Recommendation 19.21 *Indigenous People and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources* and Recommendation 19.22 *Indigenous People* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994); and
- (c) Resolution 1.53 *Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas*, Resolution 1.54 *Indigenous Peoples and Conservation in Meso-America*, Resolution 1.55 *Indigenous Peoples and Forests* and Resolution 1.56 *Indigenous Peoples and the Andes* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 2.81 *Mining concessions and protected areas in Mesoamerica* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Recommendation V.24 *Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas* noted at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003);

MINDFUL of the provisions of Convention 169 of the International Labour Organization (ILO) concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples and of those of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), as well as of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (September 2007), and the Draft *American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, which guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination, prior informed consultation and the ownership, use, management and conservation of biodiversity and natural resources of their territories;

RECALLING that IUCN, in the framework of its Initiative for Indigenous Peoples and Conservation, committed itself to establish a Mesoamerican Working Group on indigenous peoples and protected areas;

BEARING IN MIND that the indigenous territories of La Mosquitia in Honduras and Nicaragua host the largest contiguous remaining tropical rainforest area in Mesoamerica, as well as most of the protected areas of the countries concerned; and that they jointly constitute the so-called ‘core’ of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor (MBC), including the Rio Platano Biosphere Reserve, designated by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, the Tawahka Asangni Biosphere Reserve and the Patuca National Park in Honduras, and the Bosawas Biosphere Reserve in Nicaragua;

CONCERNED by the pressures to which the indigenous territories and protected areas of La Mosquitia, which constitute the core of the MBC, are subjected, particularly the rapid escalation of uncontrolled agricultural, logging and livestock encroachment, which results in accelerated forest loss and conversion, estimated at 10,000 hectares annually in Honduras alone, with increasingly severe impacts on watersheds, wetlands and marine/coastal areas;

FURTHER CONCERNED, that these damaging impacts will further increase with agrobiofuel production, mining exploration and exploitation and construction of the Patuca III mega-dam, and that all of these activities endanger the medium- and long-term sustainability of this important transboundary system of protected areas, as well as the habitat and life of the indigenous and afro-descendant communities who have historically lived in these territories, thus violating these peoples’ rights, guaranteed by international standards;

RECALLING that the MBC core protected areas are priority sites for Mesoamerican and global conservation, pursuant to the provisions of the Central American Regional Biodiversity Convention (1992); and

RECOGNIZING the contribution received from the IUCN Regional Office for Meso-America (IUCN-ORMA) facilitating the holding of meetings of representatives of indigenous peoples in the Mesoamerican region, especially after the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007), and noting that this support and encouragement from the Union was invaluable for creating the first draft of the Regional Indigenous Agenda, and improving the organization and positioning of the Indigenous Networks of Mesoamerica;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the

following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

REQUESTS the Director General, IUCN Commissions, members, Regional Councillors and particularly IUCN-ORMA, utilizing available resources, as well as other resources that could be raised, to work on the following:

- (a) carrying out an assessment of the current status of MBC's core protected areas, highlighting biodiversity threats and the exercise of the rights of indigenous and afro-descendant peoples;
- (b) lobbying the Governments of Honduras and Nicaragua so that they respond to the findings of the assessment and contribute to the creation of short-, medium- and long-term plans to tackle these challenges;
- (c) submitting the assessment report to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, and lobbying them so that UNESCO presents recommendations to Honduras and Nicaragua to safeguard the integrity of the protected areas and the rights of the indigenous and afro-descendant peoples;
- (d) forming alliances with members of IUCN in the Mesoamerican Region in order to implement an action plan based on the findings of the assessment, so as to start a process aimed at reducing the advance of the agricultural frontier, as well as restoring and protecting watersheds, wetlands and forests in protected areas located on the agricultural frontiers of the MBC's core area and other important ecosystems in the indigenous peoples' territory;
- (e) asking the Government of Honduras, in accordance with the recommendations of the World Commission on Dams and the rights of the indigenous peoples guaranteed in the ILO Convention 169 and in the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, to present complete documentation on the social, environmental, economic and cultural impacts of the Patuca III mega dam project, building of which is planned to start 2009, and to consider whether it will be compatible with the CBD *Akwé Kon Voluntary Guidelines*;
- (f) consulting the Government of Taiwan, a Province of China, as a funding body of the Patuca III mega dam project, on whether it has assessed the social, cultural, environmental and economic impacts on indigenous peoples, and on the MBC's core protected areas;
- (g) jointly formulating with IUCN members in Mesoamerica, sectoral guides for the assessment of infrastructure projects such as development of roads, dams, mining resources and hydrocarbon exploration and exploitation and the growing of agrobiofuel crops, which can compromise the integrity of natural resources, biodiversity, livelihoods and the rights of indigenous and afro-descendant peoples, ensuring the incorporation of the CBD *Akwé Kon Voluntary Guidelines* and other similar guidelines;
- (h) creating a Mesoamerican working group of indigenous peoples along with IUCN-ORMA, as an area for dialogue, understanding, consultation and lobbying on governance issues, management categories, restitution and the specific indigenous system found in the protected areas, as well as the impacts of climate change and projects that have a negative effect on their territories and natural resources, as set out in the ILO Convention 169;
- (i) implementing an appropriate internal surveillance, monitoring and assessment system on the inclusion of and compliance with the rights of indigenous peoples in the strategies, policies, programmes and projects facilitated by the different IUCN-ORMA offices; and
- (j) including La Mosquitia Honduras and Nicaragua region, as part of IUCN ORMA's geographical priorities for intervention, guaranteeing strategic alliances with the members of the Union present in the region.

The statement for the record made by the State member Canada in relation to Resolution 4.048 also applies to this Resolution.

4.052 Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

WELCOMING the adoption of the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 13 September 2007;

UNDERLINING that the use of the term 'indigenous peoples' is consistent with the aforementioned UN *Declaration*;

RECOGNIZING that the UN *Declaration* is the accepted international mechanism for relieving the tremendous

pressures and crises faced by indigenous peoples throughout the world as they endeavour to protect indigenous ecosystems, including biological, cultural and linguistic diversity;

SHARING the Republic of Bolivia's concerns that "at the day of adoption of the Declaration, the Planet was clearly wounded" and while "it did not solve the problems, nor ease the tensions between people," it was a step forward in allowing indigenous peoples to "participate in global processes for the betterment of all societies";

NOTING that the 76th session of the General Conference of the International Labour Organization (June 1989) adopted Convention No. 169 concerning *Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries*, which entered into force on 5 September 1991, and which furthers respect for indigenous peoples and facilitates their participation in decision making;

RECALLING that the UN *Declaration* recognizes "... that respect for indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices contributes to sustainable and equitable development and proper management of the environment...";

RECOGNIZING that the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007) acknowledged that Indigenous Conservation Territories are a legitimate governance model for protected areas established in indigenous peoples' ancestral territories, a model whose key features are the integration of culture and nature, the role of customary rights, the traditional institutions and exercise of Indigenous authority in such territories;

RECOGNIZING that the ability of indigenous peoples to protect and support biological and cultural diversity is strengthened by a fuller recognition of their fundamental human rights, both individual and collective, and that there is a correlation between the rapid decline of biodiversity and the destruction of Indigenous linguistic and cultural diversity;

ACKNOWLEDGING that indigenous peoples have suffered greatly from the colonization of their lands, territories and resources, and from historic institutional efforts to destroy indigenous languages (linguicide), cultures and spiritual traditions;

NOTING that these culturally and ecologically destructive effects are conceptually rooted in several Vatican

papal bulls and other similar documents on indigenous peoples – *Dum diversas* (1452), *Romanus Pontifex* (1455), *Inter Caetera* (1493), Letters Patent to John Cabot (1496), (official authorizations to "invade, capture, vanquish, and subdue," as well as "subjugate," indigenous peoples, to "reduce their persons to perpetual slavery," and "take away all their possessions and property") – which led to such present-day judicial doctrines as "discovery," "*terra nullius*," and "*terra nullus*," as revealed by indigenous scholars during the United Nations Decades of the World's Indigenous Peoples;

CONCERNED that, to this day, these historic doctrines have continued to prevent indigenous peoples from exercising their full right of self-determination and traditional responsibilities in relation to their lands and territories, thereby resulting in tremendous losses of ecological and biological diversity, sacred sites and places, making the UN *Declaration* necessary;

EMPHASIZING that the foundations for sustainable development require intra-generational and intergenerational equity;

RECOGNIZING AND REAFFIRMING that indigenous individuals are entitled to all human rights recognized in international law, and that indigenous peoples possess collective rights which are indispensable to their existence, well-being and integral development as peoples;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the UN *Declaration* restates that indigenous peoples have the right to self-determination, freely determining their political status, and pursuing their economic, social and cultural development;

CALLING for strengthened dialogue and partnerships between indigenous peoples, non-governmental organizations, states and intergovernmental organizations; and

RECALLING that the *World Charter for Nature*, the *Earth Charter*, Resolution 16.40 *World Charter for Nature* adopted by the 16th IUCN General Assembly (Madrid, 1984), Recommendation 18.16 *Recognition of the Role of Indigenous Communities* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990), Resolution 19.20 *IUCN Action on Indigenous Peoples and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources*, Recommendation 19.21 *Indigenous Peoples and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources* and Recommendation 19.22 *Indigenous People* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994), Resolution 1.49 *Indigenous Peoples and IUCN* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), Resolution 3.022 *Endorsement of the Earth*

Charter and Resolution 3.055 Indigenous Peoples, protected areas and the CBD Programme of Work adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) affirm the contributions of indigenous peoples for stewardship of the Earth;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October:

1. ENDORSES the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;
2. CALLS ON all IUCN members to endorse or adopt the UN *Declaration*, and to apply it in their relevant activities;
3. DIRECTS Council to form 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 for its implementation;
4. ACKNOWLEDGES that injustices to indigenous peoples have been and continue to be caused in the name of conservation of nature and natural resources; and
5. INVITES international organizations to provide all appropriate financial and other capacity-building measures to ensure participation by indigenous peoples and their communities in sustainable development;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009-2012:

6. INSTRUCTS the Director General and Commissions to identify and propose mechanisms to address and redress the effects of historic and current injustices against indigenous peoples in the name of conservation of nature and natural resources; and
7. REQUESTS that the Director General make indigenous peoples' role in conserving biological and cultural diversity a main concern of IUCN and future World Conservation Congresses, and present a statement of progress to the annual UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues beginning in April 2009.

The Statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada, New Zealand and United Kingdom in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Resolution.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.053 Mobile indigenous peoples and biodiversity conservation

NOTING that mobile indigenous peoples (e.g. nomadic pastoralists, sea-nomads, shifting agriculturalists and hunter-gatherers) are a subset of indigenous and traditional peoples whose livelihoods depend on extensive common property use of natural resources and whose mobility is both a management strategy for sustainable resource use and conservation and a distinctive source of cultural identity;

RECOGNIZING that mobility is used as a strategy for the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of natural resources;

CONSIDERING the mounting scientific evidence that mobile use of natural resources in many cases promotes environmental integrity and conservation of both wild and domestic biodiversity;

NOTING the principles of the *Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation* which was adopted by the Dana Conference, (Jordan, April 2002), and noting that two IUCN Commissions, the World Commission on Protected Areas (WPCA) and the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) participated in the organization of this meeting;

RECALLING Resolution 1.53 *Indigenous Peoples and Protected Areas* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) and Recommendation 2.92 *Indigenous peoples, sustainable use of natural resources, and international trade* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

FURTHER RECALLING guidance provided in Recommendation V.26 *Community Conserved Areas*, Recommendation V.27 *Mobile Indigenous Peoples and Conservation*, and Outcomes 3 and 5 of the *Durban Accord*, noted by participants in the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), and Resolution 3.018 *Mobile peoples and conservation* that was adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

CONSIDERING that in many cases, the pursuit of development and conservation has alienated mobile indigenous peoples from the lands and resources traditionally used by them, with the consequent loss of livelihoods and erosion of cultures, and resulting in the loss of indispensable indigenous knowledge of customary management of biodiversity resources and conservation practices needed today; and

COMMENDING and SUPPORTING the *Segovia Declaration of Nomadic and Transhumant Pastoralists*, resulting from the World Gathering of Nomadic and Transhumant Pastoralists (Segovia, Spain, September 2007), in furtherance of IUCN Resolution 3.018 and the *Dana Declaration*, celebrating the strong interrelation between biodiversity conservation, mobility and sustainable livelihoods;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. ENDORSES the five principles of the *Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation* contained in the Annex to this Resolution; and
2. COMMENDS CEESP and the other IUCN Commissions for the valuable work they have done to bring to the fore the special vulnerabilities of mobile indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

3. CALLS ON IUCN's Commissions and the Secretariat to:
 - (a) adhere to the five principles of the *Dana Declaration*; and
 - (b) seek a positive and constructive alliance with mobile indigenous peoples' organizations such as the World Alliance of Mobile Indigenous Peoples (WAMIP) through concrete field-based conservation initiatives and policy support for a meaningful real inclusion and consideration of mobile pastoralists in all decision-making processes affecting them.

ANNEX:

Dana Declaration on Mobile Peoples and Conservation

- I. RIGHTS AND EMPOWERMENT. Conservation approaches with potential impact on mobile peoples and their natural resources must recognize mobile peoples' rights, management responsibilities and capacities, and should lead to effective empowerment.
- II. TRUST AND RESPECT. Beneficial partnerships between conservation interests and mobile peoples should be based upon mutual trust and respect and address the issue of discrimination against mobile peoples.
- III. DIFFERENT KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS. In planning and implementing conservation of biodiversity with mobile peoples, there is a need to respect and incorporate their traditional knowledge and management practices. Given that no knowledge system is infallible, the complementary use of traditional and mainstream sciences is a valuable means of meeting the changing needs of mobile peoples and answering conservation dilemmas.
- IV. ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT. Conservation of biodiversity and natural resources within areas inhabited or used by mobile peoples requires the application of adaptive management approaches. Such approaches should build on traditional/existing cultural models and incorporate mobile peoples' worldviews, aspirations and customary law. They should work towards the physical and cultural survival of mobile peoples and the long-term conservation of biodiversity.
- V. COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT. Adequate institutional structures for adaptive management should be based on the concept of equitable sharing of decision-making and management responsibilities between mobile peoples and conservation agencies. This is only possible if the existing decision-making mechanisms for biodiversity conservation become more democratic and transparent, so as to allow for the full and open participation of civil society and mobile peoples, in particular, and for the establishment of co-management and self-management systems.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.054 The Yasuní-ITT Initiative

CONSIDERING that on 5 June 2007 the President of the Republic of Ecuador, Rafael Correa launched the Yasuní-ITT Initiative, committing to keeping crude oil beneath the soil in the ITT (Ishpingo, Tambococha, Tiptuni) petrol fields in exchange for fair partial compensation;

RECALLING that the Yasuní-ITT Initiative contributes to the global reduction of greenhouse gases, avoiding the release of millions of metric tonnes of CO₂ into the atmosphere;

RECOGNIZING that, in 1989, Yasuní National Park was declared a Biosphere Reserve as part of UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme; that the Park is of vital importance for global conservation since it is one of the few 'strictly protected areas' in the Western Amazon region;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that Yasuní National Park is located within one of the World's Global 200 Ecoregions (the Napo moist forest) declared in 2000 by WWF as of high biodiversity value and in need of protection, as well as within one of 45 priority places in the world for nature conservancy (the Amazon); and that, in 2000, the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) selected Yasuní National Park for its prestigious Living Landscapes Program;

AWARE that during the 62nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), within the framework of the High Level Dialogue on Climate Change, President Rafael Correa stated that the Yasuní-ITT Initiative would introduce a new economic logic for the 21st century, where the generation of value and not only that of goods would be compensated;

CELEBRATING that, within the framework of the Clinton Global Initiative, it was recognized that the Ecuadorian proposal would contribute to the conservation of the Amazon forests, a reduction in carbon emissions and the promotion of a green economy;

REALIZING that, according to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2007), the atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases increased from a pre-industrial level of 280 ppm to 379 ppm in 2005, and thus immediate effective measures to curb global atmospheric emissions of CO₂ are necessary;

NOTING that the Government of Ecuador, through the Yasuní-ITT Initiative, is committed to using the resources from this initiative for the diversification of its energy sources and to meet the requirements of sustainable development programmes and projects;

OBSERVING that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) at their 148th Ordinary Meeting held in Vienna in 2008, expressed interest in and support for the Yasuní-ITT Initiative;

ALSO OBSERVING that the IInd Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas, (Bariloche, September–October 2007), supported the Ecuadorian proposal and urged other Latin American countries to carry out similar initiatives; and

RECALLING that this initiative has been discussed recently during a series of workshops and meetings at the IUCN World Conservation Forum (Barcelona, October 2008), having gathered notable support from participants;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. WELCOMES the Yasuní-ITT Initiative because of its commitment to global sustainable economic development;
2. RECOGNIZES the importance of the Yasuní-ITT Initiative as an innovative mechanism to reduce global CO₂ emissions, to preserve one of the regions with the highest biodiversity in the world, and to protect the Tagaeri-Taromenani indigenous peoples; and
3. CALLS ON IUCN to play an active role in cooperation with other international organizations, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in the international promotion of the recognition of the principle of offsetting carbon emissions;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

4. CALLS ON the Director General to make the necessary efforts to support the dissemination of the Yasuní-ITT Initiative.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.055 Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN's policy and Programme

CONSIDERING that for millennia human communities have interacted with their local biodiversity and developed belief and value systems upon which are based a diversity of environmental management and conservation practices;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that conventional conservation paradigms have not sufficiently taken into account and effectively incorporated the way in which systems of knowledge and practice differ across cultural groups, and that this can become an obstacle to achieving effective conservation;

NOTING that IUCN's Vision and Mission focus on justice and equity, imply respect for human cultures, and that IUCN constituents should be cognizant of relevant issues;

RECOGNIZING that biodiversity conservation policy, planning and implementation need to be better informed by research and knowledge regarding the integral relations between culture and environmental management and conservation and between cultural and biological diversity;

CONCERNED that cultural diversity, like biological diversity, is seriously threatened around the world, and that this leads to the collective impoverishment of humanity and the diminishment of knowledge and practice that contribute to living in ecologically sustainable ways;

RECOGNIZING that IUCN supports the principles expressed in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) *Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity*, and that IUCN has a solid body of policy recognizing indigenous people's rights but not specifically concerning relations between culture and environmental management and conservation or between cultural and biological diversity;

ACKNOWLEDGING that a variety of international declarations, programmes and documents recognize integral relationships between cultural values, environmental

management and biodiversity conservation, including: the UN *Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; the Convention on Biological Diversity (Articles 8j and 10c); the *Earth Charter* principles 8b, 12 and 12b; the UN *Declaration on Social and Economic Rights*; the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) *4th Global Environment Outlook*; and

CONSIDERING that the Resolutions adopted by the 3rd Session of the IUCN World Conservation Congress call for improved knowledge, policy and practice that link cultural and biological diversity, and address their common threats and opportunities to strengthen linkages;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES all of IUCN's members and partners, and the broader conservation community, to establish appropriate mechanisms to apply the principles contained herein in their work and to develop policies to generate improved understanding of the relations between culture, cultural diversity and biological diversity consistent with these principles; and
2. REQUESTS IUCN's members and partners to endorse, support, participate in and advocate the development of a clear policy on understanding and incorporating diverse cultural values and practices into the planning, design and implementation of programmes to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable, based on the following principles:
 - (a) cultural groups understand, and interact with, their natural surroundings through a variety of belief and value systems, knowledge systems, and practices that affect the condition of biological diversity;
 - (b) lasting effective conservation practice depends on an in-depth understanding of the relations between ecological conditions and the complex beliefs and values, knowledge systems, and practices of diverse cultural groups; and
 - (c) the need to use a plurality of appropriate methodological approaches to develop a better understanding of the complex interrelations between *in situ* ecological conditions and the relevant beliefs and values, knowledge systems, and practices of local cultural groups;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

3. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions to endorse, support, participate in and advocate for the development of a clear policy on understanding and incorporating diverse cultural values and practices into the planning, design and implementation of programmes to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable, based on the principles listed in sub-paragraphs 3 (a) to (c) above;
4. REQUESTS the Commission Chairs to collaborate in developing policy and technical guidance on the linkages between biological and cultural diversity; and
5. CALLS ON the Director General to give special attention to the integration of culture and environmental management and conservation, and between cultural diversity and biological diversity, within the IUCN Programme.

4.056 Rights-based approaches to conservation

AWARE of the many relevant provisions on substantive and procedural rights in human-rights law, including in the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (Article 21), the *International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights* (Article 1 and 21), the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (Article 25) and *Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (Article 7), *Convention (No. 169) concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries* adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organization (ILO) at its 76th Session (June 1989); the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (2007); the *Aarhus Convention* (1998) and relevant regional conventions on human rights;

RECALLING that links between human rights and the environment have been spelled out in several policy instruments, among others the 1972 *Stockholm Declaration*, the 1982 *World Charter for Nature*, or the 1992 *Rio Declaration* and *Agenda 21*;

CONSCIOUS that human rights-related responsibilities of state as well as non-state actors, including the private sector, financial institutions, development banks, NGOs and environmental organizations in general, are still evolving, though international human-rights law has so far been addressed primarily to state parties;

RECOGNIZING that conservation practices can affect human well-being and at times have undermined human rights including through forced resettlements and sedentarization, exclusions and economic and cultural impoverishments and impacts on local livelihoods, especially of indigenous peoples and local communities;

CONVINCED that the development of rights-based approaches to conservation and their proper implementation, will help all actors to respect, protect and also promote guaranteed substantive and procedural rights during the life of any activity, and therefore to:

- (a) abstain from violating or directly or indirectly interfering with an individual's pursuit or enjoyment of guaranteed rights; and
- (b) ensure through control, monitoring, investigation and enforcement the observance of rights;

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";

RECALLING that 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) affirmed that "... social equity cannot be achieved without the promotion, protection and guarantee of all human rights..." and "requests the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law to provide additional legal research, analysis and resources, and build the capacity of members in the enforcement of environmental laws, in close collaboration with IUCN members";

NOTING the significant and substantial work done by the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (ELC) in collaboration with the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) and IUCN members, aiming to inform all actors about the meaning of a rights-based approach to conservation and its potential contribution to successful conservation and to the enjoyment of human rights by individuals and communities;

WELCOMING the ongoing work on conservation and human rights of the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and IUCN Senior Social Policy Advisor; and

RECOGNIZING the ideal position of IUCN to:

- (a) assist and promote policies of state and non-state actors, at the international and national levels, which apply rights-based approaches; and
- (b) promote conservation policies and practices respectful of collective and individual rights and responsibilities, especially those of indigenous peoples and local communities;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session at Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's governmental and non-governmental members as well as non-member states and non-state actors, to:
 - (a) develop and/or work towards application of rights-based approaches, to ensure respect for, and where possible further fulfilment of human rights, tenure and resource access rights, and/or customary rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation policies, programmes, projects and related activities;
 - (b) encourage relevant government agencies, private actors, businesses and civil-society actors to monitor the impacts of conservation activities on human rights as part of a rights-based approach;
 - (c) encourage and establish mechanisms to ensure that private-sector entities fully respect all human rights, including indigenous peoples' rights, and take due responsibilities for the environmental and social damage they engender in their activities; and
 - (d) promote an understanding of responsibilities and synergies between human rights and conservation;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN's Commissions to engage with IUCN's members, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, and other relevant partners to:

- (a) facilitate exchange of experiences, methods and tools on rights-based approaches to conservation;
- (b) develop greater understanding and capacity for rights-based approaches;
- (c) actively promote and support the adoption and implementation of such approaches; and
- (d) explore ways to ensure rights-based approaches enhance conservation objectives;

3. CALLS ON the IUCN Council and the Director General, in collaboration with CEESP, CEL and other Commissions, IUCN members, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, and other relevant partners to:

- (a) promote the analysis of rights-based approaches as a cross-cutting principle within IUCN and its membership;
- (b) 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;
- (c) use the principles concerning human rights in conservation prepared by ELC as one starting point for further consultation, reflection and development (see the Annex to this decision), as well as drawing on other relevant guidance; and
- (d) undertake further work to support and guide IUCN on the implementation of policies and actions reflecting a rights-based approach to conservation.

**ANNEX:
Principles concerning human rights in conservation prepared by the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (ELC):**

1. Promote the obligation of all state and non-state actors planning or engaged in policies, projects, programmes or activities with implications for nature

conservation, to secure for all potentially affected persons and peoples, the substantive and procedural rights that are guaranteed by national and international law.

2. Ensure prior evaluation of the scope of conservation policies, projects, programmes or activities, so that all links between human rights and the environment are identified, and all potentially affected persons are informed and consulted.
3. Ensure that planning and implementation of conservation policies and actions reflect such prior evaluation, are based on reasoned decisions and therefore do not harm the vulnerable, but support as much as possible the fulfilment of their rights in the context of nature and natural resource use.
4. Incorporate guidelines and tools in project and programme planning to ensure monitoring and evaluation of all interventions and their implications for human rights of the people involved or potentially affected which will support better accountability and start a feedback loop.
5. Support improvement of governance frameworks on matters regarding the legal and policy frameworks, institutions and procedures that can secure the rights of local people in the context of conservation and sustainable resource use.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.057 Conservation of Pakistan's coastal resources for future generations

RECOGNIZING that the seas are Nature's bounties that provide free recreation to thousands of people and a source of livelihood to millions of men and women who inhabit the coastal communities;

RECALLING that Article 138 of the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation* adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) states that "... good governance is essential for sustainable development...";

ACKNOWLEDGING that the impacts of the tsunami that struck South-east Asia in 2004 and of Cyclone Nargis in 2008 have demonstrated that any development at the cost of natural resources can have disastrous consequences for coastal ecosystems as well as the inhabitants of coastal communities;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that Pakistan's coastal wetlands are rich in biodiversity with mangrove forests, breeding grounds for the green turtle *Chelonia mydas*, olive ridley turtle *Lepidochelys olivacea*, and habitat for migratory birds;

NOTING that recent years have witnessed an increased frequency and intensity of cyclones along the coast of Pakistan;

CONCERNED that the proposed waterfront development project in Sindh Province, Pakistan, initiated by the Government through a public-private partnership, will have serious consequences on marine ecosystems, livelihoods of the fishing communities, and local inhabitants will be denied access to the sea;

NOTING that no environmental impact assessment (EIA) has been conducted, project plans were not shared with civil society, and a consultative process with local communities did not take place;

FURTHER NOTING that this development in coastal lands will destroy fishing grounds, mangrove forests, sand dunes, and increase the threat of coastal disasters; and

ALARMED that the waterfront development in Sindh Province will encourage similar developments along the coast of Balochistan Province without recourse to EIAs that are required by law;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. STRONGLY RECOMMENDS that any development along the coast of Pakistan should:
 - (a) strictly adhere to the conclusions of an independently conducted EIA;
 - (b) not displace local inhabitants or disturb the wetlands; and
 - (c) protect fishing grounds and natural barriers; and

2. URGES the Government of Pakistan to allocate funds towards the conservation of existing coastal ecosystems to reduce the risk of environmental disasters that would threaten the security of coastal communities and the lives of local people;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

3. REQUESTS the Director General to convey to the Government of Pakistan case studies and lessons that substantiate the importance of natural barriers in the protection of local communities against coastal disasters.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.058 Conservation and poverty reduction

RECOGNIZING that the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) have committed themselves to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction of the current rate of biodiversity loss as a contribution to poverty reduction and for the benefit of all life on Earth;

APPRECIATING the fact that this target was endorsed by the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) and incorporated as a new target under the *Millennium Development Goals*;

ACKNOWLEDGING that key global conservation and environmental conventions, including CBD, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, as well as many regional, national and local organizations have adopted a variety of commitments linking conservation and poverty reduction;

TAKING ACCOUNT of the increasing volume of studies at differing levels which show the dependence of local

poor people on the goods and services that ecosystems provide and the religious, cultural and livelihood values which they support, as well as the positive and negative impacts of conservation activities on these values;

REAFFIRMING the commitments made by IUCN at the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress in adopting Resolution 3.014 *Poverty reduction, food security and conservation*, Resolution 3.015 *Conserving nature and reducing poverty by linking human rights and the environment*, and Resolution 3.016 *On the role of conservation organizations in poverty reduction and development*;

NOTING that Resolution 3.016 reflects Outcome 5 and Key Target 3 of the *Durban Action Plan* and Recommendation V.29 *Poverty and protected areas* noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003);

FURTHER NOTING, with approval, the establishment by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP) of the joint Task Force on Protected Areas, Equity and Livelihoods, which is addressing these issues expressly in relation to protected areas;

BEING MADE AWARE OF the initiative of the informal Steering Group Linking Conservation and Poverty supported by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation and others to promote a wide and inclusive dialogue to develop principles and to provide guidance on this matter; and

WELCOMING the decision of the 9th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (Bonn, 2008) to highlight in the implementation of their strategic plan the importance of biodiversity for poverty eradication and the achievement of the *Millennium Development Goals*, taking into account that conservation and sustainable use should contribute to poverty reduction at the local level, and not harm the livelihoods of the poor;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. ENDORSES the principle: *Where conservation policies and activities affect people at the local level, those policies and activities should strive to contribute to poverty reduction and, at the very minimum, do no harm*; and
2. URGES IUCN members and Commissions to support a dialogue around this principle by providing

case studies and sharing their experience, and by participating in workshops and other activities to further this process;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

3. REQUESTS IUCN's Commissions, especially CEESP, WCPA and the Species Survival Commission (SSC), to collaborate with CBD Parties, the CBD Secretariat and the wider conservation community in the development of detailed principles and guidelines to contribute to the implementation of the principle set out in paragraph 1 above and to report progress to the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress, including a text for consideration if appropriate; and
4. ASKS the IUCN Director General to ensure that the principle in paragraph 1 above is incorporated, where relevant, in IUCN's future policies and programmes.

4.059 Promoting wildlife-based land uses in arid and semi-arid regions of Southern Africa

APPRECIATING that under appropriate wildlife management policies that maximize benefits for producer communities, and with logical land-use zonation to minimize human-animal conflict, wildlife-based land use has demonstrated an effective, competitive and low-impact mechanism to deliver sustainable incomes for rural communities in arid and semi-arid regions of Southern Africa;

NOTING that community-based natural-resource management approaches for wildlife and tourism, based on legally established tenure rights that allow rural households to benefit from the management of these resources, have recently been extended to other resource sectors such as forestry, non-timber forest and range-land plant products, grazing systems, water management and local landscape-level planning;

APPRECIATING ongoing initiatives, for example the Integrated Community-Based Ecosystem Management pilot project and the Country Pilot Partnership for Integrated Sustainable Land Use in Namibia, to extend and

evolve these approaches to poverty alleviation through the most appropriate suite of local land uses for sustainable, indigenous, biodiversity production systems and into a holistic system functioning at the ecosystem level;

RECOGNIZING that dryland cropping and livestock production in Southern Africa have caused substantial damage to the health and resilience of ecosystems through, *inter alia*, loss of plant cover, increased rainfall runoff, soil erosion, siltation of rivers and water bodies, lower plant diversity, reduced uptake of atmospheric carbon, complex albedo effects, deliberate or indirect eradications of some wildlife species, use of pesticides, and exacerbation of conflicts between humans and wildlife;

CONCERNED that the environmental constraints to conventional agriculture in Southern Africa will be exacerbated by global climate change, which is projected to result in lower and less reliable annual rainfall and declining soil moisture in the arid and semi-arid regions;

ALSO CONCERNED that the increasing international and regional emphasis on bioenergy production as opposed to food production, especially in areas requiring irrigation, threatens to worsen food scarcity and resource imbalances in the rural areas of Southern Africa;

SUPPORTING the spirit of Resolution 2.29 *IUCN Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000); and

SUPPORTING Decision IX/17 *Biodiversity of Dry and Sub-Humid Lands* of the 9th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, which noted that "... sustainable wildlife management may have a comparative advantage over other land use options due to the natural adaptations of native species to local environmental conditions such as low rainfall and the presence of diseases ... and that lands used for sustainable wildlife management may be more resilient to the predicted impacts of climate change than other land use options";

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES IUCN members, especially those in or involved with Southern African countries, to recognize that indigenous biodiversity-based land uses (e.g. wildlife and tourism) through consumptive and non-consumptive means, have a comparative advantage over agriculture as a land use in many situations, and especially in the arid and semi-arid regions; and

2. URGES government agencies and bilateral and multilateral agencies to interact with various stakeholder groups and combinations thereof to promote balanced land-use policies that include indigenous wildlife and plant production;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

3. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that IUCN continues its efforts to facilitate greater appreciation within the Southern African Development Community (SADC) of the importance of indigenous biodiversity production systems and other environmental goods and services in poverty reduction and development within the region, particularly in the arid and semi-arid regions.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.060 The European Green Belt Initiative

CONSIDERING that the ‘European Green Belt’, the proposed ecological network through Europe – from the Barents to the Black Sea – consists of valuable, unique and endangered habitats and landscapes, represents a cross-section of Europe’s biodiversity, and could become the first transboundary ecological network anywhere in Europe;

RECALLING that in spite of the area’s special historical background as the former ‘Iron Curtain’, which constituted an inhumane death zone and divided East and West Europe for decades, nature was given pause to breathe and flourish, thus enabling the development of this natural “Green Belt” as a common European Nature Heritage;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Green Belt ecological network is approximately 13,000 kilometres long and passes through nearly all natural geographic regions of Europe, from the Arctic to the Mediterranean, and links different types of landscape, from pristine areas to nature-related cultural landscapes, and many important and large nature reserves across Europe;

EMPHASIZING that the European Green Belt is a living historical and cultural monument of recent European history, a tool for sustainable regional development, nature tourism and awareness-raising in terms of nature conservation and the conservation of biological diversity at different social and political levels;

BEING AWARE that the European Green Belt is also an important tool for transboundary cooperation at different levels, for promoting understanding among nations and long-term and peaceful cohabitation;

ALSO BEING AWARE that the European Green Belt is an important migration route for several endangered mammals, such as Brown Bear *Ursus arctos*, Common Wolf *Canis lupus*, Wolverine *Gulo gulo*, Eurasian Lynx *Lynx Lynx*, Wild Cat *Felis silvestris* and Eurasian Otter *Lutra lutra*, contains important staging areas for migratory birds, and is a last retreat for highly endangered species such as the Large Saw-tailed Bush Cricket *Polysarcus denticauda*, Freshwater Pearl Mussel *Margaritifera margaritifera*, and Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* especially in the intensively used landscapes of Central Europe;

RECOGNIZING that the European Green Belt contributes substantially to the implementation of international conventions and agreements such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (PEBLDS) with the pan-European Ecological Network (PEEN), the Emerald Network under the Bern Convention of the Council of Europe and the Natura 2000 Network under the European Union and the ‘Habitats’ and ‘Birds’ Directives;

NOTING that this pan-European initiative links 23 European States (Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Greece, FYR Macedonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia and Turkey) and includes non-governmental and governmental organizations working with an interdisciplinary approach;

ALSO NOTING the work already done by the Fennoscandian Green Belt since the beginning of the 1990’s and emphasizing its importance as an integral part of the European Green Belt;

FURTHER NOTING that the European Green Belt Initiative established a balanced Programme of Work

with seven goals to implement this pan-European ecological network and creating an organizational structure with the IUCN Regional Office for Europe as Coordinator of the Initiative, three Regional Coordinators for the three geographical sections (Fennoscandia and the Baltic States, Central Europe and South-Eastern Europe) and National Focal Points in the participating countries; and

EMPHASIZING that the European Green Belt Initiative is complementary to and builds on existing activities in the regions concerned, and that the three recognized regional sections contribute significantly and equally to the Initiative;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. RECOMMENDS that IUCN's members recognize and support the European Green Belt Initiative, which promotes in a participatory manner the conservation of biodiversity in Europe, transboundary cooperation, and sustainable regional development in former border areas;
2. URGES the governments of the 23 participating European States and the European Union to give highest priority to the implementation of the European Green Belt ecological network and to support the National Focal Points and Regional Coordinators in taking forward the Programme of Work; and
3. ENCOURAGES IUCN's members to support the governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working on this task in the 23 countries along the European Green Belt;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

4. CALLS ON the Director General to actively ensure overall coordination of the European Green Belt Initiative.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.061 The Great Ecological Connectivity Corridor: Cantabrian Range – Pyrenees – Massif Central – Western Alps

CONSIDERING the extraordinary natural and cultural values of the Cantabrian Range, the Pyrenees, the Massif Central, the Western Alps and their transitional areas, which jointly host the greatest number of natural ecosystems in Southwest Europe and constitute one of its major biodiversity areas;

RECOGNIZING that these mountains are the catchment area of most of the rivers of Southwest Europe and that they support people as well as a great number of species in the region;

MINDFUL of the obligations contained in the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979), the Convention on Biological Diversity (Rio de Janeiro, 1992), and Chapter 13 *Sustainable Mountain Development* of *Agenda 21* (Rio de Janeiro, 1992);

CONSIDERING the commitments established under the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern, 1979) and the European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2000);

FURTHER CONSIDERING the provisions of the Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (1995) and the proposal for a Pan-European Ecological Network, promoted by the Council of Europe;

BEARING IN MIND the commitments of the European Union 'Birds Directive' (79/409/EEC, 1979) and the 'Habitats Directive' (92/43/EEC, 1992), which should be incorporated into the national legislation of EU Member States through effective tools to conform to the 'Natura 2000' Network;

RECALLING Resolution 3.039 *The Mediterranean mountain partnership* and Recommendation 3.105 *Conservation of the Cantábrico-Burgalesa mountain range* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

AWARE OF the opportunities that the network of Natura 2000 sites, which constitute 40% of the geographical area covered by this initiative, will provide for the conservation of a physically interconnected and geographically functional ecological network;

CONCERNED by the fragmentation trends that have begun to impact these mountain ranges and aware of the threats implied by such trends in terms of biodiversity conservation, as well as conservation of transitional areas, particularly if the synergy between the potential impacts of fragmentation and those of global climate change is taken into account;

ACKNOWLEDGING the need to promote prevention strategies in order to avoid further fragmentation, enhance resilience of ecosystems and human communities in the face of global change, promote the restoration of severely damaged key areas, and the incorporation of climate-change adaptation measures into resource management and conservation;

ENCOURAGED by progress achieved in recent years by government bodies of territories covered by this initiative (Autonomous Communities, Historic Territories, Regions, etc.) as well as by NGOs, including research, development of plans, programmes and strategies at various levels; and by the fact that there are already significant examples of integration of permeability and connectivity criteria in land and infrastructure planning;

APPRECIATING the Mountain Connectivity Initiative proposed by IUCN during the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), as well as the proceedings of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) in Montreal (1997) and Colombia (1999), and work during the International Mountain Corridors Conference meetings, held in Banff (Canada, 2004), Les Planes de Son (Spain, 2005) and Papallacta (Ecuador, 2006);

FURTHER APPRECIATING similar cooperation initiatives in other mountain areas of Europe and worldwide, particularly the Alpine Network of Natural Protected Areas, considered as the starting point from which this initiative extended south-westward; and

BEARING IN MIND the *Planes de Son Declaration*, resulting from the International Mountain Corridors Conference, held in Barcelona and Les Planes de Son, October 24–27, and in Vitoria-Gasteiz and Somiedo, October 27–31, 2005, hosted by the Fundació Territori i Paisatge of Caixa Catalunya, with the support of the Council of Europe, Eurosite, Europarc and WCPA's Theme on Mountain Protected Areas;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES the Governments of Spain, Portugal, France, Andorra and Italy, European environmental institutions and NGOs to strengthen the Great Ecological Connectivity Corridor: Cantabrian Range – Pyrenees – Massif Central – Western Alps;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. REQUESTS the Director General to strengthen work on Mediterranean mountains, including the concept of the Great Ecological Connectivity Corridor: Cantabrian Range – Pyrenees – Massif Central – Western Alps and other similar initiatives.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.062 Enhancing ecological networks and connectivity conservation areas

NOTING 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;

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;

APPROVING of the Ecosystem Approach developed within the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

RECOGNIZING the indispensable contribution of protected areas, which today cover close to 12% of emerged land areas, to the conservation of life on Earth;

FURTHER RECALLING that the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP7) adopted a *Programme of Work on*

Protected Areas, the overall objective of which was to establish and maintain "... comprehensive, effectively managed and ecologically representative systems of protected areas..." that collectively, will significantly reduce the rate of loss of global biodiversity;

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

ALSO 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 could 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;

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; the 'Alps to Atherton'; Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and 'Gondwana Link' in Australia; the Terai Arc in Nepal and India; the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor; the Vilacamba-Amboró in South America and many others;

RECALLING that Recommendation 1.38 *Ecological Networks and Corridors of Natural and Semi-Natural Areas* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) called on:

- (a) IUCN members to "further the development of ecological networks at national, regional and intercontinental levels as a means of strengthening the integrity and resilience of the world's biological diversity"; and
- (b) the Director General "to review experience in developing and applying ecological networks" and to "promote co-operation in the further development of ecological networks" especially at transboundary sites;

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;

NOTING that IUCN has a World Conservation Learning Network (WCLN), and that the WCLN Institute was created to offer courses to improve decision making in subjects of high priority to the Union;

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;

NOTING FURTHER 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; and

RECOGNIZING the value of terrestrial connectivity conservation areas for the future supply of reliable quantities of high-quality water;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS states to establish national ecological networks and connectivity conservation areas to strengthen the protection of biodiversity, which include, as appropriate, biological corridors and buffer zones around protected areas; and

2. CALLS ON states 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;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

3. REQUESTS the Director General, in close collaboration with IUCN's Commissions, members and partners, to ensure that IUCN plays an active role in facilitating the establishment of ecological networks and connectivity conservation areas by:

- (a) undertaking and encouraging work on ecological networks, by promoting exchanges between IUCN partners and members, by elaborating and disseminating relevant examples of policies, plans, methods and tools, by promoting the development of ecological networks in local, national, regional and international policies, and by supporting transboundary cooperation (including across the high seas);
- (b) developing wider awareness of the need for and establishment of ecological networks as a critical national and international adaptation and mitigation response to climate change;
- (c) enhancing the recognition of the role played by ecosystems, the ecological services they provide and the contributions they make to development and land-use policies;
- (d) examining more closely the case of ecological connectivity in marine environments;
- (e) achieving a Union-wide (One Programme) approach to connectivity conservation areas in recognition of the interdisciplinary nature of the responses needed and the benefits of the IUCN Secretariat, Commissions, members and partners working together;
- (f) developing further guidelines and best practice concerning ecological networks, including advice about conception, governance mechanisms and monitoring of ecological networks, as well as their integration in policies both public and private;

- (g) determining, in collaboration with national governments and NGOs, a priority list of strategic connectivity conservation areas that can help:

- (i) sustain the natural values of protected areas, World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves, Geoparks, Ramsar sites and others;
- (ii) conserve species of the world; and
- (iii) for terrestrial areas, retain natural water catchments of critical importance to people; and

- (h) investigating mechanisms for funding ecological networks and especially connectivity conservation areas and protected areas through the new carbon economy, the water economy, and through national or other government or philanthropic investments; and

4. ASKS the Director General and the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) to offer training courses and professional development programmes that describe the benefits and the costs of ecological networks and connectivity that:

- (a) include conservation and sustainable development issues, based on experiences (which have led to a real economic assessment where the cost-benefit ratio due to biodiversity loss was high); and
- (b) present different options compatible with the maintenance of ecological networks and connectivity.

4.063 The new water culture – integrated water resources management

BEARING IN MIND that water is essential for life and for the functioning of our ecosystems;

CONSIDERING that water facilitates ecological relations in the natural world, and is essential for socio-economic activities and for achieving sustainable development and its benefits;

OBSERVING that the growing demand for water to satisfy human requirements and those of the developmental

model has put a great deal of pressure on our ecosystems and their services, and thus has also had an impact on the water supply;

CONSIDERING that water is a limited resource and should therefore be consumed sustainably, which is why its distribution should be decided on by consensus between the different users, in order to ensure the fulfilment of human needs for decent living conditions, as well as environmental flows as the fundamental basis for health and the proper functioning of ecosystems;

RECOGNIZING that in many regions water supply is insufficient to fulfil developmental needs or even to satisfy the basic requirements of human populations;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that water has become scarcer due to pollution caused by human activities, and this has led to a serious deterioration in the quality of water resources;

AWARE that many of the current forms of water use are unsustainable;

RECOGNIZING that research and the generation of knowledge on the ecosystems that produce and protect water, including their functioning, are essential for the conservation and management of water;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that ecologists and water administrators are trying to apply the Ecosystem Approach to water management, by taking a holistic view of the water cycle as the basis for sustainable water management and that the relations between aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, including the role of water and its conservation, are fundamental to this approach;

OBSERVING that, in many countries, different levels of government, both nationally and sub-nationally, have failed to achieve proper coordination, collaboration and integration in the management of water resources; and

WELCOMING the fact that the international community has recognized in many fora and documents, the need to create a 'new water culture', which promotes the sustainable use of this resource and that, in order to achieve this, the concept of integrated water resources management (IWRM) was put forward, based on the above proposals;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES governments:
 - (a) that have not already done so, to keep their promise and adopt a strategy for the implementation of IWRM in line with the 2002 *Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development* and to support this process;
 - (b) to adopt measures to protect and conserve ecosystems that produce water, designating special protection areas and ensuring they are properly maintained;
 - (c) to create legal, policy and institutional frameworks that improve inter-jurisdictional coordination, collaboration and integration in order to enhance water governance and enable the achievement of sustainable water management;
 - (d) to incorporate IWRM's implicit concept of sustainability in their water regulations; and
 - (e) to design and implement economic instruments to promote the conservation of ecosystems that produce and protect water and to urge the sustainable use of the latter;
2. ENCOURAGES IUCN's members to adopt and promote the IWRM principles and concepts; and
3. ENCOURAGES governmental agencies to:
 - (a) adopt IWRM and include it in their planning processes and in the execution and management of their projects;
 - (b) inform civil society about the new water culture through environmental education programmes; and
 - (c) undertake and promote the restoration and reforestation of watersheds and deforested areas;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

4. ASKS the Director General to:
 - (a) promote the adoption of IWRM, to ensure it is incorporated as one of the main criteria in IUCN's

policies related to water and ecosystem conservation; and

- (b) ensure that IUCN encourages and motivates companies in different sectors related to water, to incorporate IWRM in their plans and management.

4.064 Integrated coastal management in the Mediterranean – the Barcelona Convention

RECOGNIZING the importance of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, known as the ‘Barcelona Convention’, which was originally adopted as the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution at the Conference of the Plenipotentiaries of the Coastal States, held in Barcelona in February 1976, where two Protocols signed by 14 Member States of the European Union were also approved;

BEARING IN MIND that the Barcelona Convention, the formal name of which was amended in 1995, has given rise to seven Protocols, which are basically aimed at protecting and conserving the marine environment and coastal zone of the Mediterranean, and that the most recent of these was the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management formalized at the 15th Conference of the Contracting Parties in Almería (Spain) in January 2008;

AWARE that this Protocol will become the first legally-binding international instrument on the integrated management of coastal zones to contribute to the sustainable development of coastal zones, and to deal with the effects of climate change on these sensitive areas;

ALSO AWARE of the meaning of Recommendation 2002/413/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 30 May 2002, concerning the implementation of integrated coastal zone management in Europe, based on:

- (a) protection of the coastal environment;
- (b) recognition of the threat posed by climate change;
- (c) implementation of coastal protection measures, including the protection of coastal settlements and their cultural heritage;

- (d) sustainable economic opportunities and employment options;

- (e) a functioning social and cultural system;

- (f) accessible land for recreational purposes and aesthetic reasons;

- (g) cohesion of remote coastal communities; and

- (h) improved coordination of measures;

NOTING that Recommendation 2002/413/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 30 May 2002, offers the Member States:

- (a) national strategic plans for ensuring the control of any additional land-use planning and the exploitation of non-urban areas, which should respect the natural characteristics of the coastal environment;

- (b) land-purchase mechanisms and declarations of public domain to ensure public access to recreational areas without prejudice to the protection of sensitive areas;

- (c) contractual or voluntary agreements with coastal-zone users;

- (d) harnessing of economic and fiscal incentives; and

- (e) application of regional development mechanisms;

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that this Community recommendation also advises cooperation with neighbouring countries, even non-Member States, if the countries share the same regional sea;

RECALLING Resolution 1.10 *IUCN’s Work in the Mediterranean* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), which makes special mention of the Barcelona Convention;

BEARING IN MIND that IUCN members urged action in favour of the Barcelona Convention in Recommendation 2.90 *Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean* that was adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), and which called for ratification of the Convention;

HIGHLIGHTING the importance of the cultural and natural diversity of the countries bordering the Mediterranean

Sea and the close ties between local populations and the management of natural resources; and

CONGRATULATING the IUCN Secretariat for the monitoring work carried out with regard to the Barcelona Convention;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON Mediterranean countries to sign and ratify the Barcelona Convention's Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management, which was formalized in Almería in January 2008; and
2. CALLS ON IUCN's Mediterranean members to promote the Protocol's objectives in the entire Mediterranean Basin as well as in local and/or regional actions;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

3. URGES the Director General to encourage implementation of the integrated management system of the maritime-terrestrial zone of Mediterranean coastal regions, both in favour of future generations and to maintain and conserve their natural and cultural values.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.065 Freshwater biodiversity conservation, protected areas, and management of transboundary waters

UNDERSCORING that the decline in freshwater biodiversity and the conversion of wetlands, reported by the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*, the *GEO 4*, the *IUCN Red List Index*, and the *WWF Living Planet Report*, will continue and accelerate if a 'business as usual' scenario is followed for increases in water demand and water infrastructure;

RECOGNIZING the links between availability of water and the food crisis, and the urgent need for significant additional investments towards widespread access to affordable food, energy, and water and sanitation services;

NOTING that many transboundary water systems, including 263 river basins draining 45% of the Earth's surface and crossing the territories of 145 countries, are not subject to adequate management agreements;

ALARMED at the impacts of climate change on freshwater ecosystems and at the predicted security implications from water disputes within and between countries and from demographic change triggered by environmental or conflict-related disasters;

CONCERNED that societal responses to climate change may fail to incorporate water-management concerns (e.g. increased hydropower and biofuel production, cloud seeding, water storage and inter-basin transfers, desalination);

DETERMINED to reduce significantly the rate of freshwater biodiversity loss and to implement integrated river basin management – a key form of the Ecosystem Approach – for promoting the sustainable use, management and protection of freshwater ecosystems;

RECOGNIZING the scientific advances in assessing and applying 'environmental flows' toward partly attenuating the environmental impacts of water-management infrastructure;

WELCOMING the freshwater-conservation targets adopted by international instruments, including:

- (a) commitments under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, including representation of the diversity of wetlands, and the 2010 target of at least 2,500 designated Wetlands of International Importance ('Ramsar sites') covering 250 million hectares;
- (b) the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) *Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries*, which includes the protection of "critical habitats"; and
- (c) the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) call to rectify the under-representation of inland water ecosystems in protected areas, through:
 - (i) conserving at least 10% of inland water ecosystems by area under integrated river/lake basin management by 2010;

- (i) protecting 275 million hectares of wetlands in representative protected areas by 2010; and
- (ii) Decision VIII/27, reiterated by COP9, urging parties to ratify and implement the 1997 UN Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses ('UN Watercourses Convention');

FURTHER WELCOMING the Joint Work Plan between the CBD and the Ramsar Convention, the establishment of the Inland Waters Taskforce of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas, the 2007 *Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Tracking-Tool* (developed by the World Bank and WWF), embracing freshwater ecosystem management in protected areas, and the *Freshwater Ecoregions of the World* (FEOW, prepared by The Nature Conservancy and WWF);

RECALLING the water-related international commitments under the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation*, the *Millennium Development Goals*, and the *2005 World Summit Outcome*; and

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 19.1 *The Strategy of IUCN – The World Conservation Union* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994), Resolutions 3.006 *Protecting the Earth's waters for public and ecological benefit*, 3.045 *Ganges, Brahmaputra and Meghna Rivers Commission*, 3.051 *Freshwater protected areas*, and Recommendation 3.087 *Financial institutions and the World Commission on Dams* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) and Recommendation V.31 *Protected Areas, Freshwater and Integrated River Basin Management Frameworks* endorsed by the 5th IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003);

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES governments to:
 - (a) ratify/accede to and implement the UN Watercourses Convention; and
 - (b) fulfil relevant commitments under international instruments, towards achieving global goals and targets on water, environment and development;
2. ENTREATS governments to:
 - (a) establish and manage new protected areas and networks to conserve representative, intact and

outstanding freshwater ecosystems, in order, *inter alia*, to maintain their resilience and to sustain ecosystem services;

- (b) modify the boundaries of existing protected areas (e.g. to include headwaters), as feasible and necessary, to protect adequately freshwater ecosystems and sustain ecological services;
 - c) integrate freshwater considerations into the management plans of existing protected areas, including marine protected areas, where appropriate;
 - (d) maximize resilience to climate change in the design of freshwater protected areas; and
 - (e) extend the equivalent protection to freshwater biodiversity that terrestrial biodiversity receives within protected areas, e.g. by controlling water infrastructure development, preventing stocking of exotic species, and managing fishing;
3. ENCOURAGES governments and relevant institutions planning freshwater protected areas to apply available relevant tools, including:
 - (a) *Freshwater Ecoregions of the World* as a global freshwater bioregionalization framework;
 - (b) the *Ramsar Classification System for Wetland Type* and the *Global Freshwater Biodiversity Assessment* (prepared by UNEP WCMC), which enable identification of key freshwater areas for biodiversity and FEOW to support gap analysis; and
 - (c) the Revised *IUCN Protected Area Category Guidelines* and the 2007 World Bank/WWF *Protected Area Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool*;
 4. RECOMMENDS that governments and stakeholders identify and apply environmental flow requirements for relevant freshwater ecosystems, including floodplains, and conserve remaining free-flowing rivers wherever possible, taking into account useful precedents;
 5. CALLS ON governments and other institutions to ensure that climate-change mitigation strategies minimize impacts on freshwater ecosystems and give due regard to the integrated management of land and water, and to consideration of climate-change adaptation in

freshwater and associated floodplain protection and management;

6. CALLS ON civil society, governments and development agencies to promote the cooperative, equitable and sustainable use, management and protection of international watercourses, and to engage in the process for entry into force and implementation of the UN Watercourses Convention; and

7. CALLS ON IUCN's Council and members to advance the ecologically, socially and economically sustainable use and management of freshwater ecosystems by:

- (a) promoting integrated river basin management, including in national policies and strategies, considering lessons from around the world and supporting sustainable solutions for improving access to affordable food, energy, water and sanitation, especially for the poorest communities;
- (b) contributing to strengthening the governance of transboundary waters, particularly by disseminating the role of the UN Watercourses Convention to improve global freshwater governance, clarifying its applicability in different regions and transboundary watersheds, and supporting its implementation;
- (c) providing advice on the design and effective management of freshwater protected areas; and
- (d) advancing environmental flows-related training for professionals, and proposing tools and methods for ecosystem functions and service valuation;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–12:

8. CALLS ON the Director General and IUCN's Commissions to advance the ecologically, socially and economically sustainable use and management of freshwater ecosystems, including through the IUCN component programme and Commissions, as appropriate, by contributing to the actions called for in sub-paragraphs 7(a) to 7(c) above and in addition by:

- (a) advancing environmental flows-related training for professionals, and proposing tools and methods for ecosystem functions and service valuation;
- (b) developing guidance on climate-change adaptation and mitigation through the sustainable management of water, associated floodplains and related ecosystem services, for protecting vulnerable ecosystems and people; and
- (c) prioritizing the completion of the *Global Freshwater Biodiversity Assessment* according to the IUCN *Red List* categories and criteria.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.066 Improving the governance of the Mediterranean Sea

AWARE of the environmental, strategic, economic, social and cultural values of the Mediterranean Sea, the *Mare Nostrum*, which represents a common heritage;

RECALLING the Resolutions and Recommendations of IUCN which, since 1958 have underlined the importance of the Mediterranean heritage and, in particular, Resolutions 3.034 *Strengthening the action of the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation*, 3.052 *Protected areas in the Mediterranean* and 3.070 *Environmental protection of the Mediterranean Sea from the risk of maritime traffic*, adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

ENCOURAGED by the desire and the will to protect the different natural and cultural elements of the Mediterranean region's heritage in a sustainable manner;

CONVINCED of the need to reinforce mutually beneficial cooperation to ensure the sustainable management of natural resources and the preservation of the marine environment of the entire Mediterranean Sea;

INDICATING the particular situation of the Mediterranean Sea with regard to the declaration of Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) and other extensions of national jurisdiction;

UNDERLINING therefore the importance of information exchange, the reinforcement of mutual consultations

between states bordering on the Mediterranean for the improvement of the governance of the Mediterranean Sea;

AWARE of the relevant clauses in the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), in particular those concerning the Exclusive Economic Zone, the Continental Shelf and the protection and conservation of the marine environment;

RECALLING the principles and clauses of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention) and its seven Protocols on: ‘Dumping’, ‘Prevention and Emergency’, ‘Land-based Sources (LBS)’, ‘Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity’, ‘Off-shore’, ‘Hazardous Wastes’, and ‘Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)’;

AWARE OF the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CDB) adopted in 1992, which calls for the conservation of genetic resources, the sustainable use of their elements and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits deriving from their exploitation, and for the creation of strategies, plans or national programmes ensuring the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;

ALSO AWARE of the objectives of the CBD *Programme of Work on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity*; and

WELCOMING the *Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean*, agreed at a summit in Paris (13 July 2008), and committed to work for the peaceful use of the Mediterranean Sea;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN to support, in collaboration with the organizations and processes involved, and in particular the Union for the Mediterranean, the setting up of an informal and permanent consultation process on the governance of the Mediterranean Sea;
2. CALLS ON IUCN to study in detail all the possibilities and conditions with regard to improving the governance of the Mediterranean, basin by basin, including the possible joint declaration of Exclusive Jurisdiction Zones (EJZs) relating to environmental and ecological aspects; and

3. CALLS ON IUCN’s members and partners to facilitate the implementation of the following actions by relevant States, international organizations and, in particular, the Union for the Mediterranean:

- (a) to develop an informal consultation process, in the form of a permanent consultation forum, facilitating the exchange of information, exchanges of perspectives between States bordering the Mediterranean on the declarations of each State regarding the extension of its national jurisdiction over the sea, in order to ensure consistency between the respective declarations and thus better governance of the Mediterranean Sea;
- (b) to create the required bases, at both legal and scientific levels, for the implementation of the solutions proposed through the consultation process;
- (c) to support the participation of all Mediterranean States, basin by basin, in these informal consultations, ensuring respect for each State’s conditions of sovereignty and jurisdiction; and
- (d) to reinforce all the other possibilities of regional or sub-regional cooperation for improving the governance of the Mediterranean Sea, in collaboration with various international organizations, in particular the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and its centres of regional activity (CRA), the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and the Convention on Migratory Species – Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic Area (CMS/AC-COBAMS), whilst respecting their respective mandates.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.067 Advancing island conservation and sustainable livelihoods

NOTING that islands and their surrounding waters cover one-sixth of the world’s surface, represent one

quarter of the nations of the world, 16 percent of the planet's known plant species, and more than half of the world's tropical marine biodiversity;

FURTHER NOTING that islands and their coastal areas are a critical source of food, jobs and income for millions of people (more than 500 million people live on more than 100,000 islands around the globe), and yet that islands around the world have suffered from human activity and are particularly vulnerable to climate change;

EMPHASIZING IUCN's expertise in key areas for island conservation and development, such as adapting to climate change, combating the threats posed by alien invasive species, the conservation of native species, as well as the management of protected areas and the broader marine environment;

CONSIDERING the recent strengthening of IUCN's island activities, with the opening of the Regional Office for Oceania, launching of the Caribbean initiative, setting up the programme on European Union Overseas Entities, and the continuing activities of the Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation;

ALSO CONSIDERING the potential and capacity of IUCN to integrate States, public entities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and expert action as an asset to the implementation of regional and global strategies for the diverse status and political situations of islands;

AWARE that the mission of the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA) is to promote actions for island conservation and sustainable livelihoods by inspiring leadership, catalyzing commitments, and facilitating collaboration among islands;

ALSO AWARE that GLISPA is recognized by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) as a platform to actively support implementation of the 2010 target to reduce the rate of biodiversity loss and the CBD *Programmes of Work on Island Biodiversity* and *Protected Areas* and related policies;

RECOGNIZING that Parties to the CBD and various organizations have made use of GLISPA to advance collaboration, planning and implementation of activities to achieve the CBD 2010 target through voluntary commitments, such as the Micronesia Challenge, Caribbean Challenge, Coral Triangle Initiative, Phoenix Islands Protected Area, Fiji's commitment to include 30% of its inshore and

offshore marine areas under protected areas management, and others;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the 9th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (Bonn, 2008) recognized GLISPA and the above-mentioned initiatives and achievements in Decision IX.21 on Island biodiversity and that these same initiatives have garnered strong support from other international institutions and NGOs including the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Pacific Island Leaders Forum, Germany's LifeWeb Initiative, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), WWF, Asian Development Bank (ADB), United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and others;

WELCOMING the leadership and support of Palau, the Seychelles, the Bahamas, Grenada, Kiribati, Indonesia, Italy, France, the CBD Secretariat, Conservation International, IUCN, the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), TNC, United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC), WWF, and other international institutions and NGOs in the establishment and progress of GLISPA;

ALSO WELCOMING and APPROVING the steps taken by IUCN to set up an integrated Island Initiative aimed at effective involvement by concerned members, Commissions, component programmes and geographic programmes;

BUILDING ON the success of the conference 'The European Union and its Overseas Entities: Strategies to counter climate change and biodiversity loss' co-organized by IUCN and held on Reunion Island in July 2008, under the French EU Presidency, and supported by GLISPA and others; and

CONFIRMING the need for a GLISPA Coordination Team to mobilize and support the GLISPA Partners in their commitments to action, expand GLISPA and ensure continuity of critical coordination and communication functions;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

1. WELCOMES the leadership provided by the Director General in:

- (a) supporting the creation of an efficient Coordination Team for GLISPA; and
- (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 support of the *CBD Programmes of Work on Island Biodiversity and Protected Areas* and related policies; and

2. REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) define further the objectives and expected outcomes of the IUCN Island Initiative and carry out its implementation;
- (b) identify concrete examples and pilot projects that will serve as models promoting participative and local community management on islands;
- (c) examine how the current efforts of IUCN on islands could be better integrated, as appropriate, at the regional level in the Western Indian Ocean; and
- (d) establish a platform for exchange between concerned members and experts on issues relevant to IUCN's work on islands, under the Island Initiative.

4.068 Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD)

RECALLING Recommendation 18.23 *Land Degradation* and Recommendation 18.30 *Legal Instruments for the Conservation of Forests* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990); Resolution 1.55 *Indigenous Peoples and Forests* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996); Recommendation 2.94 *Climate change mitigation and land use* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000); Resolution 3.012 *Governance of natural resources for conservation and sustainable development*, Resolution 3.015 *Conserving nature and reducing poverty by linking human rights and the environment* and Resolution 3.057 *Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

HIGHLIGHTING that the Mission of 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;

RESPONDING to the findings of the *Fourth Assessment Report* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that warming of the climate system due to human activity is unequivocal and that immediate and deep cuts in global emissions are required to avoid dangerous climate change;

RECOGNIZING that land-use change in the tropics, principally deforestation, accounts for around one-fifth of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and that in many countries forest degradation often precedes deforestation;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that biodiverse ecosystems, particularly forests, have a crucial role to play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate impacts and that natural ecosystems are suffering directly from the impacts of climate change and also from the perverse impacts of measures which are supposed to tackle climate change, for example clearing natural vegetation to plant agrofuel crops;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Earth's remaining natural ecosystems are essential to regulate the climate and keep the planet habitable and that extensive, natural forests are especially valuable as stable, resilient, very large carbon stores, which must be protected and restored;

NOTING the *Bali Action Plan* and in particular Decision 2/CP.13 *Reducing emissions from deforestation in developing countries: approaches to stimulate actions*, adopted by the 13th Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP13) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and 3rd Meeting of the Parties (CMP3) to the Kyoto Protocol (Bali, December 2007);

FURTHER NOTING that COP13 and CMP3 agreed to invite Parties and relevant organizations and stakeholders to explore options including demonstration activities that address Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) in developing countries, based on the sustainable management of forests;

ALSO RESPONDING to the recommendations of the 9th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP9) establishing an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change to develop scientific and technical advice

on biodiversity in so far as it relates to climate change and Decision 1/CP.13 *Bali Action Plan* of UNFCCC COP13 as well as the UNFCCC *Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change* so as to support the enhanced implementation of synergies between the CBD and UNFCCC;

RECOGNIZING that forest protection and good forest governance, equitable participation and sustainable forest management are crucial for REDD;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that there are unavoidable changes in climate and therefore adaptation and resilience strategies are essential for the conservation and sustainable management of forests;

RECOGNIZING that forest destruction through clearing and industrial-scale logging, the degradation and desertification of shrublands and grasslands, and industrial-scale agrofuel production (including tree crops grown to produce energy) are all contributing to climate change and that emissions from clearing and degradation of other natural ecosystems add to this;

RECOGNIZING that mechanisms are needed to prevent reforestation for biofuels or carbon reservoirs replacing valuable ecosystems including shrublands and tussock grasslands which in themselves are carbon reservoirs;

AWARE of the new and economic opportunities offered by the creation of a carbon market resulting from binding agreements and incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and of the potential extension of these economic opportunities to REDD activities;

BEARING IN MIND that a properly designed and appropriately regulated climate change mitigation funding mechanism for REDD might provide new sources of funding for biodiversity conservation, contribute to the maintenance of ecosystem functions and promote rural development;

CONSIDERING, however, that in the absence of effective design and regulations, such an incentive system can have perverse effects such as an increase in deforestation and forest degradation at other sites (so-called 'leakage'), and social marginalization from resource capture by privileged and powerful actors, possibly resulting in the net impoverishment of forest-dependent, vulnerable communities;

INFORMED that the carbon market, in its current architecture, has failed to address adequately the concerns listed above, and that some perverse effects are already observed on the ground in Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF – see the *Marrakech Accords* of the UNFCCC) projects financed by the unregulated, voluntary carbon market;

ALSO INFORMED that the architecture and rules presently discussed concerning the REDD modality risk the replication and extension of these perverse effects, causing serious and justified concerns among indigenous peoples and local communities living within and around forests;

FURTHER INFORMED that indigenous peoples and local communities are actively mobilizing for the recognition of their land and resource-use rights and some have expressed serious reservations about market-based REDD mechanisms; and

WELCOMING the work the IUCN Secretariat has initiated in collaboration with several members and partners to optimize synergies between poverty reduction, forest-sector reform processes such as Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) and 'readiness mechanisms' designed to help countries prepare for REDD;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES all IUCN members and all Parties to the UNFCCC to:
 - (a) include REDD within a post-2012 climate policy regime as a fully integrated companion mechanism aligned with, and contingent on, deep reductions of carbon emissions from the use of fossil fuels with the ultimate objective of rapidly stabilizing atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO₂);
 - (b) ensure that REDD initiatives are designed strategically to align with, complement and reinforce established national priorities, including poverty reduction strategies, national biodiversity action plans, sustainable forest management efforts and forest governance reform processes; and
 - (c) ensure that national and sub-national initiatives for REDD:

- (i) include substantial incentives for reducing and reversing forest degradation;
 - (ii) include ecosystem approaches such as forest landscape restoration (FLR) that promote sustainable and multifunctional land use, resilience to climate change and the integrity of indigenous communities;
 - (iii) recognize both the local and global values of biodiversity;
 - (iv) ensure equitable participation of local forest dependent communities and indigenous peoples with particular emphasis on securing rights, land tenure, livelihood benefits and poverty reduction, and the provision of substantial incentives for reducing and reversing deforestation and the degradation of indigenous ecosystems, especially forest ecosystems;
 - (v) build resilience, enhance adaptive capacity and are integrated into broader national adaptation strategies;
 - (vi) ensure equitable sharing of benefits and costs between agencies of government and forest communities, and within forest communities; and
 - (vii) apply effective social safeguards to protect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities including relevant provisions of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;
- (b) facilitate partnerships among relevant parties, organizations and stakeholders in order to build consensus, generate synergies and strengthen capacity for REDD;
 - (c) support pilot programmes for REDD that take into account national and regional circumstances and directly contribute to poverty reduction, biodiversity conservation, forest protection, sustainable forest management and improved forest governance;
 - (d) develop and promote best-practice principles and operational tools for the equitable sharing of costs and benefits from REDD; and
 - (e) in consultation with the Chairs of IUCN's Commissions, position the Union at the forefront of international institutions seeking to ensure that initiatives providing incentives for REDD are carried out with full social safeguards to protect the interests and rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, with particular attention to more vulnerable groups and specific reference to the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;

3. REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) support the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group established at the CBD COP9 with a view to maximizing the synergies between biodiversity, REDD and LULUCF; and as an input to negotiations at UNFCCC COP14 in Poland (December 2008) and UNFCCC COP15 in Copenhagen (November/December 2009);
- (b) prepare a report in close consultation with IUCN Commissions (in particular the joint CEESP and WCPA Theme, TILCEPA), IUCN's members and representatives of concerned indigenous peoples and local communities, assessing the relative advantages and disadvantages, opportunities and risks of different REDD financing mechanisms, and investigating ways to ensure effective social and biodiversity safeguards, for presentation to the IUCN Council at its second meeting in 2009;
- (c) request the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) and the IUCN Environmental Law

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. URGES and REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) support the integration of REDD policies and strategies into national and sub-national poverty reduction efforts, national biodiversity action plans, forest protection, sustainable forest management initiatives and forest governance-reform processes;

Centre (ELC) to develop a proposal for a legal instrument linking the CBD and the UNFCCC to ensure that climate solutions negotiated under the UNFCCC optimize biodiversity outcomes through ecosystem-based approaches to climate mitigation and adaptation and result in no adverse impacts on biodiversity and present the proposal at the relevant meetings of the CBD and the UNFCCC; and

- (d) urge IUCN members to support the relevant CBD decisions, as well as all recommendations from deliberations from the CBD Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group, and ensure that they are reflected in the UNFCCC REDD decisions and processes. IUCN should facilitate communication on the outcomes of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group State Parties of the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), and ensure that this work reflects the work already done on identifying forest areas of high conservation value, which should be protected under REDD mechanisms; and
4. URGES the Director General and Chairs of IUCN's Commissions to harness the knowledge and skills of IUCN members, Commission members and the Secretariat to actively pursue policies and mechanisms to:
 - (a) secure the land and resource rights of indigenous peoples and local communities that historically held use rights on the land where the carbon is stored;
 - (b) ensure their free, prior and informed consent to any initiatives providing incentives for REDD on their land and/or that affect their rights; and
 - (c) ensure that they receive an equitable share of benefits arising from REDD (reflecting their traditional role in conserving forests) and that such benefits are equitably distributed within communities.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.069 Mangrove conservation in Mesoamerica

ACKNOWLEDGING that mangroves contribute to reducing the strength and limiting the impact of coastal weather events that result from global climate change and which could be potentially disastrous to human societies;

BEARING IN MIND the need to avoid or prevent loss of the rich biodiversity supported by these ecosystems;

CONSIDERING that the region's mangrove forests are severely threatened by conversion to other uses, and by inadequately planned tourism and urban development; and

RECOGNIZING that we have the collective capacity to reduce threats;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS governments in the Mesoamerican region to:
 - (a) integrate mangrove-loss impacts into risk-management processes relating to threats associated with climate change;
 - (b) comply with their national commitments relating to wetland conservation, particularly mangroves, under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands – in particular the commitments made by Central American Governments to achieve the goals defined by the *Central American Policy for the Conservation and Wise Use of Wetlands*; and
 - (c) involve civil society and the private sector in planning, risk prevention and impact mitigation associated with climate change in coastal areas;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. REQUESTS the Director General, in consultation with IUCN Commissions and National Committees, to give priority to actions relating to mangrove ecosystem conservation in Mesoamerica.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.070 Sustainable mountain development

RECALLING Resolution 2.45 *Conservation of mountain ecosystems in Europe* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Resolution 3.040 *Transboundary cooperation in mountain areas* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

RECALLING Chapter 13 of *Agenda 21*;

RECALLING Resolutions 53/24, 55/189, 57/245, 58/216, 60/189 and 62/196 of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);

NOTING the success of the International Year of the Mountains, the implementation of the Alpine Convention, the entry into force of the Carpathian Convention and the establishment of the International Partnership for Sustainable Development of Mountain Regions (the ‘Mountain Partnership’; and

CONGRATULATING the success of those involved in these processes;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. ASKS the Member States of the Alpine Convention and the Carpathian Convention to take an objective and effective position favouring simplified compliance procedures;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. REQUESTS the Director General to support and assist in the development of the necessary legally binding instruments, as appropriate, for vulnerable mountainous regions in other parts of the world.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.071 Forest fire recovery and national park protection

DISTRESSED that fires in forests adjacent to and in the Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park in central Georgia (IUCN Category II; granted a WWF PAN parks certificate in 2006) on 15 August 2008, burned 1,000 hectares of conifer, mixed and sub-alpine forests, including the habitat of endangered species included in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, such as endemic Caucasian Spruce *Picea orientalis*, Caucasian Squirrel *Sciurus anomalus*, Caucasian Salamander *Mertensiella caucasica*, Caucasian Viper *Vipera kaznakovi*, Western Barbastelle Bat *Barbastella barbastellus*, Bechstein’s Bat *Myotis bechsteinii*, and other species;

GRATEFUL for the contribution by Turkey, beginning on 18 August 2008, of Turkish fire-fighting aircraft to assist in extinguishing these forest fires, materially helping the fire brigades of local authorities and national park staff in Georgia;

AWARE that the World Bank, on 21 August 2008, noted with grave concern the reports of forest fires in the Borjomi area and, as a longstanding international partner supporting improved environmental and forestry management throughout the South Caucasus region, encouraged the urgent arrangements needed to “facilitate access to the area of the necessary equipment and other resources to bring these fires under control”;

NOTING the international legal instruments that guide states and civil society in addressing issues of armed conflict and environmental protection; and

RECOGNIZING the importance of international cooperation for building sustainable patterns of nature conservation and ecotourism in the Caucasus and in facilitating the recovery of the forest and mountain ecosystems following the fires;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS UPON all international donors to support environmental rehabilitation in and around damaged protected areas;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008,

provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. REQUESTS the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the Director General to recommend appropriate measures to restore the biodiversity and other environmental values of the Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park, using the findings of the Joint Needs Assessment led by the World Bank, and the Joint Environmental Assessment Mission to Georgia conducted by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and other relevant assessment studies and undertakings;
3. REQUESTS the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) and the Director General to address how to build the capacity and legal concepts for coordinating humanitarian law and environmental law;
4. DIRECTS the Director General to communicate the results of these IUCN undertakings to the members of IUCN; and
5. MANDATES the Director General to work with members, international organizations, states, NGOs and universities to identify recommended best practices for effective management of protected areas and natural resources, including in post-conflict situations.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.072 Private protected areas and nature stewardship

RECOGNIZING the existence of protected areas owned and/or managed through private mechanisms in many parts of the world, and that their number and extent are growing fast;

CONSIDERING that often they are the result of local initiative and conducted without the direct intervention of governments, and that they are not yet fully integrated into national conservation planning or reporting in many countries;

NOTING that the international system of protected areas management categories emphasizes the role of governments in their management and therefore private protected areas are not as well understood globally as their contributions warrant;

RECOGNIZING that the current IUCN review of the protected areas management categories and the relatively recent focus on cross-cutting governance typologies, represents an opportunity to begin to better understand the proliferating spectrum of private protected areas and private land stewardship;

CONSIDERING that through the different mechanisms of private protected areas and nature stewardship, there is great potential for enlarging the social basis for nature conservation by recruiting new actors to support our work and obtaining more public recognition for protected areas and nature conservation in general;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT documents reflecting the relevance of private protected areas and nature stewardship in the world, including various decisions from the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), discussions related to the Strategic Objective on protected areas under the Biodiversity Strategy for the Fourth Replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF-4) Trust Fund (Washington, 2005) and other relevant publications;

ALSO TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the discussions and outcomes of the following events held during the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), including:

- (a) workshop on International perspectives on land stewardship and private land conservation: A world-wide forum;
- (b) Alliances workshops Private conservation as a tool for achieving environmental, social and economic sustainability and Why should you care about land stewardship and private protected areas? A snapshot of a growing field in conservation; and
- (c) Learning Opportunity A private sector approach for practitioners – Conservation agreements in support of marine protection;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the

following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

REQUESTS the Director General and the Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), in consultation with the World Commission on Protected Areas, to consider mechanisms to establish a task force on private protected areas and nature stewardship to organize and access the knowledge of a voluntary group of experts interested in private protected areas and nature stewardship.

4.073 Support the building of an ecological vision for the Amazon biome

CONSIDERING that implementation of the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* (PoWPA), adopted through Decision VII/28 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is to be done at the national and regional levels, and that CBD Decision IX/18 invited parties to “promote the development and importance of ecological networks for both terrestrial and marine areas, at national, regional and sub-regional levels, where appropriate”;

NOTING that the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, September–October 2007) gave attention to ecological networks and systems of protected areas at all levels, with particular emphasis on the regional approach, including the case of the Amazon, as a way to build complementarity with national systems to better achieve fully representative conservation;

WELCOMING the leadership role taken by REDPARQUES (the Latin American Network for Technical Cooperation on National Parks, other Protected Areas and Wild Flora) in bringing together the eight Amazon countries and one territory, with the support of the CBD Secretariat, the Organization of American States (OAS), the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO), IUCN, WWF, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Conservation International (CI), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), and other organizations, in Bogota, in August 2008, to develop a Pan-Amazon ecological vision, related to the regional approach in the implementation of PoWPA as a complement to national systems;

ACKNOWLEDGING that during the Latin American Sub-regional Workshop “Towards Capacity Building for

the Implementation of the PoWPA” (Salinas, September 2008), organized by the CBD Secretariat and the Government of Ecuador, the Amazonian countries ratified the work plan proposed in Bogota;

AWARE OF the fact that the 10th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (CBD COP10), during which parties will evaluate the implementation of the PoWPA, will be an important opportunity for strengthening the Pan-Amazon ecological network of protected areas, including in relation to climate change, setting a beneficial precedent for the rest of the world in terms of the importance of the regional approach;

MINDFUL OF the recognition of IUCN, its members, and especially the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), and the Programme on Protected Areas, as the world’s foremost organization on the subject of protected areas;

RECOGNIZING the role that regional organizations such as ACTO and the Andean Community of Nations (CAN) play in regional cooperation efforts for the conservation of the Amazon biome;

CONSIDERING that the agenda for the Pan-Amazon ecological vision recognizes the need for the vision to be developed together with indigenous peoples, local traditional communities and other organizations, acknowledging their ethnic and cultural diversity, according to the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;

CONSIDERING that the Amazon contains the largest remaining contiguous rainforest on Earth with an unparalleled aquatic and terrestrial biodiversity and hugely extensive ecological services, including an indispensable role in global climate stability, and its rich natural resource base that provides a source of livelihoods for many social groups both within and outside the region; and

CONSIDERING that the future of the Amazon depends on the maintenance of ecological processes to resist pressures from climate change and increasing demand for natural resources, that these are challenges that go beyond single states, and that protected areas are key to addressing those challenges and promoting adaptation to climate change;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. ENCOURAGES the eight Amazon countries and one territory to continue the process to build the

Pan-Amazon ecological vision and expresses congratulations to REDPARQUES and its partners for this initiative;

2. INVITES IUCN members in the region to join efforts for this initiative and IUCN members outside the region to support it;
3. RECOMMENDS that donors, particularly those already engaged in the region, should support this initiative;
4. RECOMMENDS that the Executive Secretary of the CBD continues supporting this regional effort as a good example of CBD implementation through the Ecosystem Approach, and as a means of achieving more comprehensive biodiversity conservation, particularly in relation to the PoWPA;
5. RECOMMENDS that ACTO and CAN incorporate elements of the Pan-Amazon ecological vision agenda in their biodiversity-related programmes and strategies; and
6. CALLS ON multilateral organizations, such as OAS, ACTO and CAN, and non-governmental organizations, such as WWF, TNC, Fundación Natura, Fundación Humedales and others, to continue providing technical and financial support for building the agenda;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

7. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) continue to support the building of the Pan-Amazon ecological vision; and
 - (b) ensure that IUCN's technical expertise is available in the preparation of an Amazon regional technical report, complementary to national reports, to inform the progress of the implementation of the PoWPA, to be presented to CBD COP10; and
8. CALLS ON IUCN's Commissions to provide technical support to REDPARQUES and its partners in this initiative, joining forces with the IUCN Secretariat, WWF, ACTO, CAN and others.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.074 Climate change and overexploitation of natural resources – inclusion in the IUCN Programme

RECALLING that Resolution 3.057 *Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) emphasized the need for IUCN to prioritize integration into all its programmes the fight against climate change in order to avoid the loss of biodiversity;

OBSERVING that the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012: Shaping a Sustainable Future*, gives special importance to integrating reflections on and opportunities concerning biodiversity into policies and practices relating to climate change and to implementing ecologically sustainable, equitable and efficient energy systems;

EMPHASIZING the need for the IUCN Programme to promote strategies for reducing the exploitation of natural resources, especially in wealthy countries, and that it is assumed that these resources are limited;

ALSO EMPHASIZING that economic development, based on unlimited growth, leads to unsustainable exploitation of natural resources and causes the loss of biodiversity;

CONCERNED by the rapid approach of the 2°C rise in average global temperature with respect to pre-industrial levels that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has established as the limit for a catastrophic climate change, including grave losses of biodiversity;

FURTHER EMPHASIZING that:

- (a) in order to prevent this dangerous increase in temperature the IPCC stipulates that global greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced by half by mid-century, and that a significant proportion of these gases results from changes in soil use causing the loss of biodiversity, especially deforestation;

- (b) the IPCC has established that the next 10 years are key for reversing the increase in global greenhouse gas emissions;
 - (c) the unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, beyond their capacity for regeneration, constitutes a fundamental cause of climate change, and exacerbates the effects of climate change on biodiversity; and
 - (d) the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* needs to recognize that greenhouse gas emissions from the energy sector in wealthy countries are the main cause of climate change, due to an unsustainable energy model based on the consumption of fossil resources; and
- (c) clear prioritization of the urgent need to act decisively in efforts to tackle biodiversity loss, and to prevent deforestation and destruction of peatlands, as means of fighting climate change; and
 - (d) inclusion of IUCN support for a trade model that encourages locally oriented trade and the consumption of locally produced goods and services, and which incorporates the long-distance environmental and social costs.

State member New Zealand indicated that it was unable to support the motion.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

CONCERNED because the IUCN Programme focuses in a very generic manner under Thematic Area 2 on two global results dealing with climate change mitigation and adaptation, precluding the great possibilities that the efforts to stop deforestation offer in the fight against climate change;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES IUCN's members to prioritize the integration into all of their programmes of actions to combat climate change in order to prevent the loss of biodiversity and to assure the integrity of ecosystems;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. CALLS ON the Director General to incorporate the following points into the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:
 - (a) inclusion of the necessary energy-model change, based on reducing energy consumption and production in wealthy countries, as the main objective of Thematic Area 2, without neglecting the need for equitable and sustainable distribution of energy consumption among all of the planet's inhabitants;
 - (b) modification of proposed Global Result 2.1, to specify that policies and practices for mitigating climate change are to be carried out in parallel with efforts to combat deforestation, peatland degradation and other processes of biodiversity loss;

4.075 Climate change mitigation targets and actions for biodiversity conservation

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);

RECALLING FURTHER 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);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the *Bali Action Plan* adopted by the 13th Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP13) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and by the 3rd Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (December 2007), which sets out the framework for further negotiations on agreements for climate mitigation;

RESPONDING to the findings of the *Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (IPCC) and recognizing the growing body of scientific evidence that:

- (a) climate change is already happening at an increasing rate of change that could make its impacts irreversible and that delay in reducing emissions significantly constrains opportunities to achieve greenhouse gas concentration stabilization levels and increases the risk of more severe climate change impacts;
- (b) a global temperature increase of more than 2°C compared to pre-industrial levels would cause, with a very high probability, the following impacts for ecosystems and livelihoods:
 - (i) irreversible Greenland ice-cap melting;
 - (ii) ice-free Arctic Ocean in summer and threats to the west Antarctic ice sheet;
 - (iii) loss of Andean glaciers;
 - (iv) risk of extinction for one-third of species;
 - (v) uninhabitable low-lying islands;
 - (vi) more frequent coastal storm surges and cyclones;
 - (vii) substantial reduction in rice-crop yields; and
 - (viii) increased bleaching of coral reefs including iconic areas such as the Great Barrier Reef;
- (c) an atmospheric concentration of 450 ppm CO₂eq still only gives a median probability of 50% of avoiding a temperature increase of more than 2°C; and
- (d) keeping the global temperature increase below 2°C compared to pre-industrial levels and stabilizing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at 450 ppm CO₂eq would require cuts in global emissions from all sources by 50%–85% by 2050;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the information provided in the *Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change*, namely that the overall costs and risks of climate change will be equivalent to losing 5% to 20% of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) each year, while the costs of action – reducing greenhouse gas emissions to avoid the worst impacts of climate change – can be limited to around 1% of global GDP each year;

RECOGNIZING that the rate of change of temperature is also a concern as the ability of ecosystems and

livelihoods to adapt is highly dependent on the time in which they have to adapt;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that climate change will pose significant risks to protected areas, protected area systems, the ecosystem services they provide and to the people and other species that depend on these services, and that this in turn will significantly affect the achievement of the *Millennium Development Goals* including the 2010 Biodiversity Target;

NOTING that poor and vulnerable communities, including indigenous peoples and women, will be the most severely affected by climate change; and

FURTHER NOTING that nationally appropriate mitigation actions by developing countries in the context of sustainable development should be supported and enabled by technology, financing and capacity building;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES Parties to the UNFCCC to conclude negotiations on an effective, comprehensive and equitable climate-change regime beyond 2012 in line with the ultimate objective of the Convention, by COP15 in Copenhagen in 2009, so as to ensure that there is no gap between the first and second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol;
2. CALLS ON Parties to the UNFCCC, in order to keep global temperature increase below 2°C, to adopt a shared vision that balances climate stabilization, adaptation, sustainable development and the means of implementation, including as noted in the Bali Action Plan a long-term goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50%–85% below 1990 levels by 2050. This goal should be underpinned by binding, quantified emission-reduction targets for all developed countries towards the upper end of the range of 25% to 40% below 1990 levels by 2020, and 80% to 95% below 1990 levels by 2050, as identified in the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report, reductions from baseline in some developing country regions by 2020, and in all regions by 2050, on the basis of voluntary and nationally appropriate mitigation actions, supported and enabled by technology transfer, financing and capacity building, in a measurable, reportable and verifiable manner; and
3. CALLS ON Parties to the UNFCCC to:

- (a) urgently plan and promptly implement policies and measures for mitigation and adaptation, with special attention to land use, land-use change, forestry, agriculture, livestock, reduced emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD), and from the energy, transportation and urban and industrial sectors of their economies;
- (b) explicitly consider the role that ecological connectivity and systems of protected areas can play in mitigation and adaptation to climate change for biodiversity, ecosystem services and livelihoods, and to ensure that climate funds are invested in building and effectively managing protected area systems to maintain their functions in the face of climate change;
- (c) find innovative mechanisms and sources of funding to promote technological research, development and diffusion to enable all countries to utilize the best available technologies for reducing emissions that do not have adverse impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem services and livelihoods; and
- (d) find innovative mechanisms and significantly increased sources of funding for adaptation, with special attention to the most vulnerable ecosystems and livelihoods at risk from climate change;
- (d) promote the allocation of additional sources of funding and the development of innovative funding and other mechanisms for adaptation and technology transfer;
- (e) support capacity building for developing countries to participate more actively in the negotiating process; and
- (f) encourage links between the UNFCCC and other biodiversity-related conventions, such as the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

State members Australia, Japan and New Zealand indicated that they were unable to support the motion.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

4. REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) promote the adoption of the mitigation targets detailed in sub-paragraphs 3 (a) and (b) above at UNFCCC COP 14 (Poznan, 2008) and COP 15 (Copenhagen, 2009);
- (b) support the development of mechanisms for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation in developing countries (REDD);
- (c) examine and report on the role of non-forest ecosystems, such as wetlands, mangroves, sea grasses, soils and peatlands as important carbon stores, with a view to consideration of the role of non-forest ecosystems as eligible carbon sinks by the UNFCCC negotiating parties;

4.076 Biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation in national policies and strategies

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);

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) first signed at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, which entered into force on 29 December 1993, guides domestic law and the development of national strategies for the conservation of biodiversity;

NOTING that the CBD recognizes that biological diversity is also about people and their need for food security, medicines, fresh air and water, shelter, and a clean and healthy environment in which to live;

RECOGNIZING that the responsibility for achieving the CBD's goals rests largely with the countries themselves, where governments need to provide the critical role of leadership, particularly by setting rules that guide the use of natural resources, and by protecting biodiversity where they have direct control over the land and water;

NOTING that under the CBD, governments undertake to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and are required to develop National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and to integrate these action plans into broader national plans for environment and development;

UNDERSTANDING the effects of climate change on biodiversity and that the effects of mitigation opportunities through biodiversity conservation are only now being given more attention;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the findings of the *Fourth Assessment Report* of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) which identifies the risk of severe climate-change impacts on ecosystems and species;

RECOGNIZING the important role that biodiversity plays in the provision of ecosystem goods and services such as climate regulation, provision of water, mitigation of the effects of catastrophic events, food security and provision of traditional medicines and the need to maintain these ecosystem goods and services in order to help humans adapt to climate change;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that effective integrated landscape management including effective protected area systems will build the resilience of natural systems to climate change so that the supply of ecosystem goods and services can be maintained;

UNDERSTANDING that certain activities that might be undertaken to mitigate and adapt to climate change could have strong negative impacts on biodiversity, ecosystems, and the people who depend on them;

RECOGNIZING the importance of integrating biodiversity considerations into all relevant national policies, programmes and plans, in response to climate change;

NOTING that many countries have not addressed the issues of climate change in national biodiversity strategies; and

RECOGNIZING the important role IUCN has played in promoting and monitoring the implementation of the CBD;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES Parties to the CBD to address the impacts of climate change on biodiversity within their national biodiversity strategies and to ensure that ecosystem goods and services from biodiversity are maintained through adequate integrated landscape and seascape management and effective protected area systems;
2. CALLS ON Parties to the CBD to develop specific strategies to be incorporated into their national biodiversity strategies that will:
 - (a) reduce the potential of accelerated loss of native biodiversity from climate change;
 - (b) ensure that the loss of native biodiversity is not increased by measures to combat or adapt to climate change; and
 - (c) ensure the opportunities for conserving native biodiversity are included in mechanisms to adapt to and mitigate climate change with special attention to the most vulnerable ecosystems; and
3. URGES Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to incorporate in their national plans and strategies approaches that acknowledge the role that biodiversity, ecosystems and protected area systems can play in climate change mitigation and adaptation;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

4. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) write to all governments encouraging the development of such measures;

- (b) support the development of such strategies by developing guidelines and case studies of best practice in consultation with Commissions;
- (c) support capacity building for developing countries in building and implementing such strategies; and
- (d) monitor the inclusion of such strategies and report on their effectiveness to the Conferences of Parties to CBD and UNFCCC.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.077 Climate change and human rights

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”;

RECALLING MOREOVER Resolution 2.36 *Poverty reduction and conservation of environment* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), through which IUCN and its members adopted the policy of addressing simultaneously poverty reduction and environmental rehabilitation;

BEING AWARE that the *Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*, including the goal of eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, health-related goals, and the goal of ensuring environmental sustainability can be achieved through the affirmation of human rights;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT Paragraph 138 of the Decisions of the *Johannesburg Plan of Implementation*, that points to respect for human rights as fundamental for sustainable development;

OBSERVING that the protection of the economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights embodied in internationally

binding legal instruments and internationally guaranteed as human rights, is indispensable for combating poverty;

CONVINCED that measures for reducing poverty and protecting health must be taken in conjunction with measures for conserving the environment, using an approach based on human rights;

RECOGNIZING 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, as well as comprehensive solutions to poverty and environmental degradation;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the progress made in implementing Principle 10 through the adoption 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, 1998);

NOTING Decision 2004/119, Science and environment, of the 60th Session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (Geneva, 2004);

BEING AWARE that the Mission of IUCN is to ensure that “any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable”, and that social equity cannot be achieved without the promotion, protection and guarantee of human rights;

ALSO BEING AWARE that during the meeting of the Mesoamerican Committee of IUCN, held in 2003 in El Zamorano, Honduras, a resolution was approved recognizing the link between human rights and the environment and urging that that resolution be presented to the current Congress for adoption;

WELCOMING the recognition of matters related to human rights as cross-cutting themes within the IUCN Environmental Law Programme’s (ELC) component programme plan for 2005–2008;

RECOGNIZING resolution A/HRC/7/L.21/Rev.1 of the United Nations Human Rights Council that established a mandate for the UN to carry out a detailed analysis of the relationship between climate change and human rights;

NOTING that the rate of sea level rise, and the frequency of violent storms, droughts and floods could increase due to global warming and, if this occurs, millions of people could lose their homes and find themselves without food and drinking water;

ALSO NOTING that climate change creates multiple concerns related to human rights, from human health risks – such as the increase in the incidence of malaria, massive migration, problems in providing water and food – to the disappearance of sanctuaries, lands, means of subsistence and cultures;

WELCOMING the mandate for 2005–2008 of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL), which included as one of its objectives to “innovate and promote new or reformed ethical and legal concepts and instruments that conserve nature and natural resources and reform patterns of unsustainable development”;

RECOGNIZING that CEL has established a Human Rights and the Environment Specialist Group;

CONSIDERING that climate change is a threat not only to the global environment and economy but also to life itself, and can negatively impact a decent quality of life;

EMPHASIZING that the world climate system is fundamental for sustaining life, and that today human activities are altering the world’s climate; that it is an integral part of the complex processes that sustain life; that climate has always had an effect on the health and well-being of human beings; and that climate change poses a new challenge for current initiatives to protect human health;

RECOGNIZING that health is a fundamental and indispensable right for exercising the other human rights, and therefore every human being has the right to enjoy the highest possible level of health that permits him/her to live a dignified life;

EMPHASIZING that if present warming tendencies continue without control, humanity will be facing a large number of losses, diseases and deaths due to natural disasters and heat waves, an increase in diseases transmitted by food, water and vectors, and an increase in premature deaths and diseases due to air pollution;

NOTING that in many parts of the world, numerous populations may become displaced by the rise in sea level and affected by droughts and hunger, and that as glaciers

melt, the hydrological cycle and arable land productivity will change;

OBSERVING that with climate change already occurring, it is essential to evaluate the vulnerabilities and determine the options for intervention and adaptation, and that early planning on matters of disaster management and health can reduce future adverse effects in these areas; and

EMPHASIZING that the optimal solution is in the hands of governments, society and individuals, and that the solution demands changes in behaviour, technologies and practices to make the transition to sustainability possible;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN’s members and interested parties to contribute information on the impact of climate change on human rights to the United Nation’s Human Rights Council in line with the above-mentioned resolution that establishes a mandate for the UN to carry out a detailed analysis of the relationship between climate change and human rights;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. CALLS ON the Director General to contribute to the consideration of matters related to climate change and human rights in the context of IUCN’s global Mission;
3. REQUESTS CEL and the IUCN Environmental Law Programme, in collaboration with the Director General and IUCN’s members, to undertake a study on the relationship between climate change and the effective enjoyment of human rights, and to produce a detailed report that takes into account the work of the United Nations Human Rights Council; and
4. REQUESTS the Director General to disseminate the results of the study to the membership, once it has been published.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.078 Appeal for action to address global environmental change

CONSIDERING that the world is being confronted by a global environmental change characterized by an array of biophysical transformations, defining a growing loss of biological diversity;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that climate change of human origin is advancing in an extremely dangerous manner, leading to serious degradation of vital balances in the atmosphere, the oceans, freshwater systems and productive lands;

NOTING that the quality of human life and sustainable development on the broadest scale is being affected;

CONSIDERING that unsustainable modes of production and consumption have been and are the basic causes of global environmental deterioration;

NOTING that such modes entail a continuing, growing and irreversible deterioration of natural support systems vital for comprehensive human development, encouraging demands whose satisfaction has threatened to exceed the capacity of sustainable ecosystem production and has consumed with growing speed the usable reserves of non-renewable resources;

NOTING that climate change affects every aspect of the IUCN Programme; and

RECALLING that civilization depended and depends entirely on its natural resources and on their cycles and recuperation periods;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's members to:
 - (a) reduce and eliminate the current unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, encouraging the priority introduction of those contributions from science and technology that recognize the existence of limits in natural resources and in productive capacity; and
 - (b) adopt immediate mitigation strategies and adaptation actions that can be the basis for the design of policies aimed at increasing the protection of

ecosystems, their resources, environmental services and their productivity, and that encourages their ecologically sustainable use;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. CALLS ON the Director General to ensure that the effects of climate change are addressed as a prime consideration in every aspect of the IUCN Programme, and to report annually to the members on the implementation of this requirement; and
3. REQUESTS the Director General, in cooperation with the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and Agencies of the United Nations, to explore the possibilities of organizing a 'World Conference on Economics, Ecology, and the Environment' with the goal of advancing toward a unified vision of sustainability that will enable us to address current global environmental change.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.079 The European Union and its overseas entities faced with climate change and biodiversity loss

RECALLING that the European overseas entities are made up of seven Outermost Regions (ORs) that form part of the European Union (EU), and 21 associated Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs);

CONSIDERING that the ORs and the OCTs are scattered over all of the world's oceans and found at all latitudes, from the poles to the tropics, and that they contain a level of biodiversity higher than that found in continental Europe;

CONSIDERING that the ORs and OCTs are often situated in regional areas of global ecological importance,

alongside Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Countries), which most often share ecological challenges;

CONSIDERING that the ORs and OCTs and their neighbours are generally subject to a great deal of pressure from development and are particularly vulnerable to climate change;

RECALLING Resolution 3.005 *European policy and biodiversity in overseas territories* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

RECALLING that the EU is committed to reinforcing its action in favour of the ORs, the OCTs and their regional areas, particularly with regard to the European Commission's communication of 22 May 2006 entitled *Halting the loss of biodiversity by 2010 – and beyond*;

UNDERLINING the fact that the conference entitled *The European Union and its Overseas Entities, Strategies to counter Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss*, an official event of the French Presidency of the EU, co-organized by IUCN, and held on Reunion Island in July 2008, allowed all the stakeholders involved in the economic challenges confronting the ORs and the OCTs to come together and adopt common positions;

UNDERLINING the importance of the *Message from Reunion Island* that resulted from this conference, which offered the EU, its Member States, the OR and OCT authorities and other stakeholders, a roadmap aimed at responding, through specific actions, to the challenges of adapting to climate change, promoting renewable energies and conserving biodiversity; and

CONSIDERING that reinforcing the capacity of European overseas countries and territories to counter climate change and biodiversity loss constitutes a major political challenge for the EU, and also an opportunity to reinforce its scientific, technical and political contribution to these challenges in regions of global ecological importance, in cooperation with the countries of these regions;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON the EU and its Member States, the OR and OCT authorities and other stakeholders concerned, to provide specific responses to the *Message from Reunion Island* recommendations;

2. CALLS ON the French Presidency of the EU and the future Czech, Swedish and Spanish Presidencies to pay particular attention to the monitoring of the awareness of this message, in particular in view of the 2010 targets; and

3. ENCOURAGES IUCN to develop a new phase of the European overseas entities programme to support the implementation of the *Message from Reunion Island* Recommendations, in particular by setting up a working and monitoring platform involving all the stakeholders concerned: local, national and European authorities, public organizations, civil society, experts, and regional and international organizations.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.080 Mobilizing action to build resilience and assist adaptation to climate change of coral reefs and marine ecosystems and people that depend on them

RECOGNIZING the key role that oceans play in sustaining life on our planet;

ALARMED at the multiplying threats to marine biodiversity, health and the livelihoods of coastal people through the major climate-change threats of rising sea-surface temperatures, and the impending threat of ocean acidification;

FURTHER ALARMED at the accelerating rate of degradation of marine ecosystems such as coral reefs, mangroves, and marine resources, due to activities such as overfishing on a global scale including Illegal, Unregulated, Unreported (IUU) fishing and the use of destructive fishing methods, which according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), resulted in more than 75% of the world's fish stocks being fully exploited or overexploited (or depleted and recovering from depletion);

NOTING findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) *Fourth Assessment Report* on the vulnerability of marine ecosystems, especially coral reefs,

to climate change and the need for more marine science contained in the IPCC assessments;

RECALLING Resolution 2.55 *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Decision VII/5 of the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP7, Kuala Lumpur, 2004) that describe the challenge of sustaining coral-reef and marine ecosystems;

FURTHER NOTING the IUCN Members' Report to the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) at the ICRI General Meeting in Tokyo, Japan, 2007, that details IUCN activities in support of coral-reef conservation in the face of climate change;

AWARE that the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* identifies actions to build resilience in coral-reef and mangrove ecosystems;

FURTHER NOTING that participants in the IUCN World Conservation Forum (Barcelona, October 2008), called for action by the global conservation community to link science, management and policy to increase the resilience of marine ecosystems and the people that depend on them; and

WISHING to consolidate and support actions to build the resilience of marine ecosystems and help these systems cope with climate change;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's members to bring to the attention of the IPCC and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including its Parties, the need for:
 - (a) more marine science to be incorporated in IPCC assessments; and
 - (b) the development of adaptation measures to increase the resilience of coral reefs and other marine ecosystems, and the people that depend on them;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. REQUESTS the Director General and the IUCN Commissions to:

- (a) expand resilience work on coral reefs and mangroves to other marine ecosystems;
- (b) promote actions and linkages by the Secretariat, members and partners that improve science, management and policy relevant to sustaining coral reefs and marine ecosystems and the people that depend on them; and
- (c) promote the development of awareness and adaptation actions in support of sustainable livelihoods and ecosystem-based management.

4.081 Equitable access to energy

NOTING that access to reliable and sustainable sources of energy underpins human development;

FURTHER NOTING that the current energy mix contributes significantly to biodiversity loss, pollution of the Earth's air and water and is the primary cause of climate change, which threatens the future of the Earth's environment;

AWARE that *Agenda 21* of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, 1992) called upon all nations to promote sustainable development utilizing the precautionary principle; that the 9th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-9, New York, 2001) called on all nations to promote clean energy policies; that the *Plan of Implementation* adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, Johannesburg, 2002) contained specific prescriptions for implementing those policies, and that the *Chairman's Summary* of the 15th Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-15, New York, 2007) highlighted the role of energy as crucial for sustainable development, poverty eradication and achieving internationally agreed development goals, and noted it is generally acknowledged that access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services is crucial, particularly for developing countries;

UNDERSTANDING that there is a need to further diversify the energy supply by developing advanced, cleaner, healthy, more efficient, reliable, affordable,

socially acceptable, environmentally sound, cost-effective and economically viable energy technologies;

FURTHER UNDERSTANDING that decentralized systems of energy production and distribution are more appropriate for increasing equitable access to sustainable energy alternatives on the basis that they are generally less harmful to the environment than large infrastructure-based centralized systems, and require lower levels of capital investment and thus are more economically viable for cash-poor communities;

CONCERNED at the slow pace with which national governments, the private sector and civil society are moving towards creating equitable access to such a sustainable energy future;

RECALLING that the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) adopted Recommendation 3.086 *Coordination of sustainable development programmes for energy* recognizing the importance of energy to IUCN's Mission and Resolution 3.059 *IUCN's energy-related work relevant to Biodiversity Conservation*; that the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) adopted Resolution 2.17 *Climate and energy* which requests the IUCN Director General to "request IUCN regional offices [...] to help educate government officials, civil society and the private sector about the World Energy Assessment and about cleaner, more affordable available energy options evaluated therein";

WELCOMING the work currently undertaken by IUCN to accelerate transition to energy systems that are ecologically sustainable, socially equitable and economically efficient;

NOTING the inclusion of energy in the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*; and

THANKING the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) and its Energy Law and Climate Change Specialist Group for their leadership since the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996) in relation to the Union's technical advice on energy policy and law;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS IUCN's members to inform national and sub-national level policy and investment decisions for increasing access to energy by:

- (a) identifying the social, economic and ecological implications of rural and urban energy options available to poor communities;
- (b) understanding and communicating the importance of ecosystem services to the viability of energy alternatives under consideration by national and local governments; and
- (c) developing and promoting practices, including guidelines, assessments and payments for ecosystem services, which ensure the maintenance of ecosystem services which underpin energy systems;

2. RECOMMENDS that governments pursuing agendas to increase equitable access to energy give preference to decentralized systems of production and distribution;
3. INVITES all IUCN members, within their mandates, to work with the IUCN Director General in the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*, particularly with respect to energy issues; and
4. URGES all stakeholders and donors to give every consideration to providing the support necessary to enable the development and implementation of ecologically sustainable, socially equitable and economically efficient energy systems;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

5. CALLS ON the Director General to provide leadership in advancing equitable access to ecologically sustainable, socially equitable and economically efficient energy systems, as a necessary part of the biodiversity conservation and social equity objectives of the Union; and
6. INVITES all IUCN Commissions to work with the IUCN Director General in the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*, particularly with respect to energy issues.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.082 Sustainable biomass-based energy

RECOGNIZING that demand for energy is growing in many parts of the world;

AWARE that oil is the most convenient source of energy for many applications particularly as fuel for transportation, but that it releases substantial amounts of greenhouse gases (including carbon dioxide) to the atmosphere, thereby contributing significantly to climate change;

FURTHER AWARE that oil prices have substantially increased (reflecting a supply-demand imbalance), driving substantial new investments in alternative sources of energy that may be both more efficient and have a positive effect on greenhouse gases;

RECALLING that the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) adopted Resolution 3.059 *IUCN's energy-related work relevant to biodiversity conservation*, which “calls on IUCN to provide leadership in advancing ecologically-sound energy systems for sustainable development, as a necessary and core part of the biodiversity conservation objectives of the Union...” and Recommendation 3.086 *Coordination of sustainable development programmes for energy*;

FURTHER RECALLING that the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) adopted Resolution 2.17 *Climate and energy*, which “calls on the Director General... to help educate government officials, civil society, and the private sector... about cleaner, more affordable available energy options”;

RECALLING Decision IX/5 of the 9th Meeting of the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP9) that urged Parties, other governments, and relevant international and other organizations to: “Address both, direct and indirect, positive and negative impacts that the production and use of biomass for energy, in particular large-scale and/or industrial production and use, might have on... biodiversity”.

NOTING numerous government policies and rapidly-growing investments in renewable sources of energy, especially based on biomass, and that large-scale and/or industrial biomass investments have already led to significant negative impacts on ecosystems and livelihoods, including increased greenhouse-gas emissions;

APPRECIATING the progress that has been made by governments, universities, the private sector and civil society on developing principles, criteria and guidelines for sustainable bioenergy, such as the Dutch Framework Report for Sustainable Biomass (the ‘Cramer Report’), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development’s (OECD) *Performance Based Guidelines*, the *Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels*, and the International Risk Governance Council’s (IRGC) *Risk Governance Guidelines for Bioenergy Policies*;

AWARE that major technological investments in sustainable biofuels are highly likely to generate new approaches to bioenergy, especially those based on cellulose, algae, municipal, industrial and agricultural waste, and other sources that would not otherwise be used as food (so-called ‘second generation’ bioenergy), and that the resulting new approaches may be significantly more sustainable than the current use of biomass such as sugarcane, maize, canola, soy and oil palm – all of which are also important for food security (so-called ‘first generation’ bioenergy);

RECOGNIZING that innovation in this field may require economic incentives, including public subsidies to test potential options, but that for the long-term sustainability of the sector, such support should decline over time; and

REALIZING that even with the application of advanced technology and production methods, biomass-based energy will meet only a relatively modest part of the global demand for energy, and therefore needs to be considered within the context of comprehensive energy plans that include demand management, conservation, efficiency, appropriate carbon sequestration technologies, other renewable sources of energy and others;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 4-15 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON governments who choose to develop large-scale or industrial bioenergy to implement and enforce criteria for the ecologically sustainable, socially appropriate and economically viable production and use of biomass, that:
 - (a) cause no net loss of biodiversity;
 - (b) cause no emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and degradation of other natural ecosystems;

- (c) do not adversely affect food security;
- (d) ensure that biomass energy reduces net emissions of greenhouse gases as compared to alternatives;
- (e) provide benefits to feedstock producers, particularly vulnerable groups such as the rural poor, women and indigenous peoples;
- (f) require production methods that use water efficiently and sustainably, favour the planting of native species, and avoid the planting of potentially invasive species; and
- (g) discourage trade in unsustainably produced bioenergy, using non-protectionist measures;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. CALLS ON the Director General to continue to support efforts to develop sustainable biofuels that conserve biodiversity, bring significant benefits to climate-change mitigation and adaptation, and contribute to social development objectives (especially benefiting the rural poor, women and indigenous peoples).

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.083 Industrial agrofuel production

RECALLING that the Mission of 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”;

FURTHER RECALLING Recommendation 2.94 *Climate change, mitigation and land use* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), which, among other actions, calls for “involvement of relevant stakeholders including local communities and indigenous

peoples in the design and implementation of projects”; and “sustainable development activities that provide economic benefits to local communities, and recognize the rights of indigenous peoples”;

AWARE of the serious global problems created by the exponential growth of industrial agrofuel production – biofuels produced by intensive industrial agriculture, generally as monocultures, often covering thousands of hectares, most often in developing countries;

ALSO AWARE that traditional and local biomass production is conducted to meet basic needs, while industrial agrofuel production is destined to fuel cars and airplanes to which the majority of the world’s poor do not have access;

CONCERNED that industrial agrofuel production is:

- (a) forcing people off their lands and eliminating their ability to grow the food they need to survive;
- (b) preventing the use of common lands needed by settled people for gathering uncultivated foods;
- (c) closing off the option of mobile pastoralism in lands where indigenous and non-indigenous communities have lived mobile lifestyles for millennia; and
- (d) increasing greenhouse gas emissions through deforestation, forest degradation, soil disturbance and land conversion of other natural systems;

CONCERNED that industrial agrofuel production is a major cause of the worsening world food crisis, with more people than ever experiencing chronic hunger and famine;

FURTHER CONCERNED that industrial agrofuel production damages biodiversity and soil productivity, consumes scarce water resources, increases water pollution from soil and chemical runoffs, encroaches on wildlife habitat, and threatens the survival of some species;

ALARMED that so-called ‘sustainable’ industrial agrofuel production provides incentives to expanding the agricultural frontier and destroying forests and pasture areas;

FURTHER ALARMED that industrial agrofuel production is currently receiving significant incentives, including tax breaks, subsidies and financing through

carbon-trading mechanisms, international development aid or loans from international finance organizations, while at the same time more sustainable alternative crops have been generally neglected and should be considered;

AFFIRMING that, when properly implemented, bioenergy production can be part of a democratic, decentralized framework of land use where communities have a voice in deciding what crops will be grown and where and how projects will be implemented; and

FURTHER AFFIRMING that industrial agrofuel production, because of energy and chemical inputs as well as related deforestation and soil disturbance which releases sequestered carbon dioxide, does not appear to reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions, does not mitigate global warming, and can actually cause serious added harm to people and ecological systems;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON governments to:
 - (a) put in place appropriate regulatory structures, and prior to this to carry out analyses of the potential social, environmental and human rights impacts, including life-cycle analyses of existing and new large-scale biofuel production; and
 - (b) immediately suspend all incentives for agrofuels and agroenergy from industrial monocultures;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. CALLS ON the Director General to:
 - (a) collaborate with the IUCN Commissions on a report that describes how biomass production and use might be effectively, sustainably and equitably integrated into local agricultural and pastoral food and livelihoods systems;
 - (b) share this information with other fora, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which have concerns about this issue; and
 - (c) promote and support environmentally sustainable and pro-poor strategies to produce and use

biomass in a sustainable manner, that provide more opportunities for the rural poor, women and indigenous peoples, and that increase the resilience of agro-ecosystems to climate change.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.084 Mining exploration and exploitation in and near Andean protected areas

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that protected natural and cultural areas and sites already exist or are in the process of being created in the South American Andean zone, including Natural and Cultural World Heritage Sites; Biosphere Reserves; national, provincial and municipal parks and reserves; natural monuments; Wetlands of International Importance ('Ramsar sites'); special sites for migratory and other species;

RECOGNIZING that the preservation of these highly fragile ecosystems constitutes the basis for the conservation of high Andean ecological corridors and the survival of endemic species of flora and fauna;

CONSIDERING that the majority of Andean countries have legislation that protects against the negative environmental impacts of mining exploitation, but not exploration, and that the international norms that give rise to international protected area categories (e.g. Biosphere Reserves, World Heritage Sites, Ramsar sites) often establish in their articles protection and prevention measures that countries must comply with in conducting mining activities;

AWARE that mining engineering has currently advanced to such a degree that exploration and exploitation can sometimes be conducted with low environmental impact; that impact alleviation and mitigation measures have already been developed and that these are effective if implemented correctly from the beginning of each stage of the various types of exploitation; that the implementation costs of these measures are minimal compared to the profit margins the mining industry derives and that such measures should be included in overall cost structures;

ALARMED that authorizations for open-pit mining exploration and exploitation have increased;

ALSO CONCERNED that current environmental impact studies do not, for the most part, consider either the possible medium- and long-term negative effects of prospecting and closure of the exploitation, or the implementation of remediation and restoration measures, including service roads from the sites of mining interest to the ports of departure of materials and finished products;

RECOGNIZING that exploitations carried out with open-pit methods are preferred by mining companies because these exploitations have less financial risk, require less economic investment and initial infrastructure, and also require fewer skilled personnel for their operation;

AWARE that mining companies encourage local governments to authorize such methods, claiming that they are investing in and creating job opportunities in these marginal areas, and also often requesting that the local government authorities make exceptions to the obligation to implement all of the basic health and safety infrastructure for both the personnel and the environment, obtaining the relevant authorizations even against local public opinion;

OBSERVING that open-pit exploitations, as they are currently conducted, generate many solid particles (some toxic) in atmospheric suspension in arid and semi-arid areas, and that these particles remain in suspension for months, only later, due to climatic effects such as wind and rain, being deposited on bodies of still water, watering places, lagoons and other water bodies, and therefore effectively limiting the reproduction of benthic, phyto- and zooplankton resources, thus reducing and at the same time polluting the trophic chain, and directly affecting: (a) aquaculture, (b) the terrestrial fauna and avifauna that feed and drink at these sites, (c) the inhabitants for whom these water sources constitute their only sources of drinking water, and (d) the native flora which may be eliminated by harmful chemicals;

FURTHER OBSERVING that groundwater is overexploited, not being recycled or purified and being dumped on the surface, thus increasing even further the negative impacts;

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

NOTING 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), which provides the context for the present Resolution;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON the countries in the Andean zone to act to reverse the current negative situation and to take the necessary preventive measures so that the granting of permits for open-pit mining exploration and exploitation within or directly impacting on protected areas can be prevented in the future; and
2. URGES IUCN's members in the Andean zone to:
 - (a) support local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and organizations from the countries to prevent the use of open-pit mining exploitation and exploration methods and environmentally aggressive mining exploration; and
 - (b) communicate the current situation and future risks of open mining and warn local communities about these risks and alternative mining exploration and exploitation methods that are less harmful;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

3. ASKS the Director General to work to support the application of precautionary approaches established for different categories of protected areas.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.085 Establishing the 1% Earth Profits Fund and sustaining government conservation finance

RECOGNIZING that the rate of environmental degradation and loss of biological and cultural diversity continue to accelerate, and that our planet's biosphere is in crisis;

CONSIDERING that a central element in achieving sustainability is directing sufficient financial resources toward conservation and sustainable development, that additional resources estimated at as much as USD 300 billion per year are urgently needed to reverse the current environmental decline and to achieve a sustainable global society, and that USD 300 billion is approximately 0.5% of the current Gross World Product;

RECOGNIZING that the stability of funding sources for environmental conservation projects and programmes, including those of IUCN, is essential to the efficacy of the implementation of these programmes, particularly in developing nations;

NOTING that many conservation initiatives are market-based, including but not limited to, carbon trading, Clean Development Mechanisms, Joint-Implementation projects, Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) programmes, assignable-quota fisheries, and payments for ecosystem services and rehabilitation;

AWARE THAT nations are currently suffering the effects of higher food, water and energy prices – a situation being aggravated by climate change and the instability of financial institutions – and that vulnerable nations are struggling to make universal provision of even the most basic humanitarian services for their populations and that these difficulties greatly hinder their ability to invest in environmental conservation;

ALARMED at the state of financial institutions in member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the inevitable impact of this on the markets and financial institutions of developing nations, who derive the majority of their environmental conservation funding from OECD countries;

GRAVELY CONCERNED that nations affected by this crisis may decide to reduce the priority given to their financial obligations to environmental conservation programmes, funds, studies and initiatives, which are necessary for continued conservation and environmentally sustainable development;

CONSIDERING that past financial commitments to environmental conservation from governments, international financial institutions, corporations and private philanthropies have totalled about USD 3 to 7 billion per year; that, while laudable, such commitments have fallen far short of what is needed to reverse environmental decline; and that although national governments agreed at

the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 to dedicate 0.7% of GNP to Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries, most have failed to keep this commitment;

RECOGNIZING that 51 of the 100 largest economies in the world are corporations, it is clear that the private sector possesses substantial financial capacity to contribute to this critical environmental challenge for the 21st century, and that the Global 500 – the top 500 revenue-earning companies globally, as identified each year by *Fortune Magazine* – include petroleum, automotive, electronics, communications, airlines, banks, insurance, pharmaceuticals, food, merchandise, chemical, health care, defence contractors, power, clothing, entertainment, paper, heavy equipment, soft drinks, office equipment and other industries; and that these 500 companies together earn approximately USD 10 trillion per year in revenue, and USD 1 trillion per year in profits; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that it is in the interest of these companies, as well as the collective future of human civilization, to urgently assist in the sustainable development and conservation of the biosphere of the planet, and in the stability of the world's financial systems;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON states to recommit at the forthcoming Doha Conference in November 2008 to 0.7% GNP funding promises and to refrain from reducing these commitments, while ensuring the fulfilment of financial obligations related to environmentally sustainable development and conservation, especially in these times of economic crisis;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. REQUESTS the Director General in consultation with the IUCN Commissions to:
 - (a) explore mechanisms to establish a new private-sector conservation finance initiative, in consultation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), international financial institutions, governments, IUCN members and NGOs, to provide increased and sustained support to biodiversity conservation and sustainable development, to be called the *1% Earth Profits Fund*,

taking into account priority needs through a consultative process;

- (b) propose to the CEOs and Boards of Directors of the Global 500 companies that they join the *1% Earth Profits Fund* by contributing no less than 1% of their annual, after tax profits for a trial period of five years;
- (c) support governments, NGOs and international organizations in their efforts to ensure that the global economic crisis does not affect environmentally sustainable development initiatives, including studies to help develop programmes that are resistant to economic instability; and
- (d) encourage that market mechanisms created under Multilateral Environmental Agreements are sufficiently resilient to global economic instability.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.086 Guiding and improving IUCN's involvement with the private sector

RECALLING Resolution 1.81 *Productive Relationships between IUCN and the Private Sector* and Resolution 1.82 *Private Sector Financial Operations* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), and Resolution 3.060 *Influencing Private Sector Actions in Favour of Biodiversity* and Resolution 3.061 *IUCN's Interaction with the Private Sector* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

RECOGNIZING that IUCN's mandate for engaging the private sector is rooted in IUCN's Mission to "Influence, encourage and assist societies to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable," and that the private sector, being a vital part of society that uses and affects nature in multiple ways, cannot be left out of this equation;

CONCERNED that the *Operational Guidelines for Private Sector Engagement* have not been approved by the IUCN Council or revised as requested by the Council at its 65th Meeting (May, 2006) "to take note of further comments on improving the guidelines, including those made by Committee members and a representative of CEESP/ SEAPRISE";

CONCERNED that lack of transparency and lack of clear rules for engagement of IUCN with business can severely reduce the credibility of IUCN and thus reduce worldwide support for and engagement in issues of environment and sustainability;

ASSERTING that IUCN has a special responsibility for creating rules, procedures and mechanisms regarding such engagement that can serve as examples of best practice; and

FURTHER ASSERTING that within the IUCN membership and Commissions there is substantial professional expertise that can inform, advise and assist the Director General and Secretariat staff in IUCN's interaction with the private sector, specifically in further development of such rules, procedures and mechanisms;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's Council as soon as possible, in consultation with the Director General, to approve the *Operational Guidelines* by which the IUCN Secretariat and the Commissions interact with the private sector and to establish and implement effective mechanisms for consultation and communication with members and Commissions on issues related to private-sector engagement;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. CALLS ON the Director General to:
 - (a) fully implement the provisions of Resolutions 3.060 and 3.061 mentioned above;
 - (b) conduct all interactions with the private sector in full compliance with the *Operational Guidelines* when approved by Council;
 - (c) ensure that articles 97 and 98 of the IUCN Statutes are fully implemented when interacting with the private sector;
 - (d) ensure that any agreement between IUCN and the private sector include cancellation clauses which can be triggered by IUCN review; and

- (e) when there is evidence that a company with which IUCN has a written agreement is failing to make marked improvements towards prevention remediation and redress regarding environmental and socio-economic harm caused by the company's activities and/or there is evidence of human rights violations, to notify the company immediately of these problems and to seek necessary improvements. Failure to comply within an agreed period of time should lead to cancellation of the written agreement within the provisions of the cancellation clause of the agreement with the company, and public communication of the reasons for such cancellation.

State member India indicated that it would vote against this motion.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion. The US Department of State provided the following statement for the record during the 9th Plenary Session when the original text of this motion was discussed:

It is the experience of the United States that constructive engagement of the private sector, industry and corporations is extremely valuable. We support increased transparency and review of agreements with corporations and businesses engaged in the areas of natural resource extraction but not the review of the overall performance of a company unless specified in agreements with such entities. Mandating review of the overall performance of only one sector of IUCN membership is not appropriate and could weaken one of the strands of the triple helix.

4.087 Impacts of infrastructure and extractive industries on protected areas

AWARE that protected areas are sites managed by governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, NGOs, or private parties, to achieve long-term conservation of nature and associated ecosystem services and cultural values, and that they are crucial for the protection of the Earth's biological diversity;

ALSO AWARE that these sites are most important for human health and well-being, through maintaining some of the essential ecosystem functions that we all benefit from;

CONSCIOUS of the role that protected areas and their networks are likely to play in helping to avoid, mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change;

STRESSING that many of these sites are also the territories, homes, or use areas for indigenous peoples and local communities, and that they are culturally important for a wide variety of faiths, religions and persuasions;

APPRECIATIVE of the commitment shown by countries and communities of the world, in declaring and managing such sites for various ecological, cultural and economic reasons;

CONCERNED that many such sites are threatened by, *inter alia*, a range of large-scale infrastructure projects such as major dams, energy plants, highways, ports and airports as well as from extractive industries including mining, oil and gas, industrial fishing and extensive aquaculture, and industrial logging;

AWARE that increasingly some of these activities are taking place in ways that may not make the damage immediately apparent, such as underground mining and oil extraction that starts outside a protected area but drills under it or affects its underground water resources;

NOTING that in the pursuit of economic growth objectives, sites crucial for biodiversity conservation and often for the cultural survival of indigenous peoples and local communities, are subjected to diversion, pollution and contamination, intrusion, disruption, submergence, dumping, discharge of effluents, drilling, or other processes that impair their ecological integrity;

ALSO NOTING that such damage often rebounds on the pursuit of development itself, by undermining water security, impairing crucial ecosystem functions that have then to be replaced by costly measures, at times even causing forced displacement of communities, and other such impacts;

CONSIDERING that social disruption related to such developments are also of serious concern;

CONCERNED that infrastructure or industrial companies often do not follow existing best practice measures (such as those described in the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) publication, *Good Practice Guidance for Mining and Biodiversity*, produced in cooperation with IUCN) in assessing impacts, avoiding ecologically and culturally fragile sites, seeking consent from

relevant authorities and from indigenous peoples and local communities, and employing stringent mitigation measures where development activities are carried out;

STRESSING that many national governments do not have adequate policies and measures in place to ensure that the integrity of their protected areas is not compromised by infrastructure and extractive industry; and

CLARIFYING that for the purposes of this Resolution, the term ‘protected areas’ includes Community Conserved Areas and Indigenous Protected Areas that may not yet be recognized in formal protected area systems, but which countries are encouraged to recognize under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REMINDS all countries of:
 - (a) their obligation under various environmental conventions and agreements to protect the diversity of life, and to promote protected areas as a critical means of achieving such protection; and
 - (b) the importance of protected areas to achieving the long-term conservation of nature and associated ecosystem services and cultural values, livelihoods, mitigation of and adaptation to climate change, and revenue flows including their contribution to reducing or eliminating poverty, and in most cases their importance as the territories or homes of indigenous peoples and local communities;
2. REQUESTS governments, the private sector and indigenous/local communities to review large-scale infrastructure or extractive industry developments (other than those oriented to the conservation-related management of their sites) that are ongoing or proposed in areas immediately adjacent to protected areas;
3. URGES national governments, the private sector and indigenous/local communities to:
 - (a) phase out or mitigate, where appropriate, ongoing large-scale infrastructure or extractive industry developments (other than those oriented to the conservation-related management of the site) affecting

the protected areas under their respective jurisdiction, and to prohibit further diversion of protected areas for such activities, allowing these only in the most exceptional circumstances where overwhelming public interest (such as maintenance of traditional livelihoods) requires it, and only after a full consultative process that engages experts, indigenous peoples and local communities, and the general public in consenting to such an exceptional situation; and

- (b) in exceptional situations where such activities need to be allowed, adopt full compensatory and mitigation measures, including creation of new or expanded protected areas that more than offset the negative impact of any de-gazetting, change in delimitation or downgrading of protection status, keeping in mind the need to fully respect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities while taking such measures;

4. URGES the private sector and other relevant parties to honour prohibitions or restrictions on such activities that are imposed by governments or communities, and voluntarily avoid such activities until prohibitions or restrictions come into place;
5. CALLS ON governments and/or the private sector to compensate and offer other appropriate and feasible livelihood options to workers and others whose livelihoods are affected by the closure of ongoing large scale infrastructure or extractive industry developments within or adjacent to protected areas; and
6. CALLS ON communities, civil society organizations and government agencies to report and take action on illegal infrastructure and extractive industry activities occurring within or adjacent to protected areas;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

7. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN’s Commissions to advise and assist governments and communities pursuing the actions called for in paragraphs 1 to 6 above, should such assistance be requested.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.088 Establishing the *IUCN Extractive Industry Responsibility Initiative*

RECOGNIZING that large-scale extractive industry developments offer both opportunity and risk to local residents, governments and the environment;

RECALLING that the World Bank's 2004 *Extractive Industry Review* provided a thorough examination of the problems and challenges presented by extractive industries around the world, and found that three overarching conditions must exist to guide investment in the extractive sector including pro-poor public and corporate governance, effective social and environmental policies, and respect for human rights;

ALSO RECALLING that the recommendations of the World Bank *Extractive Industry Review* called for improvements in transparency, governance reforms, environmental restoration, gas-flaring reduction, mine-closure protocols, waste management, protection of human rights, revenue sharing with communities, increasing local ownership/content, energy efficiency, increased stakeholder consultation, less carbon-intensive (coal and oil) investment (calling for a phase-out of investments in fossil-fuel projects by 2008), prior consent by local people as a precondition to project approval, and the application of best-available technical standards;

RECOGNIZING that few of the *Extractive Industry Review* recommendations have been effectively or broadly implemented to date and that there is substantial room for improvement in the environmental and social performance of extractive industries;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that many developing countries and local people lack the technical capacity and financial resources with which to implement these improvements on their own; and

CONSIDERING that IUCN is uniquely situated to facilitate the implementation of the *Extractive Industry Review* recommendations;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) explore the feasibility and funding requirements of establishing an *Extractive Industry Responsibility Initiative* (EIRI) within IUCN, drawing on the experience of the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), Commission on Environmental Law (CEL), other Commissions as appropriate, as well as the experience of the World Bank, governments, the United Nations, NGOs and IUCN members;
- (b) develop criteria for rigorous extractive industry certification; and
- (c) explore, with CEESP and the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), methods for identifying and mobilizing technical experts competent to review extractive industry performance in relation to these certification criteria.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.089 Establishing Citizens' Advisory Councils for large-scale extractive industry projects

CONSIDERING the potential impacts of large-scale extractive industry development projects (oil, natural gas, coal, minerals) on ecological, economic, social and cultural systems;

RECOGNIZING that local people potentially affected by large-scale extractive industry projects can play a critical oversight role in ensuring that the highest environmental, economic, social and cultural standards are met by companies and government; that local peoples are often at a significant financial and political disadvantage in engaging industry and government; and that local peoples have an inalienable right to know about, provide prior consent to, advise, consult with, and otherwise engage with such projects;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that multinational extractive industries would benefit from the greater engagement of local citizens, in an honest, transparent and truly representative process, to enhance the responsible conduct of their industrial operations;

NOTING that Citizens' Advisory Council models exist around the world whereby local people are empowered and funded to provide effective oversight to such projects;

RECALLING that Resolution 38 of the 8th World Wilderness Congress (30 September – 6 October 2005) resolved that “Extractive industries should support an independent citizens’ advisory group that will observe, verify, advise, and inform for the life of projects they start”;

ALSO RECALLING that the World Bank’s 2004 *Extractive Industry Review* recommended, among other things, the improvement of stakeholder consultation, as well as prior informed consent by local people as a precondition to project approval; and

CONSIDERING that IUCN is in a unique position to advocate the establishment of such mechanisms for citizen oversight of extractive industries in ecologically and culturally sensitive areas;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON the extractive industry to embrace and support the formation of local Citizens’ Advisory Councils being comprised of representatives of civil society in the vicinity of extractive industry projects being undertaken in ecologically sensitive areas, and having the function to provide informed public oversight of these projects in order to minimize their environmental and social impacts; and
2. URGES IUCN’s members and governments, in those countries in which extractive industry projects are being undertaken in ecologically sensitive areas, to support and encourage the formation of local Citizens’ Advisory Councils;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

3. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) prepare a list of large-scale extractive industry projects in ecologically sensitive areas around the world in consultation with the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) and the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP); and
 - (b) inform IUCN’s members and governments in those countries where extractive industry projects

are being undertaken in ecologically sensitive areas of the value of such Advisory Councils.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.090 Open-pit metal mining exploration and exploitation in Mesoamerica

CONSIDERING that there are plans to invest in the exploitation of metallic minerals in the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor, which will affect thousands of hectares of primary forest, key watersheds in the area, marine coastal zones rich in biodiversity and, finally, human health and the food safety of local populations;

WARNING that there has been an increase in authorizations for open-pit mining exploration and exploitation in the region;

BEARING IN MIND that the Mesoamerican region is considered a biodiversity hotspot;

CONSIDERING that the conservation of these areas constitutes the basis for the conservation of biological corridors and the survival of endemic species of fauna and flora, and that they are extremely fragile ecosystems;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that in countries of the Mesoamerican region the institutional and legal framework that could ensure the control, monitoring and regulation of mining activities is poor;

ALSO CONSIDERING that the mechanisms for public consultation and environmental impact studies are also poor, and that they limit the population’s broad and objective participation;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that experiences in tropical countries around the world have been extremely negative, and that open-pit mining has not solved the poverty problem in any country;

CONCERNED that, in particular, the high precipitation in most of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor creates great risks to the environment from open-pit mining extraction, that water management becomes uncontrollable,

leading to high levels of erosion and sedimentation, and that acid mine drainage presents a health hazard due to the pollution of water and soils and because it lasts for decades;

FURTHER CONCERNED that for the processing of metals it is necessary to extract large quantities of water, in competition with traditional human activities, endangering human health, food safety and the well-being of local populations;

BEARING IN MIND the great vulnerability of the Mesoamerican region to climate change in all areas of development, which would be exacerbated by the impacts of open-pit metal mining on forests, water, soil, health and human activities;

AWARE that in the economic, tax, social and environmental sectors, the net profit for the countries involved has not been proven, bearing in mind the tax benefits and low royalties granted by governments to mining companies, as well as this sector's vulnerability to rises and falls in prices, the deforestation of thousands of hectares, the pollution of ecosystems and impacts on human health, all related to the development of the metal-mining sector; and

FURTHER AWARE that if measures are not taken quickly to avoid these negative activities, they will have irreversible and devastating impacts on the environment and human populations in the region;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON the governments of the Mesoamerican region to cancel current open-pit metal mining exploration and exploitation with proven negative impacts on the environment, and to take the necessary preventative measures so that, in the future, the granting of mining exploration and exploitation permits does not include permits for open-pit metal mining, and to carry out and apply strictly strategic environmental assessments and other relevant environmental instruments, in the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor in particular;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. REQUESTS the IUCN Secretariat and Commissions to work with members in the Mesoamerican region to:

- (a) support local NGOs and indigenous peoples, in securing effective consultation prior to any mining exploration and exploitation concession, in accordance with ILO Convention 169 concerning indigenous and tribal peoples;
- (b) promote communication campaigns on the current situation and the future risks of open-pit metal exploitation, and warn local communities of these risks, informing them objectively what risks they might be exposed to; and
- (c) urge the governments of the region to ensure that consultation processes and environmental impact studies include the cumulative and synergistic impacts on broad zones of the region and the need for strategic environmental assessments.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.091 Strategic environmental assessment of public policies, plans and programmes as an instrument for conserving biodiversity

CONSIDERING that, in most countries, public policies are the driving forces due to their scope (thematic, geographical and temporal) and their economic resources, and that they result in effective decisions, with long-term effects on biodiversity;

AWARE that, although essential, classical conservation policies that create networks of protected areas and species protection policies, are insufficient to curb the current rate of biodiversity loss;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the current prevailing economic model, based on the growing consumption of natural resources (which already exceeds the carrying capacity of many ecosystems), and that the impact of

economic and sectoral policies – including urban development, infrastructure creation, energy, agricultural, industrial and fishing policies – affects biodiversity;

AWARE that strategic environmental assessment helps integrate planning and decision-making processes within the framework of sustainable development, and that IUCN works in a sustainable development paradigm;

KNOWING the operative and economic advantages of the implementation of strategic environmental assessment in public policies by using the precautionary principle in strategic phases and by mitigating accumulative and synergistic environmental impacts, as well as facilitating public participation in the selection of alternative forms of development, and therefore of ecosystem management;

AWARE that in European Union Member States the application of Directive 2001/42/EC – on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment – to public policies is not obligatory, and that many countries have adopted this Directive in a minimalist fashion and have therefore distorted its capacity to influence the strategic levels of decision making; and

UNDERSTANDING that in the context of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* the correct incorporation of biodiversity conservation in the environmental assessment of public policies will contribute decisively to the achievement of Global Result 5.1 *Economic, trade and investment policies better integrate biodiversity values*, and will also have an influence on the correct application of Thematic Programme Area 4 *Managing ecosystems for human well-being*;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES IUCN's state and government agency members to incorporate effectively the strategic environmental assessment of their public policies, beyond application to plans and programmes, and incorporating biodiversity conservation as a basic, guaranteed objective;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. REQUESTS the Director General to promote through the *Core Programme Area: Conserving Biodiversity* strategic environmental assessment of public policies,

as a driving force that can have significant impact on and importance for biodiversity conservation.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.092 Maintenance of ECOLEX: the gateway to environmental law

RECALLING Resolution 62/70 *Rule of law at national and international levels* adopted by the 62nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);

WHEREAS the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) has always promoted a databank for advising States upon request, to assist in drafting national environmental laws and supporting the negotiation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements; and

CONVINCED that the preconditions for conceptualizing, interpreting and applying effective legal instruments require the most recent information at all levels;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CONGRATULATES the ECOLEX partners (IUCN, UN Environment Programme, UN Food and Agriculture Organization) for the successful re-engineering and launch of the new interface and expresses satisfaction for the continued efforts and central role of the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (ELC) regarding this unique tool; and
2. CALLS ON the ECOLEX partners to participate financially, maintain its up-to-date content, continue to enhance its software and forcefully reach out to other possible partners and associates such as convention secretariats and other data providers with a view to building ECOLEX as the global cooperative hub for environmental law;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

3. INVITES the Director General to continue and increase, as appropriate, IUCN's support and contribution to ECOLEX, maintaining IUCN's function as the ECOLEX Management Unit, and capitalizing on its success.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.093 Legal aspects of the sustainable use of soils

RECALLING that one of the objectives of IUCN, since its founding in 1948, has been the establishment of laws and treaties for the protection of nature;

RECOGNIZING the important contributions made by IUCN since 1965 towards establishing the field of environmental law;

AWARE that despite continuing improvements in awareness and technology to control and manage soil degradation and desertification, the ecological condition of soils and land continues to worsen globally and growing world food shortages are leading to greater pressure being applied to land resources;

NOTING the urgent need to improve the synergies between the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), so as to provide benefits for the sustainable use of soils;

ALSO NOTING the concerns amongst the environmental law and soil science communities to operationalize synergies between these instruments;

AWARE of the significant and substantial work done by the IUCN Environmental Law Programme (ELP), through the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law's Specialist Group on Sustainable Use of Soil and Desertification in implementing Resolution 2.59 *Legal aspects of the sustainable use of soils* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Resolution 3.072 *Legal Aspects of the Sustainable Use of Soils* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and in cooperation with the soil science community, for the improvement of environmental law and policy for the sustainable use of soils and desertification, particularly in regard to the ecological functions of soil for the conservation of biodiversity and the maintenance of human life, including:

- (a) publication of IUCN Environmental Policy and Law Paper (EPLP) No. 45 – *Legal and Institutional Frameworks for Sustainable Soils*;

- (b) publication in 2004 of EPLP No. 52 – *Drafting Legislation for Sustainable Soils: A Guide*;

- (c) communicating widely the outcomes of the IUCN ELP's Sustainable Use of Soil and Desertification programme among the international environmental law and soil science communities and receiving significant support and encouragement for the introduction of a global instrument for the sustainable use of soil; and

- (d) having undertaken sufficient investigation work to proceed now to the preparation of various options for an international instrument for the sustainable use of soil; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the need for further investigation of a specific global environmental law instrument for the sustainable use of soils;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- (a) continue to work with IUCN members to finalize the various options for a global legal instrument on the sustainable use of soils, as set out in Section 5 of EPLP No. 45;

- (b) continue the implementation of the guidelines from EPLP 52 through efforts with interested countries for the development of national legislation for sustainable use of soil, in particular working with developing nations on the introduction or reform, as appropriate, of national soil legislation, contributing to institutional capacity building and assisting in the development of national soil policies and strategies;

- (c) prepare further legal guidelines on the maintenance of the ecological functions of soils as a component of the conservation of biodiversity and the maintenance of human life; and

- (d) continue the effective communication of the outcomes of the Sustainable Use of Soil and Desertification programme among the environmental law and soil science communities.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.094 Impetus and support for local and regional biodiversity conservation policies

RECALLING Resolution 3.003 *Engagement by IUCN with local and regional government authorities* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

CONSIDERING the great responsibility of municipalities and regional administrations in natural resource management and the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity;

ALSO CONSIDERING that the legislations of most States provide for a wide range of tasks to be implemented by municipalities and regions in fields that have an important impact on biodiversity conservation and natural resource use;

MINDFUL that local and regional governments need to acquire more knowledge about biodiversity and scientific/technical support in order for their actions to incorporate conservation and enhancement of biodiversity as one of their priorities;

RECOGNIZING the efforts that municipalities and regions have made since the 1992 Earth Summit to adopt plans and programmes that make progress towards more sustainable development models and to consolidate and extend networks that pursue this same objective; and

ALSO RECOGNIZING that sharing of responsibility by municipalities and regions is indispensable for the development of any territorial strategy aimed at sustainable natural resource use and for active citizen participation in pursuit of this aim;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS local and regional governments and their representative organizations, in the exercise of their powers, to articulate specific policies for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, and to incorporate these elements into their sectoral policies as important factors in decision making;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. ASKS the Director General to:

- (a) explore possible mechanisms for collaboration between IUCN and municipal and regional authorities and their primary associations, such as United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) on a global level, and other similar entities at the State and regional level, in order to strengthen local initiatives in favour of biodiversity and sustainable natural resource use; and

- (b) foster cooperation, exchange and networking with other local and regional authorities, organizations and non-governmental entities in pursuit of these objectives; and

3. CALLS ON IUCN's Commissions, in collaboration with IUCN Regional and National Committees and IUCN members, to encourage specific work programmes with local and regional authorities, within their respective spheres and associations, for the development of local biodiversity and sustainable development policies and for the management of spaces with natural values.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.095 African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

WHEREAS all Heads of State and government unanimously adopted the Revised African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources at the 2nd Summit of the African Union held 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 sustainable development; and

WHEREAS there is a concern that the Revised African Convention has not yet come into force;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS IUCN's African members, together with the African Union and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), to promote a common strategy with the goal that the Revised African Convention enters into force as soon as possible, especially by appealing to Ministers of Foreign Affairs to take the necessary steps for the Convention's ratification in accordance with their relevant procedures;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

2. CALLS ON the Director General to assist and support members and partners in this endeavour.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.096 The International Academy of Environmental Law

RECALLING that on the 50th Anniversary of IUCN's founding, the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) recommended the establishment of an 'IUCN Academy of Environmental Law' to forge the bonds between university education in environmental law and the work of the Union;

AWARE that Resolution 2.24 *Establishment of an IUCN International Academy of Environmental Law* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) requested IUCN's Council to give urgent consideration to the initiative and requested the Chair of the Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) and the Council to finalize preparations for the establishment of the Academy before the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress;

NOTING with satisfaction that the 57th Meeting of IUCN Council unanimously approved the establishment of the Academy in 2002, that the Academy was launched at its first annual international Colloquium on Environmental Law in 2003 at Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China, and that the CEL appointed the Academy's interim governing board at the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

GRATEFUL that the Academy has held annual thematic Colloquia, with proceedings published by the Cambridge University Press, in:

- (a) 2004 at the University of Nairobi, Kenya (*Land Use for Sustainable Development*);
- (b) 2005 at Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia (*Biodiversity Law*);
- (c) 2006 at Pace University, New York, USA (*Environmental Law – Compliance and Enforcement*); and
- (d) 2007 with Brazilian universities in Rio de Janeiro and Paraty, Brazil (*Environmental Law 15 years after the Rio Earth Summit*);

AWARE that the Academy will hold its 6th Colloquium in November 2008, at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana Azcapotzalco in Mexico City (on the theme of *Poverty Alleviation through Environmental Law*), and further Colloquia in 2009 at Wuhan University, Wuhan, China, in 2010 at the University of Leuven, Belgium, in 2011 with South African universities in Capetown, and in 2012 at the University of Maryland, USA;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Academy has juridical status in Canada, that the Law Faculty of the University of Ottawa, Canada, provides the Secretariat for the Academy, that more than eighty universities worldwide have joined the Academy and that the Member Universities in 2008 elected the Academy's new governing board and officers;

GRATEFUL for the collaboration between the Academy and the IUCN Environmental Law Programme (ELP) with respect to both the conceptual development of environmental law and capacity building in environmental legal education in developing countries;

RECOGNIZING that the Academy has become an autonomous, learned world examining how law advances a just society that values and conserves nature; and

MINDFUL that environmental legal education contributes to the rule of law and builds the robust environmental legal services essential for conservation of nature and natural resources, and sustainable development in every region;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CONGRATULATES the Academy and its Member Universities on the success of its first half-decade;
2. INVITES all IUCN members to encourage the universities in their regions to become members of the Academy through their departments of law, schools of law or faculties of law; and
3. URGES all interested international organizations to strengthen legal education and foster practices that build the rule of law worldwide;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

4. REQUESTS the Director General to continue discussions with the Academy on long-term arrangements with a view to facilitating enhanced cooperation between the two organizations.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.097 Liability and compensation mechanisms for environmental crimes during armed conflicts

CONSIDERING that armed conflicts and wars are still raging worldwide with detrimental effects on the environment and natural resources;

FURTHER CONSIDERING the absence of accountability for damage to the environment, intentional or otherwise, during armed conflicts;

DRAWING UPON the basic tenets of the *World Charter for Nature* (1982), where it is recognized that “Mankind is a part of nature and life depends on the uninterrupted

functioning of natural systems which ensure the supply of energy and nutrients”;

RECALLING Principles 13, 23 and 24 of the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development* (1992)¹;

RECALLING Principles 16, 16.b and 16.f of the *Earth Charter*²;

NOTING that a world of absolute non-violence and peace is still an ideal and that the principles that guide conduct with regard to the environment and natural resources in times of peace are all but ignored in times of war;

ACKNOWLEDGING the wealth of IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations calling for the protection and conservation of nature and the environment during armed conflicts and times of war; and

NOTING IUCN’s role in influencing standards and practices and its aim to enhance environmental and human security as per its *Programme 2009–2012*;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. EXHORTS the United Nations to:
 - (a) establish an international organization empowered to monitor, report and prosecute any damages to the environment and natural resources during armed conflict; and
 - (b) create a compensation mechanism, reminiscent of the Polluter Pays Principle, for any transgressions and violations against the environment during armed conflicts; and
2. CALLS ON IUCN’s members to adopt and comply with previous Resolutions and Recommendations to ensure the integrity and protection of nature and the environment during armed conflicts;

¹ Principle 13: “States shall develop national law regarding liability and compensation for the victims of pollution and other environmental damage. States shall also cooperate in an expeditious and more determined manner to develop further international law regarding liability and compensation for adverse effects of environmental damage caused by activities within their jurisdiction or control to areas beyond their jurisdiction.”

Principle 23: “The environment and natural resources of people under oppression, domination and occupation shall be protected.”

Principle 24: “Warfare is inherently destructive of sustainable development. States shall therefore respect international law providing protection for the environment in times of armed conflict and cooperate in its further development, as necessary.”

² Principle 16: “Promote a culture of tolerance, nonviolence, and peace.”

Principle 16.b: “Implement comprehensive strategies to prevent violent conflict and use collaborative problem solving to manage and resolve environmental conflicts and other disputes.”

Principle 16.f: “Recognize that peace is the wholeness created by right relationships with oneself, other persons, other cultures, other life, Earth, and the larger whole of which all are a part.”

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

3. CALLS ON IUCN's Commissions to develop a set of environmental best practices to serve as a code of conduct during times of war, armed conflict and occupation.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.098 Intergenerational partnerships: fostering ethical leadership for a just, sustainable and peaceful world

CONSIDERING Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability (IPS) as a partnership model based on “respect and care for the community of life,” the Earth, and future generations that consists of exchange of experiences and new ideas, collaboration, and action between women and men of all generations and cultures, working toward the common vision of a “just, sustainable, and peaceful world” (*Earth Charter*, 2000);

EMPHASIZING that the central goal of IPS – inspired by the shared values and integrated approach of the *Earth Charter* and the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development – is to contribute to enhancing current and emerging leadership to help address complex global challenges, especially climate change, biodiversity loss, poverty and gender inequity;

APPRECIATING the hundreds of diverse people who contributed to the year-long drafting process for this Resolution and Framework for IPS at strategic international events, such as the 4th International Conference on Environment Education and the 16th session of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD), as well as those who have already joined the Alliance for IPS;

APPRECIATING the partnership formed between IUCN's Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) and the Earth Charter International-led IPS Coordination Team (Global Youth Action Network,

TakingItGlobal, Peace Child International, Peace Child Peru, Youth Action for Change, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) South Asia Youth Environment Network) and the successful ‘Buddy Experiment’ that resulted, which paired 80 CEC members with youth leading up to the IPS workshop at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress in October 2008;

BUILDING ON Resolution 3.022 *Endorsement of the Earth Charter* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) which recognized the *Earth Charter* as an “... ethical guide for IUCN policy...” that should be used “... to help advance education and dialogue on global interdependence, shared values, and ethical principles for sustainable ways of living...”;

INSPIRED BY section 7.2, “Alliances for change,” of the 2006 IUCN *Future of Sustainability* report, which reads: “To have credibility and success, environmentalists need to move beyond the comfort zone of their established professional rituals and partnerships. The changes needed cannot be brought about by environmentalists alone, let alone by IUCN. It will require numerous alliances with a diverse range of actors, big and small... Capacity building will be critical to the ability of some partners to support and bring about change”;

BUILDING ON IUCN's Young Professionals Programme, initiated by Resolution 3.029 *Capacity Building of Young Professionals* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

RECOGNIZING that the “... largest-ever generation of youth is approaching adulthood in a world their elders could not have imagined,” with more than 1.5 billion people 10 to 25 years old (United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) website, 2008);

ALSO RECOGNIZING that young people are making public calls for ethics-based intergenerational partnerships and actions in important international forums, such as the World Assembly of the World Alliance for Citizen Participation (CIVICUS);

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; and

FURTHER AFFIRMING that many older persons possess important experience and expertise in the field of

sustainability and have made important contributions to the advancement of the sustainability cause;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

URGES the Director General and all IUCN members and Commissions to:

- (a) recognize that intergenerational partnerships are important for enhancing current and emerging leadership capable of helping address pressing global challenges, especially climate change, biodiversity loss, poverty and gender inequity;
- (b) engage in and foster IPS with young persons, youth-oriented organizations, youth political bodies, universities and/or young social entrepreneurs (for example, through participation in ‘Buddy Partnerships’, with individual youth, facilitated through the Alliance for IPS);
- (c) join the Alliance for IPS as a means to publicly declare willingness to engage in IPS;
- (d) draw on the Framework for IPS for general guidance in the establishment of intergenerational partnerships; and
- (e) engage in capacity-building activities focused on young persons and youth-oriented organizations, in keeping with the spirit of IUCN’s *Future of Sustainability* report and Young Professionals Programme, to increase the ability of young people to contribute to a “just, sustainable, and peaceful world” (*Earth Charter*, 2000).

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.099 Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature

CONSCIOUS that nature is a foundational concept for IUCN;

AWARE that the IUCN Mission requires the conservation of nature to be understood as an action based on the diverse visions that different living cultures have of nature;

NOTING that the concept of nature conveyed in the official languages of IUCN was shaped after the seventeenth century scientific revolution in Europe, gradually reducing the original scope from the Latin concept of ‘natura’ to its material dimension or component;

AWARE that a great number of the world’s languages lack an exact equivalent for the concept of ‘nature’ that IUCN uses, and that, instead, the word or words they use include human beings, agrobiodiversity, and non-material realms, which are perceived as alive and often a more significant part of nature than their material counterparts;

UNDERSTANDING that the Cartesian distinction between material and spiritual does not exist in most cultures, where people consider that spiritual realities permeate everything and that humans, nature and the entire universe share the same material and spiritual dimensions;

NOTING that many of the concepts used instead of ‘nature’ are more holistic, and may be loosely translated in expressions such as ‘Mother’, ‘Mother Earth’, ‘Mother who makes all things possible’, ‘Community of all beings’, ‘Source of all’, ‘Self-regenerating’, ‘Angel’, or ‘Spirit’;

NOTING FURTHER that mainstream religions and philosophies, followed by most of humankind, have other concepts related to nature such as ‘Creation’, ‘Sam-sara’, ‘Prakriti’ or ‘Shan-shui’;

ACKNOWLEDGING that from all these diverse concepts of nature, flow a tremendous diversity of conservation values, ranging from intrinsic values related to sacred species, sites, landscapes, etc., to use values for livelihood, and functional values;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the Ethics Specialist Group of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) is currently addressing this issue;

CONCERNED about the impacts that the prevalent concept of nature conservation has already had in parts of the world, reducing the potential support for conservation from those societies that have different world views;

CONCERNED FURTHER about the impossibility of producing accurate translations for many of the IUCN documents into some of the most widely used languages of the world, which lack the equivalent of the concept of nature as it is used in IUCN; and

CONSCIOUS that respect of the rich cultural diversity conveyed by different concepts of nature and its related values is a right of concerned communities or societies;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the IUCN Programme 2009–2012:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to promote understanding that nature conservation as a human action is rooted in diverse, evolving cultures and world views; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions to work with IUCN's members to:
 - (a) find ways to incorporate other understandings of the human relationship with the natural world to increase intercultural efforts for nature conservation;
 - (b) develop appropriate guidance to fully recognize the existing diversity of concepts and values of nature, and nature conservation, where appropriate; and
 - (c) promote and support nature conservation actions including and reflecting practices and traditions that are rooted in culture and embody the cultural values of the diversity of peoples of the world.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.100 Military activities detrimental to the environment

RECALLING Resolution 19.41 *Armed Conflict and the Environment* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994), Resolution 1.75 *Armed conflict and the Environment* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996), Recommendation V.15 *Peace, Conflict and Protected Areas* noted by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) and Resolution 3.058 *Military activities and the production, stockpiling and use of weapons that are of detriment to the environment* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 2.97 *A Marten's Clause for environmental protection* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), which urged all United Nations Member States to endorse the following policy: "Until a more complete international code of environmental protection has been adopted, in cases not covered by international agreements and regulations, the biosphere and all its constituent elements and processes remain under the protection and authority of the principles of international law derived from established custom, from dictates of the public conscience, and from the principles and fundamental values of humanity acting as steward for present and future generations";

REAFFIRMING the awareness expressed in the *World Charter for Nature* – adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1982 – that mankind is part of nature and life depends on the uninterrupted functioning of natural systems;

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

RECALLING Resolution 62/41 *Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction* and Resolution 62/99 *Assistance in mine action* adopted by the 62nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA);

FURTHER RECALLING that the UN's International Law Commission continues its work on a set of 14 draft articles on the 'Effects of armed conflicts on treaties';

WELCOMING the adoption of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (Dublin, 2008); and

STRONGLY AWARE of the fact that armed conflict, the use of chemical weapons, and the use of anti-personnel mines can inflict great humanitarian harm;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES IUCN members to recognize, that besides being directly detrimental to the welfare of human beings, the use of chemical weapons and anti-personnel mines may cause negative impacts on fauna and flora, and limit access to land, thus disrupting the ability to cultivate crops, grow livestock, access game populations and stimulate economic activity;
2. RECOGNIZES with appreciation, those states who have undertaken the measures necessary to avoid, as far as possible the negative impacts of chemical weapons and anti-personnel mines, including through the destruction of such weapons; and
3. URGES non-party states to sign and ratify all relevant treaties, especially the newly adopted Convention on Cluster Munitions;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

4. REQUESTS the Director General to:
 - (a) ensure, as appropriate, that IUCN expresses its position to the representatives of states participating in negotiations pertaining to military activities detrimental to the environment; and
 - (b) report to the 5th IUCN World Conservation Congress on which states are endorsing the policy laid out in Resolution 2.97 adopted by the 2nd Congress.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.101 International Covenant on Environment and Development

RECALLING Resolution 1.66 *Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress, Recommendation 2.96 *Earth Charter and draft International Covenant* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress, and Resolution 3.021 *International Covenant on*

Environment and Development adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress;

RECALLING that the second revised text of the *Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development* was presented to the Member States of the United Nations on the occasion of the 59th Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA);

MINDFUL that the *Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development* serves an important function in:

- (a) promoting codification of accepted norms;
- (b) assisting legislators, responsible ministers and civil servants as an authoritative reference and checklist for national legislation; and
- (c) serving in international negotiations as a guide to ensure harmony among treaty obligations; and

AWARE that since then, the UNGA, summits called by the UN and other forums or Conferences of the Parties of international multilateral environmental agreements have further developed some of the accepted norms and well-established principles on the conservation of the environment and sustainable development;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) to update the provisions and explanatory text and ensure that a fourth revision be published as soon as possible; and
2. INVITES the International Council of Environmental Law to continue cooperating in the drafting process and promotion of the text with the financial assistance of institutions such as the Elizabeth Haub Foundation for Environmental Law and Policy.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.102 Advancing knowledge management in conservation

RECOGNIZING the Union's significant knowledge on conservation management and sustainable development

and the strategy of empowerment contained in the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*;

RECALLING that the 2004 *External Review of the IUCN Commissions* recommended that the Commissions work with the Secretariat to review how to develop more effective communication and knowledge management systems;

AWARE that the subsequent IUCN Knowledge Management Study in 2004 (*Mobilizing IUCN's Knowledge to secure a sustainable future*) recommended moving beyond producing knowledge to:

- (a) influencing change;
- (b) making better use of IUCN's intellectual capital by strengthening relationships and sharing knowledge;
- (c) strengthening both external and internal aspects of managing IUCN's knowledge; and
- (d) creating an enabling information and communication technology environment;

AWARE that effective knowledge management is explicit and systematic, focusing on the processes of creating, organizing, diffusing and using knowledge that are vital to achieving IUCN's Mission;

ACKNOWLEDGING that numerous knowledge management initiatives exist within IUCN and its membership, some independent of one another and some spanning IUCN Regions, programmes and Commissions;

CONSIDERING that best practices and standards in knowledge management are rapidly emerging and changing; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) has incorporated knowledge management in its strategic plan for the period 2009–2012 as one of its key contributions to the Global Results of the IUCN Programme;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. INVITES all IUCN members to collaborate in improving knowledge management practices across the Union; and

2. REQUESTS IUCN's Council to give urgent consideration to knowledge management within the Union's overall Programme before the 5th Session of the World Conservation Congress;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

3. REQUESTS the Director General, with the assistance of IUCN's Commissions, to formulate standards and guidelines for better knowledge management across the Union.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.103 Acknowledging Spanish-language environmental education publications

RECALLING that IUCN gives global guidance on the importance of education based not only on the generation of skills, but also on attitudes and values, an approach adopted by Spanish-speaking countries resulting in one of the most relevant examples of this type of education, and that Latin America today is one of the regions that continues to approach environmental education as an environmental management strategy, tackling the structural causes of degradation of the natural world;

RECOGNIZING that the Spanish-speaking population is one of the largest in the world;

CONSIDERING the importance of supporting and maintaining an assessment of different experiences with educational materials in Spanish-speaking countries; and

RECOGNIZING the advantages of announcing a prize for Spanish-language educational materials;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

ASKS the Director General, in collaboration with the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) and Spanish-speaking IUCN members, to establish an

IUCN Prize for Spanish-language environmental education materials.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.104 The World Conservation Learning Network: next steps

RECALLING Resolution 3.026 *Establishment of the World Conservation Learning Network* and Resolution 3.027 *Education for sustainable development* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

RECOGNIZING the Union's commitment to developing knowledge in the fields of conservation and sustainable development;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that in today's knowledge-based society learning is life-long and that many individuals, organizations and society in general will benefit from on-going access to knowledge development;

AWARE that conservation and sustainable development practitioners, professionals, and researchers and academics worldwide can mutually benefit from access to, and can contribute to, knowledge development;

RECOGNIZING in particular that, practitioners, professionals and academics in the 'south' experience problems gaining access to current knowledge generated worldwide;

ACKNOWLEDGING that relevant knowledge related to capacity development is a relatively inaccessible yet rich resource worldwide;

ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING that access to this knowledge must be through internationally-accredited higher education institutions; and

NOTING that the World Conservation Learning Network (during 2004–2008) has:

(a) established major regional networks of representatives of institutions of higher education;

(b) developed a database of on-line conservation and sustainable development courses currently available through these networks; and

(c) developed a Memorandum of Understanding with the United Nations University (UNU) to explore the development of an IUCN/UNU Institute to deliver a globally-recognized, accredited credential;

The World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with the Chair of the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication (CEC), to facilitate the further growth of regional networks and of the IUCN/UNU Institute to promote network interaction and access to knowledge, to enhance capacity development in conservation and sustainable development.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.105 Communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) in conservation

CONSIDERING that a sustainable future requires change at all levels – from individuals to organizations to societies, and from local to national and global levels – and that change management places demands on communication and learning;

RECOGNIZING that in order to create change, societies must find a way of managing communication and learning across cultures and disciplines, and collectively create and manage new knowledge for sustainable solutions;

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

ALSO AWARE that the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* aims to “contribute directly to targets agreed internationally by governments to reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity, and contribute an environmental perspective to the achievement of *Millennium Development Goals*, the *Plan of Implementation* of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and other relevant international commitments”;

NOTING that IUCN, as a knowledge-based organization, offers knowledge and tools, creates the capacity to use these tools and helps others develop more effective policies, laws, instruments and institutions;

RECOGNIZING the need to integrate science and encourage public participation in decision making;

UNDERSTANDING education and environmental communication to be a continuous process not only for children and young people but for all ages, and the result of collective construction and social learning, whose goal is fair and equitable sustainability;

NOTING the importance given to communication, education and raising public awareness in IUCN documents and in numerous agreements and international congresses, especially the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005–2014);

ALSO NOTING the efforts that have been made in the last few years in education and environmental communication in order to contribute decisively to a ‘sustainability model’ for the use and enjoyment of the planet’s resources;

RECOGNIZING that there is growing concern that people are becoming increasingly disconnected from nature;

AWARE that environmental education and direct experiences in nature are important parts of a necessary learning process in support of sustainability models;

ALSO AWARE 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;

CONSIDERING that IUCN and its Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) have significantly contributed worldwide to the development of Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) as a means to develop professional capacity and to support change towards sustainable development;

NOTING that IUCN through CEC has played an important role in advocating the importance of CEPA among the Multilateral Environmental Agreements and Conventions, in helping to realize their CEPA work programmes and activities, and has produced relevant CEPA toolkits for supporting the implementation of environmental conventions at regional and national levels;

RECOGNIZING that educating children should never involve the freeing of current generations from their responsibilities for environmental issues that concern them;

AWARE that there is an immediate need for environmental education on the current environmental crisis (species extinction and the degradation of our planet’s ecosystems) and a need for life-long learning;

AWARE that CEPA is an essential component of an empowerment strategy for the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*; and

RECALLING Resolution 2.50 *Environmental education in the Meso-American Component Programme* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) and Resolution 3.025 *Education and communication in the IUCN Programme* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN’s members to:
 - (a) urge that whilst people begin the process of awareness-raising and education for sustainable development, a large number of initiatives should be launched, aimed at training and raising awareness – including through frequent direct experience in nature – about conservation and sustainability in social and decision-making sectors whose short-term influence is crucial for the conservation of species and areas in imminent danger of extinction or degradation;
 - (b) propose the implementation of CEPA tools in awareness-raising and conservation programmes from the start of their design;
 - (c) recommend integration of CEPA into their organizations and all areas of work in order to guarantee the effectiveness of its influence and cross-sectoral approach in their proposals;
 - (d) take into account the work of IUCN to develop guidance and standards on CEPA;
 - (e) encourage the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) to review and improve the effectiveness of CEPA

in existing programmes, through an external review process, as appropriate, and to consider CEPA in the development of new programmes; and

- (f) ensure all appropriate measures (including staff and financial resources) are available to carry out CEPA programmes effectively;

In addition, the World Conservation Congress, at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008, provides the following guidance concerning implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*:

2. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to:

- (a) launch regional programmes to support strategic professional capacity development on CEPA for implementing environmental conventions and the work on synergies among such conventions;
- (b) incorporate specific activities and goals in relation to CEPA; and
- (c) assist the IUCN membership in reconnecting people, especially children, and nature as a priority in order to assure responsible stewardship of the environment for generations to come; and

3. CALLS ON the Director General to include the need for actions and measures in the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* concerning CEPA, paying particular attention to those who have the greatest influence on threats to conservation.

4.106 Vote of thanks to the host country

NOTING that the IUCN World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session has brought together close to 8,000 participants from 179 countries, more than ever before in the history of IUCN;

MINDFUL of the importance of identifying appropriate facilities and of ensuring the smooth logistical running of such a large gathering;

AWARE that a number of new arrangements were introduced, such as the reduction in the use of paper, the concept of ‘journeys’ to organize the Forum programme, Pavilions exhibition and Learning Opportunities, and that

these and other innovations presented challenges for the venue and local organizers;

RESPECTFUL of the fact that this gathering of close to 8,000 participants could only occur with the support of a large team of volunteers, workers and sponsors; and

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGING that these conditions were fully met during the present meeting held in the Centre de Convencions Internacional de Barcelona (CCIB);

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. EXPRESSES its deepest gratitude to His Majesty the King, for presiding at the Committee of Honour of the World Conservation Congress;
2. CONVEYS its deepest thanks to His Royal Highness Prince of Asturias for his presence and for officially opening the Congress;
3. ACKNOWLEDGES with gratitude the invaluable support of the Congress hosts: the Ministry for Environment, Rural and Marine Affairs, the Department of Environment and Housing of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Barcelona City Council and Barcelona Provincial Council for their institutional support and generous financial contributions that made this Congress possible, and to the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development for its financial support that allowed the participation of IUCN members from developing countries;
4. APPLAUDS the hard work and efforts of the officials and supporting staff of the host administrations, local sponsors, the staff of CCIB and the local volunteers who gave so generously of their time to make this Congress a success;
5. CONVEYS its thanks to the people of Barcelona, Catalonia and Spain for sharing the beauty of their culture, customs and scenic sites, thus enriching the experience of all Congress participants; and
6. DECLARES this 4th Session of the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona to have been a resounding success and memorable event.

Recommendations

4.107 Cooperation between members and committees from Latin America and the Mediterranean

CONSIDERING the traditional historical, cultural and language ties, as well as the joint initiatives which have linked and link peoples, governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from Latin America to those of the Iberian Peninsula and the other countries of the Mediterranean;

ACKNOWLEDGING the increasing synergy developed during recent years and strengthened through intergovernmental agreements, treaties and cooperation initiatives between NGOs, governmental agencies and bodies, and the scientific and academic community of the Latin American and Mediterranean countries with common goals, including those relating to the conservation of nature and of biological and cultural diversity;

AWARE that it is important to strengthen and promote this cooperation, which fosters global sustainability and environmental security, and to consider the possibility of establishing new links that could significantly contribute to conservation and sustainable development in Latin America and the Mediterranean, as well as to IUCN's global Mission;

RECALLING the pressing need to promote and enhance international cooperation fora and initiatives, strengthening practical links between organizations, agencies and States, in the face of major challenges such as climate change, biological and cultural diversity conservation, and poverty reduction;

CONSIDERING the need to improve human and organizational resource use, as well as to promote training and sharing of experience and lessons learnt between IUCN governmental and non-governmental member organizations in Latin America and the Mediterranean; and

RECALLING the will expressed during the meeting held in Barcelona on 20 and 21 May 2008 in preparation for the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress, by IUCN

members and National and Regional Committees, such as the IUCN Spanish National Committee, the South American Regional Committee and the Mesoamerican Regional Committee, and previously through the *Tarragona Declaration* (2003) and the Mediterranean Intersessional Forum (Bari, 2008);

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. ACKNOWLEDGES and supports collaborative and cooperative initiatives between Latin American and Mediterranean governmental and non-governmental IUCN members, such as the IUCN Spanish National Committee, the South American Regional Committee and the Mesoamerican Regional Committee;
2. URGES governments, international cooperation agencies and governmental, academic, scientific and technical bodies of Latin America and the Mediterranean to give priority to the implementation of intergovernmental and NGO cooperation plans and programmes, in order to promote training and sharing of experience and lessons learnt in support of nature conservation and ecosystem and community sustainability;
3. URGES international cooperation agencies, as well as Latin American and Mediterranean States, to support and promote programmes in the fields of conservation, sustainable management of natural resources and access by civil society to information and decision-making, in order to ensure an efficient response to major challenges such as climate change, biological and cultural diversity conservation and poverty reduction;
4. CALLS ON IUCN's members to support this initiative; and
5. RECOMMENDS that international organizations support governments and IUCN members working in Latin America and the Mediterranean, in order to raise and leverage resources aiming to strengthen and promote the proposed cooperation, in support of IUCN's Mission.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.108 Open access to biodiversity data and information

RECALLING that *Principle 10* of the *Rio Declaration* notes that environmental issues are best handled with participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level, and that at the national level each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes;

FURTHER RECALLING that Article 17 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) addresses “... the exchange of information, from all publicly available sources, relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity...”;

RECOGNIZING that Article 8(j) of the CBD states that, subject to national legislation, all efforts must be made to “preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity...”;

AGREEING with the Joint Statements from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) and the Conservation Commons to the 8th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (Curitiba, 2006), which called on all Parties to ensure, wherever possible, open access to biodiversity data from all publicly funded sources and research;

ACKNOWLEDGING that open access to, and effective use of, conservation data, information and knowledge resources by all sectors of society is essential both to enable effective decision making and to empower those concerned with the conservation of biodiversity and the natural world; and

CONSIDERING the *Principles of the Conservation Commons*, urging open access to biodiversity data and information, along with fair and responsible use of these assets;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN’s members to:
 - (a) endorse the *Principles of the Conservation Commons*; and
 - (b) ensure open access to all non-sensitive biodiversity data collected through conservation efforts and scientific research;
2. RECOMMENDS that IUCN’s members:
 - (a) take full advantage of existing global, regional or national open-access mechanisms for publishing biodiversity data (e.g. GBIF, Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN), and the Reference Centre on Environmental Information (CRIA), among many others); and
 - (b) ensure that species/specimen-level data, geospatial data, associated metadata, and information on conservation results are made available through open-access mechanisms; and
3. RECOMMENDS that a biodiversity data and information management plan, which supports open access to monitoring and research results and a long-term policy for archiving this data, accompany all new proposals for biodiversity assessments, conservation and research.

4.109 Funding programmes for small-scale civil society projects for global biodiversity conservation

CONSIDERING that poverty and the depletion of natural resources are intimately linked phenomena and that poverty reduction goes hand-in-hand with biodiversity protection, as underlined by Resolution 2.36 *Poverty reduction and conservation of environment* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

NOTING that multilateral financial institutions and development aid agencies, support and develop large-scale environmental projects, primarily at government and public administration level, funding for which is largely inaccessible to NGOs in developing countries;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that civil society in developing countries (NGOs, local authorities and small local enterprises) should play a more active role in the conservation of natural resources;

NOTING that biodiversity protection projects implemented by civil society can have significant impacts in relation to the means available for such projects and can give rise to tangible results in biodiversity-rich zones;

COMMENDING donors and development agencies (e.g. the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM), IUCN Netherlands) for having embarked on this trajectory by creating NGO-adapted funding tools with flexible procedures and grants of the order of tens of thousands of Euros per project; and

RECOGNIZING that NGOs in developing countries need to be supported and assisted to strengthen their role and influence on environmental policies in these countries;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS development agencies and public and private donors to create and develop funding programmes for small-scale nature conservation projects (between €10,000 and €100,000) in developing countries; and
2. REQUESTS the European Union, and in particular the European Commission, to implement a funding mechanism for small-scale biodiversity conservation projects in developing countries.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.110 Controlling trade in wild-caught African cranes

RECALLING Recommendation 18.39 *Taking of Wild Birds for the Pet Trade* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990), Recommendation 19.49 *International Trade in Wild Birds* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994); and Recommendation 1.69 *Inspection of Wildlife Shipments* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);

ALARMED that all four of Africa's resident crane species (Wattled Crane *Bugeranus carunculatus*, Black Crowned Crane *Balearica pavonina*, Grey Crowned Crane *Balearica regulorum* and Blue Crane *Anthropoides paradisea*) are being removed from the wild for food, traditional use, domestication and the legal and illegal trade markets;

CONCERNED that according to CITES trade statistics derived from the CITES trade database (maintained by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC), Cambridge, UK), the primary countries importing wild-caught African cranes since 2001 are China, France, Netherlands, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates;

NOTING that according to CITES trade statistics derived from the CITES trade database, the countries primarily exporting wild-caught cranes from Africa since 2001 are Sudan and Tanzania;

MINDFUL of the discrepancies in the reporting information submitted by importing and exporting countries to the CITES trade database;

AWARE that the Black Crowned Crane has declined by between 22% and 33% and the Grey Crowned Crane between 41% and 53% over a twenty-year period;

ACKNOWLEDGING that while the decline can be attributed to many factors – including habitat loss, persecution and collision with overhead power lines – illegal removal from the wild is putting greater pressure on already declining wild populations; and

CONCERNED that trade in wild-caught cranes is reaching unsustainable proportions;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. RECOMMENDS that all States:
 - (a) refuse the import of wild-caught African cranes unless absolutely necessary to fulfil the requirements of a genetically viable, legally held captive population; and
 - (b) take every measure possible to verify the legal status of imported cranes and if in doubt, refuse entry for illegally captured birds;
2. URGES all IUCN members to encourage facilities where cranes are kept in captivity to combine their

efforts in developing and maintaining viable captive populations of cranes regionally and internationally;

3. CALLS ON importing and exporting Parties to CITES to improve the accuracy of their reporting of trade data so that the UNEP WCMC can improve the accuracy of the CITES trade database to enable better analyses of the trade in cranes;
4. RECOMMENDS that Parties to CITES adopt more stringent controls over countries that do not comply with its regulations, policies and procedures; and
5. ALSO RECOMMENDS that the CITES Secretariat undertake a Significant Trade Review for all African crane species.

4.111 Conservation of Leatherback Turtles *Dermochelys coriacea* and hammerhead sharks *Sphyrna* spp. in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor

CONSIDERING that Article 119 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), *Conservation of the Living Resources of the High Seas*, urges in its section 1(b): “In determining the allowable catch and establishing other conservation measures for the living resources in the high seas, States shall take into consideration the effects on species associated with or dependent upon harvested species with a view to maintaining or restoring populations of such associated or dependent species above levels at which their reproduction may become seriously threatened”;

ALSO CONSIDERING that Article 62 of Resolution 61/105, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 8 December 2006, “Requests States and the regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to urgently implement, as appropriate, the measures recommended in the Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations”, which include the use of spatial and temporal closures of selected fisheries, in order to prevent the decline of sea turtle populations through the reduction of by-catch;

RECALLING that the Convention on Biological Diversity has recommended the establishment of a global network of Marine Protected Areas in the high seas by 2012,

including networks that could protect the migratory corridors of sea turtles;

EXPRESSING CONCERN that eight years after a study in *Nature* (2000) reported that Leatherback Turtles had experienced declines of over 90% during the past two decades, due in large part to fisheries interactions and impacts, and following a warning by prominent scientists that this population is facing imminent risk of extinction, the Pacific Leatherback has continued to decline in spite of more than a decade of protection and monitoring at nesting sites where egg harvesting and poaching have been effectively eliminated;

ALSO CONCERNED that the Scalloped Hammerhead Shark *Sphyrna lewini* has been included in the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* and classified as Endangered, and that this species is commonly caught in commercial and artisanal fisheries within the Eastern Tropical Pacific;

RECOGNIZING that 1,007 scientists from 97 countries, as well as representatives from 281 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from 62 countries, have gone as far as to urge the United Nations to call for a moratorium on pelagic long-line fishing in the Pacific;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that sea turtles and pelagic sharks migrate through the world’s oceans, making international cooperation necessary to conserve and protect them successfully;

NOTING that new information from acoustic and satellite tracking shows that the Leatherback Turtle and hammerhead sharks share migration corridors in the marine waters of certain States, between Cocos Island (Costa Rica) and the Galapagos Islands (Ecuador) and Malpelo Island (Colombia);

ALSO NOTING that Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Panama are working for the protection of the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor, which includes Marine Protected Areas, migration corridors and other critical habitats within and beyond these countries’ Exclusive Economic Zones; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Inter-American Convention for the Conservation and Protection of Sea Turtles, the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, the Convention on Migratory Species and the Secretariat of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS) have adopted measures to protect sea turtles and/or sharks and recognized the need for continued efforts by the Parties to these agreements;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS the United Nations to urge states and regional fisheries management organizations to permanently protect the Leatherback Turtle and hammerhead sharks through the control and management of the fishing effort, including through the development and application of gear-specific solutions as well as through the establishment of a network of spatial and temporal closures of those fisheries that interact with sea turtles and pelagic sharks in scientifically documented biological corridors in the Eastern Tropical Pacific and elsewhere, including areas beyond national jurisdiction during periods of high concentration of sea turtles and/or pelagic sharks;
2. CALLS ON relevant coastal states as well as states and fishing entities whose vessels operate in the Eastern Tropical Pacific to implement immediately their domestic laws and regulations, and to carry out their obligations under relevant international treaties for the protection of Leatherback Turtles and hammerhead sharks in the Eastern Tropical Pacific, including gathering information on the by-catch of sea turtles and pelagic sharks and facilitating public access to such information; and
3. CALLS ON the relevant coastal states of the Eastern Tropical Pacific to adopt and implement immediately policies in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor and elsewhere to include broad protection for the Leatherback Turtle, hammerhead sharks, and other threatened marine organisms that are critical to the marine biodiversity of the region.

4.112 An effective European Union Plan of Action for Sharks

NOTING that the European Commission is developing a European Union (EU) *Plan of Action for Sharks* pursuant to the FAO *International Plan of Action (IPOA) for the Conservation and Management of Sharks* for consideration by the European Council of Ministers in early 2009;

RECALLING that the IPOA recommends that shark plans should, *inter alia*, aim to:

- (a) ensure that shark catches from directed and non-directed fisheries are sustainable;

- (b) protect critical habitats and implement harvesting strategies consistent with the principles of biological sustainability and rational long-term economic use;
- (c) identify and provide special attention, in particular to vulnerable or threatened shark stocks;
- (d) minimize waste and discards from shark catches; and
- (e) contribute to the protection of biodiversity and ecosystem structure and function;

AWARE that Recommendation 3.116 *Shark finning* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and several UN General Assembly and CITES Resolutions call on shark-fishing nations generally to implement the IPOA;

ALARMED that roughly one-third of European shark and ray populations assessed by IUCN have been classified as Threatened with extinction from over-fishing – the highest percentage of Threatened Elasmobranch species of any assessed region to date;

DEEPLY TROUBLED that Northeast Atlantic Angel Sharks *Squatina squatina* and the Common Skate *Dipturus batis* have been fished to extinction in parts of the North Sea and yet are still not subject to EU fishing limits;

CONCERNED that scientific advice for shark-fishing limits from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) has yet to be heeded in EU regulations, even for Critically Endangered populations of Spiny Dogfish *Squalus acanthias* and Porbeagle Sharks *Lamna nasus*;

RECOGNIZING that EU fishing for Threatened Short-fin Mako *Isurus oxyrinchus* and thresher sharks *Alopias* spp. is currently unregulated;

MINDFUL of the negative ecological and socio-economic effects that can result from shark over-exploitation;

TROUBLED that the EU finning ban allows shark fins and carcasses to be landed in separate ports and includes the highest fin-to-carcass ratio in the world, thereby seriously undermining the ban's effectiveness;

CONSIDERING that the European Commission's *Shark Plan Outline* is unclear as to protection of endangered species, establishment of new limits on shark catch, and means of strengthening the EU finning ban; and

RECOGNIZING that the EU includes major shark-fishing nations, strongly influences international shark policy, contributes significantly to global trade in shark parts, and supports vessels that fish all over the world;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES the European Commission to include the following measures in its final *Plan of Action for Sharks*:
 - (a) shark and ray catch limits based upon scientific advice from ICES and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs);
 - (b) precautionary fishing limits on targeted shark fisheries, for which advice is not available;
 - (c) prohibitions on fishing, retention and landing of North East Atlantic Angel Sharks, Common Skate and other species classified by IUCN as Endangered or Critically Endangered; and
 - (d) an enforceable ban on shark finning in line with relevant IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations; and
2. CALLS ON Fisheries Ministers of all EU Member States to promptly endorse and ensure implementation of the above elements and of the final *European Union Plan of Action for Sharks*.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.113 Conserving migratory and oceanic sharks

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);

AWARE OF 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;

CONCERNED that the majority of wide-ranging oceanic pelagic sharks are taken in target and by-catch fisheries, that a large proportion of all migratory sharks are now included on the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*, and that FAO has identified more than 50% of the highly migratory, oceanic sharks as overexploited or depleted, but that oceanic and migratory shark fisheries remain largely unregulated;

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 progress with the implementation of the IPOA–Sharks during the decade since its adoption is regularly described as disappointing COFI, the UN General Assembly (UNGA) and CITES, and that none of the Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs) have yet developed shark plans;

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;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that CMS Parties are required to take action to conserve, protect and manage migratory species, and should endeavour to conclude instruments to promote the conservation and management of migratory species; and

NOTING that states have started a process for the negotiation of an international instrument for migratory sharks within the framework of the CMS and that this instrument will be open to accession by all range states of the species concerned;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. ENTREATS all states that are Party to RFMOs to ensure prompt RFMO and national management of shark-fishing activities and, in particular, the adoption of science-based and/or precautionary limits on catches of trans-zone, straddling, migratory and oceanic sharks in order to prevent overexploitation and IUU fishing of sharks in the fisheries and waters within their remit;
2. URGES all shark range states, fishing states, and other entities to develop shark plans, in accordance with the FAO Technical Guidelines for the implementation of the IPOA-Sharks, 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;
3. URGES all states and entities to improve the conservation and management status of migratory sharks in their waters and internationally, and to participate in the development and implementation of an effective migratory sharks instrument under CMS;
4. URGES all Parties to CMS to support, where appropriate, the addition of shark species to the relevant appendices of CMS; and
5. ENCOURAGES Parties to CMS and RFMOs to support policies that enhance the protection, conservation and management of sharks and ensure that their fisheries and wildlife management authorities coordinate closely on these matters.

4.114 Global policy against shark finning

AWARE that shark finning (removal and retention of the fins and the discard at sea of the carcass) causes the death of millions of sharks each year, threatens many shark populations and potentially the very survival of species considered 'Vulnerable', 'Endangered' or 'Critically Endangered', threatening not only traditional sustainable fisheries but also recreational fisheries of socio-economic importance;

RECALLING that Recommendation 3.116 *Shark Finning* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), urged States with fisheries that capture sharks, whether in directed fishing activities or as accidental by-catch in other fisheries, to require that sharks be landed only with their fins naturally attached to their bodies, or alternately, that the weight of the fins retained on-board vessels must never exceed 5% of the weight of the carcasses (without heads or guts), and to take measures to ensure compliance with the 5% ratio through certification, monitoring by an observer, and other appropriate measures when the landing of fins separate from carcasses is allowed;

RECOGNIZING that in practice there is debate over the correct ratio that should be used between the weight of the fins and the weight of the carcass in order to be effective in preventing finning, and in addition that this system can be impractical, particularly when limited human resources are charged with monitoring the landings from industrial vessels with capacities of several-hundred tons, and that this hinders the collection of catch data for individual species;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that the most straightforward way to implement a finning ban is to require that sharks be landed with their fins naturally attached to their bodies, which can be done in a way that does not compromise storage, and which would avoid debates about the correct ratio between the weight of the fins and the weight of the carcass, save the inspectors' time when they verify compliance with the regulations, and provide optimal conditions for the collection of accurate catch data by species;

AWARE that Article 12 of Resolution 62/177 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly during its 62nd Session, "*Calls upon* States to take immediate and concerted action to improve the implementation of and compliance with existing regional fisheries management

organizations or arrangements and national measures that regulate shark-fisheries, in particular those measures which prohibit or restrict fisheries conducted solely for the purpose of harvesting shark fins, and where necessary, to consider taking other measures, as appropriate, such as requiring that all sharks be landed with each fin naturally attached”;

ALSO AWARE that many States have strengthened or are in the process of developing Plans of Action for Sharks and strengthening legislation to prevent shark finning, and that new fisheries management measures often require pilot studies and a phase-in period in order to be implemented effectively; and

ALARMED that recent global information on the trade and landing of shark fins indicates that finning is widely practiced, to a great extent without management or regulation, and that due to the biological characteristics of sharks, this results in unsustainable levels of mortality, requiring immediate action;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON those States with fisheries that capture sharks, whether in directed fishery activities or as accidental by-catch of other fisheries, to require at the point of first landing that sharks be landed only if their fins are naturally attached to their bodies, though allowing for partial detachment of fins to permit efficient storage and species identification;
2. CALLS ON those States that are members of Regional Fisheries Management Organizations to take the necessary diplomatic actions to improve and implement effectively existing shark-related measures including the prohibition, within the scope of the corresponding jurisdiction, of onboard transportation of fins separate from shark carcasses unless a certificate is issued at the point of first landing to confirm that the fins were naturally attached to the bodies, and
3. RECOMMENDS that States evaluate the effectiveness of their control and capacity systems to ensure compliance with these measures, drawing on the experience and resources of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the RFMOs, other States, and the Shark Specialist Group of the IUCN Species Survival Commission.

State members Australia, Japan and Spain indicated that they would abstain in the vote on this motion.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion. The US Department of State provided the following statement for the record:

“The United States supports strong and effective efforts to conserve and manage shark populations, including through bans on the wasteful practice of shark finning. We support the broad goals of this motion. Domestically, the United States does require that sharks be landed with their fins naturally attached in our Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Fisheries, and we plan to consider whether such a requirement is appropriate for our Pacific fisheries as well. Consistent with the direction provided by the 2007 United Nations General Assembly Sustainable Fisheries Resolution (62/177), we urge governments to take immediate action to improve compliance with shark finning bans, including, where necessary, to consider requiring that sharks be landed with fins naturally attached.”

4.115 Non-lethal utilization of whales

BEARING IN MIND that under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) all species of baleen whales and the Sperm Whale *Physeter macrocephalus* are included in Appendix I (threatened with extinction), except the West Greenland population of Minke Whales *Balaenoptera acutorostrata*, which is listed on Appendix II;

RECALLING that, pursuant to Article 65 of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), States have the right and the duty to ensure conservation, management and study of cetacean species;

EMPHASIZING that marine areas protected on the basis of population studies, habitat use and cetacean home ranges may benefit marine ecosystems;

NOTING that whale-watching tourism provides economic and social benefits to many more communities and countries than commercial whaling, and that currently more than 500 coastal communities worldwide benefit directly from this activity, which attracts 10 million visitors and generates more than US\$ 1 billion of direct income per annum;

RECALLING resolution 2007-3 *Resolution on the non-lethal use of cetaceans* adopted by the International Whaling

Commission (IWC) at its 59th annual meeting (Anchorage, 2007), in which the Commission *inter alia* recognized the valuable benefits that can be derived from the non-lethal uses of cetaceans as a resource, in terms of both socio-economic and scientific development, and recognized non-lethal use as a legitimate management strategy;

FURTHER NOTING that in a number of countries where whaling is also conducted, including *inter alia* Norway, Iceland and Japan, whale watching is a multi-million dollar industry; and

RECOGNIZING that the IWC allows for aboriginal subsistence whaling quotas provided that conditions set by the IWC are met;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. AFFIRMS that non-lethal utilization of cetaceans can provide valuable benefits in terms of socio-economic development;
2. CALLS ON governments and IUCN members to strengthen cetacean management and conservation strategies, and as appropriate consider *inter alia* extending or designating marine protected areas and sanctuaries; and
3. URGES IUCN members and Commissions and other relevant organizations including the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) to promote whale-watching tourism, which, when carried out in a responsible and sustainable manner, can contribute to the conservation of whales while providing economic and livelihood benefits for coastal communities.

The Pew Charitable Trusts placed on record thanks to all participants in the two contact group sessions that had dealt with this motion, expressing particular gratitude for the very constructive contributions of both the Japanese and Norwegian Government delegations.

4.116 Fisheries management by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)

RECOGNIZING recent scientific investigations and reports documenting previously undiscovered species, great

species diversity, and very high endemism rates in some deep-sea ecosystems;

AWARE that destructive fishing practices and illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing constitute the most serious and immediate threats to vulnerable marine ecosystems, including seamounts and cold water corals;

RECALLING Recommendation 3.099 *The protection of seamounts, deep-sea corals and other vulnerable deep-sea habitats from destructive fishing practices, including bottom trawling, on the high seas* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which called on RFMOs with competence to regulate bottom fisheries and the impacts of fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems to adopt an interim prohibition on high-seas bottom-trawling, until such time as a legally binding regime is developed and adopted to conserve and protect high-seas biodiversity;

WELCOMING Resolution 61/105 on *Sustainable fisheries* adopted by the 61st Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), which, in Part X, Articles 80–86, calls on states individually and through RFMOs or similar arrangements to regulate bottom fisheries in accordance with the precautionary approach and ecosystem approaches and to adopt and implement conservation and management measures to prevent significant adverse impacts on vulnerable marine ecosystems;

TAKING NOTE that the deadline set by the UNGA for the adoption and implementation of such conservation and management measures for RFMOs and states is 31 December 2008;

FURTHER NOTING that the UN Secretary General is requested to report to the General Assembly on actions taken by states and RFMOs at the 64th Session of the UNGA and to conduct a review in 2009 of such actions with a view to further recommendations as necessary;

WELCOMING the elaboration and adoption by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of *International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas* and the measures for protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems and the biodiversity these *Guidelines* contain;

WELCOMING the initiation of negotiations to establish RFMOs in the South Pacific and Northwest Pacific, and further welcoming the adoption of interim conservation measures by the South Pacific and Northwest Pacific RFMOs still under negotiation;

ALSO WELCOMING the adoption by some existing RFMOs of measures to implement UNGA Resolution 61/105;

FURTHER WELCOMING the scientific research being carried out to identify vulnerable marine ecosystems so that they may be properly protected, including through the creation of Marine Protected Areas;

TAKING NOTE of the ongoing negotiations under the auspices of FAO of a legally binding instrument on Port State measures to combat IUU fishing; and

NOTING THAT the deadline of 31 December 2008 is quickly approaching and that there has not yet been full implementation of paragraphs 80–86 of UNGA Resolution 61/105 in areas where new agreements are under negotiation, or where such agreements have not yet entered into force, or in respect of some existing RFMOs;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON states, individually and as members of RFMOs and arrangements, as well as in their participation in negotiations to establish RFMOs with the competence to regulate bottom fisheries, to adopt and more fully and effectively implement measures set forth in Articles 80–86 of UNGA Resolution 61/105 as a matter of priority, but no later than 31 December 2008;
2. CALLS ON states to develop and implement, individually and through FAO and RFMOs, effective port and market measures to enable the tracking of fish caught in compliance with interim measures or with applicable conservation and management measures of RFMOs fully reflecting the requirements of UNGA Resolution 61/105 Articles 83–86; and
3. CALLS ON states, through the UNGA at its 64th Session, to consider in the negotiation of the Resolution on sustainable fisheries a call for an immediate suspension of the capture of and trade in deep-sea bottom fish that are not caught in compliance with interim measures or conservation and management measures fully reflecting the requirements of UNGA resolution 61/105 Articles 83–86.

4.117 Flag State responsibility regarding Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing

NOTING that while the freedom to fish on the high seas is not unconditional, there is a concomitant duty to cooperate in order to ensure the conservation and the sustainable management of the high-seas fishing resources;

FURTHER NOTING that the duty to cooperate is, *inter alia*, incumbent upon the Flag State of vessels operating on the high seas;

AWARE that for the Flag State, this obligation implies an effective and consistent control of the vessels to which the State grants its flag in order to conduct fishing activities on the high seas; and

ALSO AWARE that certain Flag States fail to deliver on their duties, that in some cases States may have sufficient capacity to exercise diligent control over their vessels but lack the political will to do so, while in other cases, States lack the capacity and the will to develop such control;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. ENCOURAGES states to:
 - (a) cooperate in the work underway to define criteria allowing an evaluation of the degree to which Flag States meet their obligations, as requested by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Committee on Fisheries at its 27th session in 2007 and supported by the UN General Assembly in its Resolution 62/177;
 - (b) consider actions that could be taken in cases where States clearly and consistently fail to fulfil their obligation to exercise effective control over vessels flying their flags and where it can consequently be determined that there is no genuine link between the State and such vessels;
 - (c) enhance their efforts to exchange information relating to fishing activities on the high seas (including, *inter alia*, catches, landings, trans-shipments) through the FAO, the various Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), and the organizations in charge of monitoring, control and surveillance, in order to improve the fight against

Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing carried out, in particular, by vessels using flags of convenience and flags of non-compliance; and

- (d) make publicly available, in accordance with national and international law, assessments of vessels flying their flags, including *inter alia* in response to the requirements of sub-paragraphs 1(a) to 1(c) above;
2. SUPPORTS work underway to clarify actions that could be taken against vessels and Flag States that do not satisfy these criteria whether in the framework of RFMOs or under other international fisheries instruments or agreements;
3. URGES states to develop and adopt, individually or collectively through FAO and RFMOs, effective Port State measures directed at vessels flying the flags of states that do not fulfil the criteria as defined and banning access to markets for the fishing products caught and/or transported by these vessels;
4. ENCOURAGES states, without prejudice to the primary responsibility of Flag States, to adopt measures against their nationals engaged in or supporting IUU fishing, including beneficial owners; and
5. INVITES states, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions specialized in development aid, to provide assistance for capacity building and increased technical assistance for developing countries, so that they can set up effective mechanisms to ensure that their flagged vessels are duly authorized to fish, that appropriate databases are established to collect and process data pertaining to their activities and that other management obligations are duly implemented in respect of such vessels.

4.118 Antarctica and the Southern Ocean

RECALLING Resolution 16.9 *Antarctica (II)* adopted by the 16th IUCN General Assembly (Madrid, 1984), Resolution 18.74 *The Antarctic Conservation Strategy* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990), Recommendation 19.95 *Improved Protection for Wildlife in Sub-antarctic Island Ecosystems* and Resolution 19.96 *Antarctica and the Southern Ocean* adopted by the 19th IUCN General

Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994), Resolution 2.54 *Antarctica and the Southern Ocean* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000), and Resolution 3.036 *Antarctica and the Southern Ocean* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok 2004);

ALSO RECALLING the recommendations endorsed by marine theme participants at the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) calling for the establishment and effective management by 2008 of at least five scientifically and globally representative high seas marine protected areas, and for relevant organizations to “... by 2012, devote urgent attention to creating and expanding marine protected area networks, including the marine biodiversity and ecosystem processes in the world oceans that lie beyond national jurisdiction, including Antarctica...”, with the Ross Sea highlighted as a priority for protection as the largest relatively intact marine ecosystem remaining on Earth;

NOTING the progress made in defining broad-scale bioregions of the Southern Ocean and classifying Environmental Domains for the terrestrial environment, which together provide a ‘systematic environmental-geographic framework’ upon which a representative system of protected areas may be developed;

ACKNOWLEDGING that Annex V to the *Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty* (the Madrid Protocol) allows for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPAs) and Antarctic Specially Managed Areas (ASMAs) to be established in both terrestrial and marine environments;

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the emerging impacts on Antarctic ecosystems from global climate change;

CONCERNED about the potential for cumulative impacts on wilderness and scientific values of the Antarctic should the numbers of tourists coming to the Antarctic continue to rapidly grow, along with the sizes of tourism vessels, without effective and legally binding regulations covering the tourism industry being in place;

GREATLY CONCERNED by the rapidly increasing interest in the Antarctic Krill *Euphausia superba* fishery, which operates in complete overlap with the foraging ranges of land-based krill-dependent predators such as penguins and seals, and targets the keystone species of the Antarctic marine foodweb, vital for the recovery of Blue Whale *Balaenoptera musculus*, Fin Whale *B. physalus*,

Sei Whale *B. borealis* and Humpback Whale *Megaptera novaeangliae*, and in the absence of a fully operational adaptive management system of this fishery at a small scale that takes into account the needs of predators and the uncertainties posed by climate change, while welcoming the progress being made by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) to develop such a management system, and looking forward to its completion as soon as possible;

WELCOMING the progress made in recent years in reducing Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing in Antarctic waters;

CONCERNED however by the continued IUU fishing for certain fish species, especially toothfish *Dissostichus* spp. in high-seas areas within the competence of CCAMLR, and CCAMLR's inability to eliminate this threat;

WORRIED by the continuing deaths of seabirds in large numbers from long-line fishing operations, an activity that constitutes a serious threat to albatross (Diomedidae) and petrel (Procellariidae) populations that breed in the Southern Ocean, with many albatross and petrel species listed as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable;

NOTING the increasing numbers of vessels using the Southern Ocean and the absence of an integrated approach to setting appropriate ice-classification standards for those vessels, regulating discharges of waste water, or controlling the types of fuels used by the vessels;

CONCERNED by the absence of a management plan for the Southern Ocean whale sanctuary;

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 area of application of CCAMLR;

CONCERNED about the plans of the Russian Federation to penetrate Lake Vostok in the 2008–2009 Antarctic research season using a borehole filled with kerosene and other drilling-related materials and technology not best suited to protecting the integrity of the Lake;

FURTHER CONCERNED at the slow pace of Parties to the Madrid Protocol in ratifying and bringing into force Annex VI on liability and emergency response action;

NOTING that states do not currently give advance notice of fishing and whaling vessels in accordance with Article VII (5) of the Antarctic Treaty and that environmental assessments according to Article 8 of the Madrid Protocol are not carried out;

FURTHER NOTING that the presence in the Southern Ocean of refuelling vessels emphasizes the need for prior environmental assessments to be carried out for all vessels operating in Antarctic waters;

OBSERVING therefore that conditions have changed since the Final Act of the XI Antarctic Treaty Special Consultative Meeting (ATSCM) in 1991 whereby fishing and whaling vessels were said to be not included in activities referred to in Article 8 of the Madrid Protocol; and

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

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES all Parties to the Antarctic Treaty, the Madrid Protocol on Environmental Protection and CCAMLR to take the steps necessary to:
 - (a) develop a comprehensive and representative network of protected areas pursuant to Annex V of the Madrid Protocol by 2012, including consideration of declaring the Ross Sea an Antarctic Specially Protected Area;
 - (b) prevent introduction of alien species to Antarctic environments, including through ships, personnel and cargoes;
 - (c) assess the framework within which legal and environmental issues surrounding bioprospecting are considered and review the merits of better monitoring;
 - (d) ratify existing shipping instruments negotiated under the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and ensure full implementation of such instruments, and for flag and port states to increase their inspections and controls over vessels operating in the Antarctic region in order to ensure

strict compliance with the highest safety and environmental standards; and

- (e) ensure full implementation of Annex VI to the Madrid Protocol, by all parties for which the Annex is effective, to cover all vessels operating in the Southern Ocean;

2. URGES all Parties to the Madrid Protocol to:

- (a) explore the feasibility of more active management of Antarctic tourism with legally binding and enforceable rules;
- (b) ratify Annex VI to the Protocol by 2010 to bring into force this important instrument on liability for harm to the environment;
- (c) consider providing protected status to Lake Vostok and other important sub-glacial lakes, and ensure that if any penetrations of these lakes are attempted, they will be done only with the most sophisticated and protective technologies in order to minimize harm to these pristine, ancient lakes; and
- (d) provide advance notice of and require environmental assessments for all vessels intending to voyage to and operate in the Antarctic Treaty Area;

3. URGES all Parties to CCAMLR to:

- (a) maintain a highly precautionary approach to the development of all fisheries in the CCAMLR Area, as mandated by CCAMLR principles, so as to ensure that the expansion of fisheries around Antarctica, including new and exploratory fisheries, does not occur at a faster rate than the capacity to manage these fisheries based on the best scientific information, including the timely acquisition of adequate data;
- (b) complete as a matter of priority the development of a highly precautionary, adaptive management system for the Antarctic Krill fishery, including Small Scale Management Units that minimize competition between the fishery and krill predators at the local level, takes account of foraging needs of all krill-dependent species including recovering populations of baleen whales, as well as the uncertainties caused by climate change and the absence of the necessary data; and

- (c) as a matter of priority, take the necessary measures to stop IUU fishing in the oceans around Antarctica, including the use of trade-related measures (consistent with the WTO) to be agreed by CCAMLR against Flag States that support IUU fishing and other enforcement tools as necessary to effectively prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing in the near future;

- 4. CALLS ON all range states to accede to the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP), especially those breeding range states that have not yet ratified it;

- 5. ENCOURAGES all existing Parties to implement the Agreement effectively;

- 6. URGES those nations whose vessels undertake long-line fishing within the foraging ranges of albatross and petrels to require the adoption of best-practice seabird by-catch mitigation measures, such as line weighting and night setting in their fisheries, to promote the adoption of such measures by relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) and to implement National Plans of Action for Reducing Incidental Catch of Seabirds in Long-line Fisheries (NPOA-Seabirds) as part of the International Plan of Action (IPOA-Seabirds) adopted by the Committee on Fisheries of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 1999;

- 7. CALLS ON the IWC to develop a Management Plan for the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary, and urges all member states of the UN to fully respect the integrity of the Sanctuary; and

- 8. CALLS ON the IMO and Parties to the Antarctic Treaty System's instruments, especially the Madrid Protocol and CCAMLR, to collaborate to:

- (a) take the necessary steps to set appropriate ice-classification standards for vessels operating in the Antarctic;

- (b) consider a ban on the carriage and use of heavy fuel oil;

- (c) strengthen regulation of sewage and grey-water discharge;

- (d) take steps to prevent entry of alien species through various pathways, including ballast water and biofouling; and

- (e) enforce the prohibition on the dumping of garbage into the Southern Ocean.

The State member Japan provided the following statement for the record:

As was pointed out at the plenary when this Motion was tabled for the first time, this Motion contains several errors, false and misleading information and unnecessary descriptions, and therefore it was recommended that the Motion be withdrawn.

Although one of the sponsors mentioned about the distribution of an amended text, the amended text has not been distributed until this morning. Furthermore, although you mentioned an organized contact group, different from other Motions, a contact group was not clearly called in order for members to correct those errors and remove inappropriate descriptions for rectifying the situation.

Taking into account the considerable difficulties in properly addressing this important issue at this late stage, I would sincerely request through you Chair to sponsors to seriously examine a withdrawal of the Motion.

The State member Norway indicated that it would vote against this motion for the same reasons as given by Japan.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

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 protected areas, which are of extreme importance for biodiversity conservation;

RECALLING the theme Benefits Beyond Boundaries of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress, Durban, 2003;

UNDERSTANDING that the term 'Beyond Boundaries' refers to environments beyond protected area boundaries where environmental conservation is also practiced;

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 2.37 *Support for environmental defenders* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) called on 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;

CONVINCED that managers of protected areas who bring ecosystem threats to the attention of the public and national and international authorities should not suffer retaliatory actions directed against them personally or against their means of operation;

CONCERNED that rangers in protected areas worldwide provide frontline protection and consequently face a variety of serious risks including being threatened, physically assaulted or killed in performing their duties and that such risks are increasing at an alarming rate;

AWARE that rangers are susceptible to violence for many reasons and from many quarters, stemming from criminally motivated poaching and commercial exploitation of resources that rangers defend in the course of their duties in protected areas and beyond boundaries, as components of the world's biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage;

ALSO AWARE that rangers work in remote locations, alone or in small patrol groups, with limited or poor communications, and limited availability of support and back-up;

NOTING that in Africa and many other parts of the world, rangers work in the face of, and sometimes in the midst of, military conflicts and warfare and face armed poachers, rebels and militia in these circumstances;

GREATLY VALUING the recognition, through the Packer Award presentation made at the Vth IUCN World Park Congress in Durban, 2003, of rangers who have given their lives as supreme sacrifice for protection of the areas in which they worked;

ACKNOWLEDGING the fact that without protection by rangers the continued protected area status of many sites would become seriously compromised leading to loss of biodiversity;

ACKNOWLEDGING FURTHER that the preparedness of rangers in protected areas worldwide can be improved, and many of the threats facing rangers prevented, reduced

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

SERIOUSLY CONCERNED about the continuing threats to rangers and the inadequate support of their critically important role and function in protection of the integrity of protected areas and biodiversity protection beyond protected area boundaries;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's members to take the necessary actions to ensure adequate protection of rangers who are defending the integrity of protected environments worldwide; and
2. CALLS ON IUCN's members, and interested stakeholders, including civil society, local and international NGOs, and foundations to support an initiative to 'Protect the Protectors of protected areas' worldwide, by:

(a) adopting and promoting:

- (i) adequate legal frameworks, formal legislation and operational capability (including regulations, policies, standards and operational plans) to enable rangers to perform their protection duties in safety;
- (ii) enforcement or enactment of legislation specifically providing for protection of rangers and enabling vigorous pursuit and prosecution of those contravening such legislation;
- (iii) threat assessments to enable swift development and implementation of appropriate types and levels of protection for rangers; and
- (iv) policies to ensure that personal protection equipment that is serviceable and commensurate with the level of the risk that may be encountered by rangers is provided to them; and

(b) ensuring that:

- (i) rangers' functions, including operational facilities and equipment, are adequately and appropriately funded; and

- (ii) rangers are afforded organizational leadership, support, funding, training and equipment, and appropriate remuneration to enable the professional execution of their protective functions.

4.120 Protected areas and biological diversity management programmes: steps towards ensuring effective management

OBSERVING that the adoption of Resolution 3.047 *Durban Action Plan and CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas* by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) decided that the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was "... a programmatic priority for all relevant IUCN component programmes, including at national and regional levels";

CONCERNED with the effectiveness of protected areas and biological diversity management globally;

NOTING that international conventions and agreements require that protected areas assess and report on management effectiveness;

FURTHER NOTING that many important biological diversity conservation and management programmes, such as those dealing with invasive alien species control and wetland rehabilitation, are often conducted outside or partially outside of formally protected areas; and

RECOGNIZING that:

- (a) appropriate and objective management effectiveness assessments and reporting are absent from many protected areas and important biological diversity conservation programmes;
- (b) management effectiveness assessments and reporting as required in Goal 4.2 of the *CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas*, are not sufficient on their own to ensure effective management; and
- (c) appropriate management systems that ensure continual improvement, and which include management effectiveness assessments as key components of the management system, would meaningfully assist in

improving the effectiveness of protected areas management as further required in the above-mentioned Goal 4.2;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

ENCOURAGES IUCN's members, governments, civil society, and local and international NGOs and foundations to provide support for initiatives towards ensuring effective management by:

- (a) allocating adequate resources to institute appropriate protected area and biological diversity conservation programme management systems and appropriate management-effectiveness assessments in support of international conventions and national conservation legislation;
- (b) working with IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) to develop an appropriate set of indicators and standards against which such systems and assessments will be evaluated, to provide third parties with the ability to assess and report on progress accordingly; and
- (c) complying with Goal 1.4 of the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*, to "Ensure that protected areas are effectively managed or supervised through staff that are well trained and skilled, properly and appropriately equipped, and supported, to carry out their fundamental role in the management and conservation of protected areas".

4.121 Increasing the pace and scale of conservation in the Mediterranean Biome

RECOGNIZING that Mediterranean-type ecosystems worldwide – in the Mediterranean Basin, southern South Africa, south and southwestern Australia, southwestern United States (California) and northwestern Mexico (Baja California), and northern and central Chile – have reached a state of crisis, with a ratio of more than eight times the area of converted natural habitat to that under protection, making Mediterranean-type habitats one of the most converted and least protected natural systems on Earth;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that Mediterranean ecosystems worldwide possess extremely high endemism

and diversity of species, harbouring greater than 20% of the Earth's plant species in less than 2% of its surface area forming global biological hotspots wherever they occur, as noted in Recommendation 3.102 *Conservation of Mediterranean-type ecosystems* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

ALSO RECOGNIZING that the value of natural Mediterranean ecosystems remains poorly recognized by key stakeholders in each region where they occur and that significant efforts are needed to assess, understand and raise awareness of the values of these habitats;

NOTING that the world's conservation leaders have gathered in the Mediterranean Basin, the largest single Mediterranean ecosystem in the world, for the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

CALLING ATTENTION TO the global Mediterranean biome assessment conducted by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and partners and its urgent and tragic results which show the degree of threat and lack of protection of Mediterranean communities worldwide, in particular in the Mediterranean Basin and Chile;

RECOGNIZING that ecologically well-managed Mediterranean systems nurture prominent cultures, societies and economies, and provide valuable services locally, nationally, regionally and globally including, among others:

- (a) agricultural crops that sustain local communities and support globally desired high-value products such as wine;
- (b) tourism of all types, including nature-based tourism;
- (c) desirable places to live and work;
- (d) water for human consumption, energy and agriculture in arid lands; and
- (e) native plant products that are staples in households worldwide;

CALLING attention to the dramatic negative human influences that affect, to varying degrees, each of these systems worldwide, including but not limited to:

- (a) infrastructure development;
- (b) urbanization and unplanned growth;

- (c) introduction and spread of invasive species;
- (d) environmentally damaging tourism practices;
- (e) incompatible fire management; and
- (f) incompatible water management, including impacts on water quality, quantity and flows;

NOTING the disproportionate impact of climate change on the plants, animals, human societies and ecosystem functions of Mediterranean systems worldwide;

RECOGNIZING that a significant and urgent increase in the pace and scale of conservation in Mediterranean regions needs to be achieved by shifting social attitudes and behaviours of natural resource management; and

CONCERNED that these commitments have failed to address adequately the rapid conversion of Mediterranean ecosystems, and that, despite the crisis status of Mediterranean ecosystems, the conservation movement has done little to advance the pace and scale of Mediterranean conservation worldwide, such that today only 5% of Mediterranean habitat worldwide is under protection;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON leaders of states that harbour Mediterranean ecosystems to produce policies, targets and support mechanisms that encourage increased protection and management, and to slow conversion of Mediterranean ecosystems;
2. CALLS ON civil society and non-governmental organizations to support these endeavours to increase protection and slow conversion of Mediterranean ecosystems;
3. REQUESTS managers of Mediterranean lands and waters to approach biodiversity management and conservation in the context of larger landscapes, where varied degrees, governance and purposes of protection combine with biodiversity-sustaining land- and water-use practices (such as agriculture and energy production) to create 'living landscapes' where biodiversity and ecosystem function needs are fully met and integrated with human livelihoods;
4. RECOMMENDS that IUCN's members take the following immediate actions between the 4th and 5th Sessions of the IUCN World Conservation Congress:

- (a) identify capacity and information bottlenecks that challenge Mediterranean ecosystem conservation in each region of their world distribution;
 - (b) work together to overcome these bottlenecks through establishment and support of, and participation in, a Global Mediterranean Action Network, which supports collaboration, sharing of knowledge, and bridging of capacities for this under-addressed and at-risk habitat type;
 - (c) set targets for expanded networks of public and private protected areas integrated into surrounding working landscapes in order to reduce the crisis facing Mediterranean systems; and
 - (d) encourage the adoption of the use of different protected area categories and management designations within broader managed landscapes based on biological and social needs;
5. CALLS FOR a renewed commitment by civil society and Mediterranean biome states to work with natural resource industries in Mediterranean regions, particularly agriculture, and by municipalities to develop long-term sustainable practices that advance conservation-compatible land and water management and that encourage set-asides and private lands conservation to protect remaining priority Mediterranean habitat;
 6. RECOMMENDS the establishment of a working group involving government leaders of Mediterranean biome states to facilitate cooperation and collaboration to champion protection and sustainable management of the biome;
 7. URGES governments to heighten and prioritize their application of and adherence to existing policy frameworks for biological diversity conservation within their Mediterranean ecosystems, including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Barcelona Convention and the European Union's Natura 2000 Network; and
 8. REQUESTS governmental and non-governmental leaders in Mediterranean conservation to report back to IUCN members at the 5th Session of the World Conservation Congress on progress made globally and regionally in the above themes, to take stock, and to determine further steps necessary for ensuring effective conservation of Mediterranean ecosystems worldwide.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.122 World Heritage nomination for Ningaloo Reef

RECOGNIZING the outstanding natural and ecological values of Ningaloo Reef and North West Cape, found on the most north-western part of the Australian continent, including its internationally significant reef ecosystems, unique marine and land-based fossil deposits and karst system and highly distinctive flora and fauna;

NOTING the commitment of the Commonwealth Government of Australia and the State Government of Western Australia to propose nomination of Ningaloo Marine Park and North West Cape for World Heritage Listing;

FURTHER NOTING that a Western Australia Government Community Consultative Committee reviewed the scientific and technical information about the area in relation to World Heritage criteria, undertook an extensive consultation with the major stakeholders and recommended to the Government a suitable boundary for the proposed World Heritage property;

RECALLING IUCN's strong commitment to the conservation of marine species and habitat, as reflected in Resolution 2.20 *Conservation of marine biodiversity* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

FURTHER RECALLING the outcome of the Vth IUCN World Park Congress (Durban, 2003) concerning the importance of a global system of protected areas linked to the surrounding landscapes and seascapes and Resolution 3.065 *A landscape/seascape approach to conservation* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) which identified the need to develop approaches to maximize a landscape/seascape approach to conservation;

NOTING that, in addition to the fundamental criterion for World Heritage Listing that a place should be "... of outstanding universal value", a nomination under any natural heritage criterion must meet conditions of integrity, and to do so a nominated area should be an adequate size

to ensure the complete representation of the features and processes which convey the property's significance, and be free from adverse effects of development and/or neglect; and

FURTHER NOTING that the adoption of this decision by IUCN's members will not compromise the IUCN Secretariat's advisory role to provide independent technical evaluation of nominated sites for World Heritage Listing;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

URGES the Commonwealth Government of Australia in consultation with the State Government of Western Australia to:

- (a) nominate the North West Cape and Ningaloo Reef Region for World Heritage Listing and ensure the integrity and protection required for the coastal and marine ecosystems and ecological processes in the long term; and
- (b) develop and implement a management plan for this outstanding coastal and marine region, aimed at ensuring the long-term protection and conservation of its outstanding environmental features, with the active participation of local communities.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.123 Promotion of Category V and VI Protected Areas for biodiversity conservation

CONSIDERING Recommendation 3.048 *IUCN Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) and Recommendation V.19 *IUCN Protected Area Management Categories*, endorsed by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), which were aimed at improving the use of protected area management categories at national and international levels;

RECOGNIZING the work of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Task Force on

Management Categories and of the WCPA Task Force on the Protected Landscape Category, that has borne fruit, among other documents and events, in the *IUCN Protected Areas Management Categories Summit*, held in Almería, Spain 7–11 May 2007, and the Workshop on Category V, held in Olot, Spain, 24–28 September 2006, with the support of the Catalan Department of Environment and Housing;

AWARE that there are still few countries that have classified their protected areas in accordance with the system of categories proposed by IUCN, in spite of Decision VII/28 of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which urged governments to apply and use the IUCN system;

FURTHER AWARE that protection Categories V and VI contribute significantly to the conservation of biological diversity, in terms of surface area protected, as has been demonstrated by the publications and papers of the aforementioned working groups, and contributes in particular to the conservation of agrobiodiversity and traditional knowledge; and

ALSO AWARE that in the Mediterranean Basin, and especially in the Mediterranean region of the European Union, natural areas belonging to Categories V and VI predominate, and that conservation of biodiversity in this region – characterized in its totality as maintaining a great biological richness and a wealth of endemic, rare, and in part globally threatened species, in spite of the enormous human-induced pressures they are subject to – stems from the protection of areas belonging to both categories;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. WELCOMES work that demonstrates the contribution of Categories V and VI to the conservation of biodiversity, and that encourages, through publications of case studies and methodological guides, the correct elaboration of management plans for protected areas in Categories V and VI; and
2. DECLARES that all categories of protected areas, including Categories V and VI, make a contribution to conservation within a non-hierarchical system as agreed at the Almería Summit and as reflected in the new guidelines for applying the IUCN protected areas categories.

4.124 Forest conservation in Tasmania

RECALLING Recommendation 18.70 *Wilderness and Forest Conservation in Tasmania* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990) and Recommendation 19.89 *Forest Conservation in Tasmania, Australia* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);

NOTING that IUCN is committed to the importance of maintaining the integrity of the IUCN Protected Area Categories;

NOTING that in decision 32 COM 7B.41, taken by the World Heritage Committee at its 32nd session (Quebec City, 2008), the Committee “*Reiterates its request to the State Party to consider, at its own discretion, extension of the property to include appropriate areas of tall eucalyptus forest, having regard to the advice of IUCN*”;

NOTING that IUCN’s advice to the 32nd session of the World Heritage Committee included the following: “*In the view of IUCN, it would be desirable that a moratorium on logging activity in areas of potential outstanding universal value be considered, as logging in these areas would foreclose the option of adding these areas to the property*”;

ALARMED that most of the forests in the nine areas identified in IUCN Recommendation 18.70 (Beech Creek/Counsel River, Wylds Craig, Gordon and Tiger Range, Upper Florentine, Upper Styx, Middle Weld, Middle Huon, Picton Valley and Southeast Cape) are still under threat from logging activities;

RECALLING that Recommendation 18.70 called on the Tasmanian State Government and the Government of Australia to protect all National Estate areas contiguous with the current Western Tasmanian Heritage Site and the temperate rainforests of north-west Tasmania already listed on the Register of the National Estate; and

AWARE that these areas together with the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area comprise one of the world’s greatest temperate wilderness areas and are home to rare and threatened species such as the Tasmanian Wedge-Tailed Eagle *Aquila audax*, the Spotted-Tail Quoll *Dasyurus maculatus* and the Giant Freshwater Crayfish *Astacopsis gouldi*;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

CALLS ON the Tasmanian and Australian Governments to implement urgently decision 32 COM 7B.41 of the 32nd session of the World Heritage Committee (Quebec City, 2008) in which the Committee: *“Reiterates its request to the State party to consider, at its own discretion, extension of the property to include appropriate areas of tall eucalyptus forest, having regard to the advice of IUCN”*, and recalls IUCN advice to the World Heritage Committee that: *“it would be desirable that a moratorium on logging activity in areas of potential outstanding universal value be considered, as logging in these areas would foreclose the option of adding these areas to the property”*.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.125 Protection of the peatlands of Tierra del Fuego, Argentina

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that Tierra del Fuego possesses the most southerly concentration of peatlands in the world, bringing together species, associations of species and types that do not exist in any other place, and that they have been recognized by experts of the International Mire Conservation Group (IMCG) as unique in the world due to their diversity and abundance;

CONSIDERING that peatlands fulfil fundamental functions for hydrology and in the regulation of local, regional and global climate, and constitute geochemical archives and paleoarchives, with the capacity to capture carbon and conserve it for extensive periods;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that peatlands function as paleoclimatic records of up to sixteen thousand years, evidence of the enormous importance that their conservation for scientific purposes has for the international community in the face of the extremely serious problems of global warming and climate change;

OBSERVING the broad expanse of pristine peatlands in Tierra del Fuego, their imposing landscape and the importance that the local community places on them in social, cultural, environmental and economic spheres, and that their protection is indispensable for present and future generations;

NOTING that peatlands are wetlands specifically protected by the Convention on Wetlands of International

Importance, especially as a Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar, 1971), and as such there is good reason to move ahead with their protection within the framework of other important international agreements such as those on climate change and biodiversity;

AWARE that the lack of environmental regulation of land use in the Province of Tierra del Fuego, that could establish peatland protected areas and other areas designated for the sustainable use of peatlands, prevents appropriate peatland preservation; and

CONSIDERING that a local declaration, elaborated in a participatory manner, has promoted the updating of peatland inventory, regulation, and the designation of areas for peatland conservation through a specific law, and the definition through regulations of the sustainable-use aspects of such a law;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS the Government of Argentina and national and international organizations to support the Province of Tierra del Fuego in actions aimed at protecting local peatlands;
2. URGES civil society, scientific and educational institutions, and all sectors with an interest in the protection and sustainable use of peatlands to participate actively in the environmental regulatory process for the territory and in defining guidelines that make possible their sustainable use; and
3. REQUESTS the Government of the Province of Tierra del Fuego to define environmental legislation for peatlands, which establishes specific areas for protection, and which consolidates this protection through the participatory formulation of the necessary regulations.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.126 Protection of Chilean Patagonia

RECOGNIZING that Chilean Patagonia is one of the most pristine places on the planet, with rivers that flow

freely and extensive forest areas, glaciers and fjords, among other virgin and wildlife areas;

ALSO RECOGNIZING that it is the habitat of the Patagonian Huemul *Hippocamelus bisulcus*, the heraldic animal of Chile, which is listed as ‘Endangered’ on the 2008 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, together with the Southern River Otter *Lontra provocax* and various cats and fish, among others;

THANKING the State of Chile for the recognition that it has given to this area by declaring almost 50% as under protection, and its decision to adopt the designation ‘Life Reserve’ for the Aysén region of Patagonian Chile;

TAKING NOTE moreover that within Aysén the State of Chile has declared the Area of Environmental and Cultural Conservation of Patagonia, the National Tourism Zone of Lake General Carrera, and has prioritized extensive sectors in the Regional Biodiversity Strategy;

RECOGNIZING the plans to develop large-scale hydroelectric projects, such as the one referred to as ‘HidroAysén’ of the consortium formed by the Italian/Spanish company Endesa and the Chilean company Colbún, that would mean the construction of five large dams on the Baker and Pascua Rivers;

AWARE that Chilean environmental legislation currently makes the presentation of environmental impact studies obligatory in the case of hydroelectric projects of this magnitude;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the plans of Transelec (a Canadian company), that would build a transmission line of 2,300 kilometres, to transmit electricity from Patagonia to the north, crossing a dozen protected areas, which is a threat to endemic forests and intrinsically valuable landscapes;

NOTING the launch in June 2008 of an energy study by the Universities of Chile and Federico Santamaría from which it was concluded that over 70% of the energy that Chile will require in 2025 could be provided through energy efficiency and renewable, non-conventional energy sources, without resorting to mega dams;

RECALLING Resolution 15.13 *Protection of Free Flowing Rivers From River Engineering* adopted by the 15th IUCN General Assembly (Christchurch, 1981), which noted that

“free-flowing rivers are increasingly being dammed for hydro-electric power generation... and have all but disappeared from some nations of the world”, that “concern for retaining unmodified rivers is mounting in many parts of the world because of the need to retain ecological diversity”, and which URGED States “... to protect the diversity of ecological, recreational, scenic and landscape values, only ensured by retaining the natural flow of rivers”;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 3.1 adopted by the 3rd IUCN General Assembly (Caracas, 1952), in which it is stated that hydroelectric dams can seriously alter the integrity of protected areas, and reminds governments that they are obliged to guarantee not only the safekeeping but also the inviolability of the areas that they have taken the initiative to delimit and protect; and

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 12.12 *Energy and Conservation* adopted by the 12th IUCN General Assembly (Kinshasa, 1975), which recommended that “governments... explore all means for conserving conventional energy resources” and “give full support to research, development and deployment of less conventional technologies that involve renewable... sources of energy”;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON the Government of Chile and specifically the Ministry of the Environment and its National Commission on the Environment (CONAMA), to:
 - (a) evaluate the hydroelectric dams proposed for the Baker and Pascua Rivers and the associated transmission line as a single project, in the context of an integrated watershed management plan;
 - (b) carry out an exhaustive study of all the alternative sources of energy before making a decision about the HidroAysén mega projects and transmission line;
 - (c) ensure that the HidroAysén project and the transmission lines do not affect State-protected wilderness, conservation areas and priority areas for biodiversity;
 - (d) carry out an independent technical evaluation at the highest level, utilizing international standards,

and working with the national scientific community in collaboration with appropriate international conservation organizations to require meticulous studies of all the resources and potential impacts before approving the projects; and

- (e) ensure that there is genuine citizen participation in the evaluation process;
2. URGES the Government of Chile to:
- (a) develop a comprehensive National Energy Strategy;
 - (b) develop and fully implement the promised National Hydrographic Watersheds Plan before approving any future project;
 - (c) permanently protect representative examples of the free-flowing rivers of Chile;
 - (d) consult and comply with the mechanisms established under international treaties and agreements such as the Protocol on Shared Water Resources signed with Argentina in 1991; and
 - (e) cooperate with regional and provincial governments and local communities as well as non-governmental organizations in the 'Life Reserve' of the Aysén region to support the sustainable development of the region; and
3. CALLS ON relevant and interested IUCN members to provide as much technical and scientific support as possible to Chile and especially to CONAMA to help determine the impacts of the construction of the HidroAysén project and its transmission line, and to protect Chilean Patagonia, its free-flowing rivers and other resources.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.127 Indigenous peoples' rights in the management of protected areas fully or partially in the territories of indigenous peoples

CONSIDERING the need to harmonize, broaden, strengthen and update mechanisms and legal and institutional frameworks, in order to promote a propitious context for the involvement and participation of key actors, especially local communities and indigenous peoples, in decision making and management at all levels and the fair distribution of the costs and benefits associated with the establishment and the management of protected areas;

ASSUMING that indigenous peoples living in or near protected areas have the right to participate in their management, under conditions equal to those of the rest of the actors involved in these areas; and

CONVINCED of the need to contribute to the creation of societies consciously committed to a political environment favouring the effective management of protected areas and solution of the problems and threats they face, through the strengthening of institutions, programmes and initiatives aimed at communication, awareness, interpretation and formal and informal education, as well as through the use of appropriate means and messages for specific target audiences that contribute to a better understanding, on the part of local communities, visitors to protected areas, decision makers and society, of the importance of protected areas and their contribution to sustainable development and to the future of life on our planet;

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URGES states to:

- (a) Within a framework of cooperation and taking into account national and regional characteristics, make available the means necessary for the full exercise and effective implementation of the rights recognized in the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; and
- (b) In the designated protected areas fully or partially within the territories of indigenous peoples:
 - (i) respect the rights of these peoples, ensuring the full and effective participation of their representative

organizations in making decisions on the management and protection of these areas; and

- (ii) apply Article 28.1 of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* which states: “Indigenous peoples have the right to redress, by means that can include restitution or, when this is not possible, just, fair and equitable compensation, for the lands, territories and resources which they have traditionally owned or otherwise occupied or used, and which have been confiscated, taken, occupied, used or damaged without their free, prior and informed consent.”

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

The Statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada, New Zealand and United Kingdom in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Recommendation.

4.128 Setting up networks of protected urban and periurban natural areas

CONSIDERING that over half the world’s population lives in urban areas, and that it is predicted that by 2050 over 70% of the world’s population will be concentrated in cities;

NOTING that, over the last few decades, uncontrolled urban sprawl has developed around cities, which has led to the phenomenon known as metropolization; that this has caused a loss of the land’s functionality with regard to the environment, social issues, agriculture, fauna, flora, landscapes, etc; and that this in turn has affected the city inhabitants’ quality of life and biodiversity in general;

ALSO NOTING that, despite this urban growth, there are still natural urban and periurban areas that contain a considerable level of biodiversity and others that have the potential for ecological restoration and the recovery of nature;

BEARING IN MIND that some metropolises have already undertaken active policies to conserve and enhance the natural areas in their territories, which are located on

the outskirts of cities, because they play an important role in improving the inhabitants’ quality of life and in biodiversity conservation (e.g. activities of the European Federation of Metropolitan and Periurban Natural and Rural Areas – Fedenatur, Local Governments for Sustainability – ICLEI, RED, Arco Latino, World Association of the Major Metropolises – Metropolis, etc.);

RECALLING that the inhabitants of cities have the right to enjoy the environmental, social and economic benefits provided by natural areas located on the outskirts of cities, (e.g. biodiversity, clean air, climate stabilization, pollution sink, social integration and integration of vulnerable groups, decrease in violence, access to leisure, sports, health, environmental education, drinking water, landscape, community-supported agriculture), as well as the protection these areas provide against environmental risks (e.g. floods, landslides, building collapses), as summarized in the 2004 Fedenatur report to the European Commission: *The Place of Periurban Natural Areas for a Sustainable City*;

HIGHLIGHTING the important benefits that metropolitan natural parks provide for the physical and mental health of society;

CONSIDERING that there is currently a legislative vacuum with regard to the creation, protection, management and running of these areas; and

RECALLING the work carried out by IUCN, its members and Commissions, in accordance with Recommendation V.14 *Cities and Protected Areas* of the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003) and Resolution 3.063 *Cities and conservation* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok 2004);

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URGENTLY REQUESTS the relevant administrations at all levels (municipal, supra-municipal, regional, national and supra-national) to:

- (a) integrate, enhance and conserve natural, agricultural and forestry areas, as part of the urban infrastructure, giving them the same importance as other infrastructures, and no longer to consider them merely as empty spaces or areas set aside for urbanization;
- (b) include these areas in public land-use policies, as a tool for containing urban sprawl, setting up systems

of periurban green areas (ecological belts, corridors or rings) around and inside cities;

- (c) consider that these natural, agricultural and forestry areas help create a social, environmental, economic and cultural identity for the city;
- (d) focus public land-use policies on plans for metropolitan natural areas, considering the system of natural areas as an element that structures the metropolis, and allocating the required budgets for this purpose;
- (e) adopt an overarching policy different from the metropolitan area's environmental plan, which recognizes the exemplary role played by the different types of green spaces in terms of management, enhancement, protection and experimentation;
- (f) accelerate the protection, environmental control and management of natural and rural areas located near to cities and defend and enrich the diversity of metropolitan ecosystems and landscapes, to encourage the maintenance and diversification of sustainable agriculture, considered as an important facet of the management of periurban areas, based on a mosaic of complementary environments: biological reserves, agricultural and recreational areas, corridors, etc; and
- (g) respond to the city inhabitants' needs for leisure, allowing them to access recreational activities, in natural surroundings, raising their awareness about environmental challenges and teaching them respect for the environment, promoting the participation of all stakeholders.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.129 Strengthening the integrated management of coastal areas

RECALLING the important natural heritage and ecological value of coastal areas, which provide several ecological services to human populations as highlighted by the *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment*;

RECOGNIZING the vulnerability of coastal areas, which are home to more than 60% of the global population and which are subject to several mounting pressures and increasing damage;

NOTING the close interdependence between terrestrial and marine ecosystems;

RECALLING the Ecosystem Approach recommended by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which is defined as a “strategy for the integrated management of land, water, air and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use”;

CONCERNED by the rise in the number of threats and risks to coastal areas as a consequence of climate change, which could result in, *inter alia*, rising sea levels;

ALSO CONCERNED by the continued disappearance of wetlands, which are among the most productive and most threatened ecosystems, of which the widespread destruction of mangroves is a tragic example;

RECALLING the *Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity* adopted by the 2nd Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (Jakarta, 1995) which, “encourages the integrated management of marine and coastal areas”;

HIGHLIGHTING the importance of achieving the objectives of integrated management of coastal areas as established by Chapter 17 of *Agenda 21*, aiming, *inter alia*, at the adoption of strategies for the integrated management and sustainable development of coastal areas, and the sustainable development of small island areas;

COMMENDING regional initiatives aimed at implementing a strategic and integrated approach to the management of coastal areas, such as *Recommendation 2002/413/EC of the European Parliament and Council of 30 May 2002 concerning the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management in Europe* and the adoption under the Barcelona Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean (the ‘Barcelona Convention’) of the Protocol Concerning Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean (Madrid, 21 January 2008), which is the first international treaty devoted to the integrated management of coastal areas and could serve as a model for other conventions on regional seas;

CONSIDERING that the integrated management of coastal areas is based on a dynamic process for the management and sustainable use of coastal areas, simultaneously taking into account the vulnerability of the ecosystems and coastal environment, as well as the diversity of activities and uses;

RECALLING Resolution 2.56 *Land-use policies and legal tools for coastal conservation* adopted by the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

ALSO RECALLING Recommendation V.22 *Building a Global System of Marine and Coastal Protected Area Networks* endorsed by the Vth IUCN World Parks Congress (Durban, 2003), which calls for, *inter alia*, “Integrat[ing] MPAs with other ocean, coastal, and land governance policies” as well as Recommendation V.31 *Protected Areas, Freshwater and Integrated River Basin Management Frameworks*; and

AFFIRMING the necessity of strengthening the integrated management of coastal areas and promoting a global and coherent approach to coastal and marine ecosystems;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON all coastal states and particularly Small Island States to immediately define and implement a policy for the integrated management of coastal areas which includes:
 - (a) appropriate planning tools based on an ecosystem approach, and integrating terrestrial, maritime and catchment areas;
 - (b) tools for the monitoring and evaluation of the condition of coastal environments, including procedures for the evaluation of cumulative impacts on the coastal area which take into account the carrying capacity and the fragile nature of coastal environments;
 - (c) national and local coordination between the various authorities responsible for terrestrial and maritime areas, aimed at ensuring coherence and sound articulation of the various policies, as well as the effectiveness of measures for the protection and management of coastal environments;
 - (d) governance bodies guaranteeing inclusive participation of all concerned parties in management and decision making, and especially of local collectives that are often responsible for the management of natural environments, but also of local populations with their traditional rights and management systems;
 - (e) the integration of the designation of protected areas (marine and terrestrial) in programmes for

the integrated management of coastal areas with special attention to ecosystems and coastal landscapes outside the protected areas; and

- (f) recognition and economic valuation of the services provided by coastal ecosystems;
2. ENCOURAGES development of actions aimed at regional cooperation, particularly at the level of Regional Seas through the elaboration of a plan and programmes for integrated management on bio-regional scales;
3. ENCOURAGES the European Union and its Member States to continue with their efforts to define an integrated marine policy to complement the one for the integrated management of coastal areas;
4. INVITES the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention to ratify as quickly as possible the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean so as to ensure its entry into force;
5. PROPOSES the organization of a new world conference on coastal areas in the context of the forthcoming 1st International Marine Conservation Congress (Washington, 20–24 May 2009); and
6. INVITES the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA) to make the integrated management of coastal areas a priority for action.

4.130 Strengthening the Natura 2000 Network

RECOGNIZING the intrinsic value for conservation of the Natura 2000 Network, defined in Article 3 of Council Directive 92/43/CEE of 21 May 1992 on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna (the ‘Habitats Directive’), as “a coherent European ecological network of special areas of conservation... composed of sites hosting the natural habitat types listed in Annex I [of the Directive] and habitats of the species listed in Annex II”;

RECALLING that Natura 2000 contributes to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*, which the European Union and its Member States have committed to implementing fully;

RECALLING that Article 3 of the Habitats Directive also requires the habitats listed in Annexes I and II “to be maintained, or where appropriate restored to, a favourable conservation status in their natural range”;

OBSERVING that neither the Habitats Directive nor Council Directive 79/409/CEE on the Conservation of Wild Birds (the ‘Birds Directive’) establishes any specific financial mechanism; and

TAKING into account that Article 6.3 of the Habitats Directive specifies that “Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site’s conservation objectives”;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES the Member States of the European Union and its regions to:
 - (a) expand the coverage of the Natura 2000 Network by their respective laws, making it an integral part of the overall body of rules and regulations;
 - (b) provide tools for financing these areas, endowing them also with the necessary resources for their conservation and active management; and
 - (c) promote the role of local stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations, in the management of these areas; and
2. CALLS ON the European Union and its Member States to:
 - (a) promote the provision of buffer zones for Natura 2000 Network sites, where this can complement the existing provisions of the Habitats Directive and support the integration of the Network into the wider land- and seascape;
 - (b) promote the ecological connectivity of these areas as required by article 10 of the Habitats Directive; and
 - (c) provide access to adequate financial mechanisms for sustaining the Natura 2000 Network as well

as for supporting a participatory approach for its management.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.131 Conservation of the Western Iberian Peninsula

AWARE that the area of more than 800,000 hectares that forms the Western Iberian Peninsula comprises 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 the Iberian Lynx *Lynx pardinus*, the Iberian Imperial Eagle *Aquila adalberti* and the Eurasian Black or Cinereous Vulture *Aegypius monachus*;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT 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 *dehesas* (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, with examples such as the Paradise Lily *Paradisea lusitanica*, *Delphinium ffixsum* subsp. *sordidum*, *Omphalodes brassicifolia*, and the Cross-leaved Heath *Erica tetralix*;

BEARING IN MIND the region’s importance through the 28 protected areas found within its boundaries: 26 belonging to the EU Natura 2000 Network (12 Special Protection Areas (SPAs) under the ‘Birds Directive’, with a surface area of 168,664.10 hectares, and 14 Sites of Community Importance (SCI) under the ‘Habitats Directive’, with a surface area of 184,003 hectares); and two national and autonomous protected areas, the Sierra de Malcata Natural Reserve, covering some 15,000 hectares, established for the protection of the Iberian Lynx and the Eurasian Black or Cinereous Vulture, and the Las Batuecas-Sierra de Francia Natural Park with a surface area of 32,300 hectares; and

OBSERVING the severe threats that this territory is facing, placing at risk its high biodiversity, threats such as

depopulation, abandonment of traditional resource use, uncontrolled proliferation of human infrastructure and the effects of climate change, among others;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON the Governments of Portugal and Spain, IUCN's members, and other interested parties to develop action plans that:
 - (a) promote a vision of a unified natural system irrespective of the great diversity of the protected spaces that comprise it; and
 - (b) guarantee ecological connectivity, the maintenance of biological diversity and the ecological processes typical of the area; and
2. URGES the Governments of Portugal and Spain to:
 - (a) work together with the goal of preserving this rich transboundary area;
 - (b) increase conservation efforts for the aforementioned protected areas;
 - (c) promote and support the role of the organizations working in these areas on behalf of biodiversity conservation; and
 - (d) promote the declaration of the Sierra de Gata – Dehesas de Azaba – Sierra Malcata Biosphere Reserve in the mid-mountain zone and rebollo oak forests of the Sierra de Gata.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.132 Conservation of the River Ebro

RECALLING that, with a length of 908 km, a drainage basin area of 83,093 km², and a flow rate greater than 600 m³/s near its mouth, the River Ebro is one of the most important rivers in Spain;

BEARING IN MIND that, due to the alluvial deposits of the River Ebro that have been accumulating since ancient

times, a delta has formed in the mouth of the river, and that this delta has unique features as far as its geography and geology are concerned;

OBSERVING that the Ebro Delta is one of the key areas used by many bird species during their migrations from central and northern Europe to southern Spain and Africa;

ALSO OBSERVING that the high biodiversity of the entire basin, as well as the river mouth, makes the River Ebro one of the areas of greatest environmental interest in the Iberian Peninsula;

RECOGNIZING that the Ebro Delta is currently retreating, as far as its surface area is concerned, due to water abstraction from the river for human consumption and crop irrigation, and, above all, due to the reduction in the quantity of sediment transported by the river because of reservoir construction in the Ebro basin;

AWARE that the intense human activity carried out in the Ebro basin and neighbouring territories puts increasing pressure on the river and its delta, and is becoming a threat to the maintenance of the area's essential ecological conditions;

BEARING IN MIND that the area dealt with here is a quintessential example requiring the coordinated work of all stakeholders involved in the application of the wise use concept, established by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands 37 years ago; and

OBSERVING that the wise use concept is based on the collaboration, exchange of information and the full participation of all the sectors involved: administrative and management organizations, research institutions, NGOs and local community organizations;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. REQUESTS:
 - (a) government agencies in Spain to give the highest priority to the implementation of conservation and wise use measures related to the maintenance of the essential ecological conditions and processes in the Ebro River Basin; and
 - (b) IUCN's members to recognize and support the Ebro River Basin organizations' initiatives to

promote the conservation and sustainable development of the region;

2. URGES Spanish and European administrations to avoid promoting measures (such as water transfers, abstraction and dams) that may have a negative impact on rivers, their flow and their ecological conditions;
3. ENCOURAGES all IUCN members to support the Spanish administrations in this task; and
4. REQUESTS all international organizations, including the multilateral bodies that finance development projects, to support the Spanish administrations in the implementation of policies to protect and conserve the River Ebro.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.133 World appeal to prevent the loss of Lake Chapala and Lake Cocibolca, the largest wetlands in Mesoamerica

RECALLING that wetlands are indispensable sites for the conservation of biodiversity and fundamental to the development and the flowering of cultures;

CONCERNED because the two largest wetlands of Mesoamerica, Lake Chapala in Mexico and Lake Cocibolca in Nicaragua, are threatened in their entirety by continual extraction for various purposes and by the input of various pollutants, affecting the health of the ecosystem;

EMPHASIZING the importance that these two lacustrine systems have, not only in terms of fishing and food for the various human and wildlife communities, but also because of a series of values connected with identity, biodiversity, recreation, artistic inspiration, peace and health, as well as the lakes' significance as sacred sites for indigenous peoples;

STRESSING that the loss of Lake Chapala and Lake Cocibolca signifies an irreparable loss of natural and cultural

heritage for humanity, and a crisis with unpredictable consequences for Mesoamerica;

HIGHLIGHTING the fundamental role that conservation of these wetlands can play in the development of the Mesoamerican region and the potential importance of potable water in reducing uncertainties and future risks;

CONSIDERING the role of these wetlands in the mitigation of global climate change; and

RECOGNIZING the potential and the importance of the role of IUCN in the conservation and health of ecosystems in order to maintain communities of healthy people;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES the Governments and the citizens of Mexico and Nicaragua to consider the historic importance of stopping and reversing the deterioration of Lake Chapala and Lake Cocibolca as an obligation to humanity; and
2. CALLS ON the Governments of each country, together with the municipalities within these watersheds, to lead the planning and organizing efforts in their territories and to allocate human, technical and economic resources in order to:
 - (a) relieve the pressures and slow the driving forces that are degrading their watersheds;
 - (b) reverse processes of deterioration of these water bodies, thus restoring their lost functions;
 - (c) promote the use of technologies consistent with the rationale of sustainable development and building resilience; and
 - (d) develop educational programmes aimed at fostering appreciation for this resource in its multiple aspects.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.134 Responding to deforestation and land degradation related to climate change and desertification

NOTING that forest ecosystems are considered to be the most complex ecosystems, given that they involve various types of vegetation, such as grasses, shrubs, trees, vegetal formations that provide habitat suitable for other types of organisms such as mushrooms, algae, as well as vertebrate and invertebrate animals, constituting a complex biological system established without the intervention of humans, and with a high biodiversity;

RECALLING that, on the other hand, these ecosystems offer a series of ecosystem goods and services (biological functions – such as climate regulation and soil protection, as well as cultural and recreational goods and services), which are seriously affected by the degradation and eventual loss of native forest stands;

UNDERSTANDING that forest degradation and deforestation have, among others, the following consequences: increase in erosive processes and the risk of desertification, loss of fertility, loss of forest landscape, loss of cultural and spiritual values, loss of water quality, increase in certain greenhouse gasses, loss of biological diversity, internal migration (of forest dwellers to urban centres and their environs), loss of timber and non-timber goods, and loss of the possibility to exploit wildlife sustainably;

ALSO UNDERSTANDING that forest degradation and deforestation will lead to loss of surface- and groundwater regulation, modification of interception processes, infiltration and evapotranspiration;

AWARE that land degradation is a phenomenon with consequences on a global scale, under all climate conditions, and that land productivity is the basis for all development processes;

RECOGNIZING that soil degradation negatively affects the ability to reach multiple environmental and development objectives, including the *Millennium Development Goals*, such as biodiversity preservation, mitigation of global warming and adaptation to climate change, climate regulation, provision of water with sufficient quantity and quality, mitigation of the effects of catastrophic events, provision of landscape services, as well as poverty reduction, food security and the quality of people's lives;

NOTING that it is necessary to act in a systemic and synergetic manner in implementing measures aimed at sustainable development, taking into account the mandate of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the mitigating effects of drought, emphasizing the importance of harmonizing efforts and mobilizing financial resources;

OBSERVING that adoption of an approach to slowing and reversing soil degradation is of the greatest importance;

RECOGNIZING the central role played by the introduction of sustainable land management as the most suitable way to confront the problem;

RECALLING that the concept of sustainable soil management includes the development and application of good agricultural, forestry and water resource management practices, as well as initiatives that make possible access to financial and market resources, and to social organization and empowerment, among other decisive factors; and

RECOGNIZING desertification and the effects of drought as relevant environmental themes, as well as the need to adopt synergetic approaches that link sustainable soil management with strategies flowing from the various multilateral environmental agreements;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's members to promote:
 - (a) a regional strategy that defines programmes aimed at assuring the sustained and substantial investment in sustainable land management initiatives within the framework of the UNCCD national, regional and sub-regional programmes;
 - (b) formulation of strategies aimed at assuring mitigation of the effects of drought and convergence of the UNCCD national, regional and sub-regional programmes for adapting to climate change, managing water and forest resources, given the similarity of their objectives;
 - (c) establishment by international financial institutions of programmes and budget projections aimed at sustainable land management;

- (d) coordination between the output of scientific and technological research and the demands and needs of the actors on the ground, as well as a better distribution of available information;
 - (e) identification of strategies and priorities for strengthening an emergency system for droughts and floods; and
 - (f) development of dynamic policies encouraging the sustainable development of populations in the affected zones, while guaranteeing their access to land and the improvement of their quality of life, and respecting their cultural norms;
2. ENCOURAGES IUCN's members to take urgent measures to reverse the serious situation caused by the advance of the agricultural and livestock frontier over fragile environments, when such expansion fails to take into account agronomic practices that could reconcile the need for more intensive production with the preservation of natural resources, including native forests and other natural ecosystems;
3. ENCOURAGES governments to:
- (a) establish a territorial regulatory system for sustainable resource use in degraded lands that promotes local participation and advances policies that encourage sustainable development while guaranteeing local peoples' access to land, as well as improvement in their quality of life;
 - (b) development and application of a system to promote remediation of degraded lands; and
 - (c) development of an early warning system and extreme climate-event prediction systems to forecast the probability of occurrence of climate anomalies, assuring that the information is easily comprehensible and available to policy makers; and
4. RECOMMENDS that national and regional financial institutions incorporate sustainable land management into their action priorities through establishing lines of credit for this purpose, under conditions analogous to those of other areas of socioeconomic development.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as

adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.135 Environmental impact of wind-based power production in Spanish and Portuguese mountain areas

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

CONSIDERING that IUCN has acknowledged the importance of mountain systems through Resolution 3.038 *Conservation and Sustainable Development of Mountain Regions* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), which recognized that mountains provide goods and services to half the global population, and which called for sustainable use of their resources and biological diversity;

ALSO CONSIDERING Resolution 3.039 *The Mediterranean mountain partnership* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress, which recognized that in spite of its rich biodiversity, the Mediterranean biogeographic region is among those most threatened by deforestation and other land transformation processes, although mountain areas are home to the highest concentration of biodiversity and endemic species;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that Resolution 3.039 noted that many Important Bird Areas and Important Plant Areas are located in these regions, which thus host most of the existing protected areas of the Mediterranean region, and recognized that mountain landscapes result from the interaction over millennia between environmental conditions and human cultures and identities;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2000) aimed at promoting landscape protection, management and land-use planning, as well as the organization of European cooperation in this field;

NOTING current developments by the wind power industry in Spanish and Portuguese mountain areas, which entail direct impacts and impacts from auxiliary infrastructure on

the mountain landscapes including soil erosion, and on epiphytic and animal species, including several that are included in Annex II of the European Union ‘Habitats Directive’, and Annex II of the EU ‘Birds Directive’ as well as the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*;

ASSUMING that the renewable character of wind power production does not exempt it from adequate location, feasibility and sustainability studies appropriate to the concerned geographical location; and

CALLING FOR due compliance with Articles 6 and 7 of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the EU ‘Habitats Directive’), whereby Member States shall apply appropriate management plans, specific to the sites or integrated into other development plans, and shall avoid deterioration of natural habitats and the habitats of species, as well as disturbance of the species for which the areas have been designated;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. URGES the Governments of Spain and Portugal to:

- (a) carry out environmental impact assessments for projects having an impact on national and regional boundary areas, pursuant to the Espoo Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (1991), whereby the Parties commit to take all appropriate and effective measures to prevent, reduce and control significant adverse transboundary environmental impact from proposed activities;
- (b) avoid development of wind power production in protected mountain areas, and not to authorize the establishment of related facilities within protected areas (including those in the Natura 2000 network and those considered as relevant for potentially affected endangered species at the international, national or regional levels), and for surrounding zones, evaluate alternatives and strictly apply Article 6 of the Habitats Directive;
- (c) establish exclusion zones for wind power production facilities around the aforementioned areas, since environment and species do not recognize boundaries, and the proximity of such facilities to breeding areas such as forests or rock areas may be harmful to animal populations during periods of high vulnerability; and

- (d) develop wind power plans identifying areas where wind power production is authorized or banned on the basis of environmental considerations and not only the wind resource.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.136 Biodiversity, protected areas, indigenous peoples and mining activities

RECALLING the Resolutions and Recommendations that have been adopted by Sessions of the IUCN General Assembly and World Conservation Congress:

- (a) Resolution 15.18 *Deep Sea Mining and Establishment of Protected Areas of the Deep Ocean* adopted by the 15th IUCN General Assembly (Christchurch, 1981);
- (b) Res16/11 *Deep Sea Mining and Establishment of Protected Areas of the Deep Ocean* and Res16/27 *Christmas Island (Indian Ocean)* adopted by the 16th IUCN General Assembly (Madrid, 1984);
- (c) Recommendation 17.54 *Mount Etna, Australia* and Resolution 17.60 *Carajas Pig Iron Plants, Brazil* adopted by the 17th IUCN General Assembly (San Jose, 1988);
- (d) Recommendation 18.31 *Tropical Forestry Action Plan*, Recommendation 18.46 *Tatsenshini-Alsek River System, Canada and USA*, Recommendation 18.51 *Protection of Mount Nimba, Guinea*, Recommendation 18.63 *Mining in the Fly River Catchment, Papua New Guinea*, Recommendation 18.64 *Conservation Measures within the Papua New Guinea Tropical Forestry Action Plan*, Recommendation 18.66 *Mining in National Parks and Nature Reserves Especially in Australia*, and Recommendation 18.67 *Kakadu National Park, Australia* adopted by the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990);
- (e) Recommendation 19.65 *Conservation of South American Native Forests*, Recommendation 19.69 *The Biosphere Reserve of the Alto Orinoco-Casiquiare, Venezuela*, Recommendation 19.79 *Mining in the Fly River Catchment, Papua New Guinea*, Recommendation 19.81 *Conservation of the Gulf Region, Northern Territory, Australia*,

Recommendation 19.86 *Mining in the Conservation Estate, Australia*, and Recommendation 19.87 *Conservation of Kakadu World Heritage Site, Australia* adopted by the 19th IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);

- (f) Resolution 1.81 *Productive Relationships between IUCN and the Private Sector* and Resolution 1.82 *Private Sector Financial Operations* adopted by the 1st IUCN World Conservation Congress (Montreal, 1996);
- (g) 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); and
- (h) Resolution 3.057 *Adapting to climate change: a framework for conservation action*, Resolution 3.060 *Influencing private sector actions in favour of biodiversity*, Resolution 3.061 *IUCN's interaction with the private sector*, Resolution 3.075 *Applying the precautionary principle in environmental decision making and management*, Recommendation 3.082 *The Extractive Industries Review* and Recommendation 3.101 *Advancing boreal forest conservation* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

NOTING the vision of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) strategic plan: “*that society fully recognizes and supports the importance of protected areas in the 21st century by: securing key places for biological and cultural diversity, promoting equity and justice, maintaining the quality of the environment, and ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources for poverty reduction, food and water security, and the prevention of conflicts*”; and

AWARE of the increased pressure placed on natural systems containing mineral resources due to an ever-increasing world demand for these minerals, particularly as other sources of these resources are exhausted;

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. CALLS ON IUCN's State members to:
 - (a) uphold the integrity of critical ecosystems, and of IUCN's Protected Area Categories in the management of the world's protected areas;
 - (b) carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) prior to considering any mining operation; and

- (c) establish and enforce international best practices and national laws for mining; and

2. URGES the global mining companies, including the members of the International Council for Mining and Metals (ICMM) to:

- (a) avoid mineral exploration and mining activities that will affect the long-term integrity of:
 - (i) high conservation value areas (protected and not protected), critical ecosystems, water-catchment areas and biological corridors;
 - (ii) food security and traditional livelihoods; and
 - (iii) territories of indigenous peoples where full free prior and informed consent has not been obtained; and
- (b) allow access and freedom of surveillance by civil society and the press to ensure good practice.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.



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