IUCN Resolutions, Recommendations and other Decisions

World Conservation Congress
Marseille, France
3–10 September 2021
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Foreword

It is with great pleasure that the Resolutions Committee hereby forwards to IUCN Members, Congress participants and all interested parties, the Resolutions and Recommendations as well as other key decisions adopted by the Members’ Assembly at the IUCN World Conservation Congress held in Marseille, France, on 3–10 September 2021. The 137 Resolutions and Recommendations have been classified following the guidance in paragraph 48 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress, whereby 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. Additionally, 11 governance-related decisions were adopted by the IUCN membership in Marseille.

The motions process is a fundamental element of IUCN’s governance and constitutes a means through which IUCN Members set IUCN’s general policy, influence conservation priorities and find support for moving commitments into action. Ultimately, all these decisions, together with the IUCN Programme pave the way for the work of the Union for the next inter-sessional period and support the achievement of IUCN’s mission.

In accordance with Rule 49 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress, IUCN Members and the Council proposed motions by the deadline of 28 August 2019 (13:00 GMT/UTC), as set by the IUCN Council. Following the submission of 210 motions by IUCN Members and 11 motions by the IUCN Council, the Motions Working Group considered all proposed motions in line with Rule 54 to ensure that they are consistent with the purpose of motions as defined in Rule 48bis. The submission of 221 motions to the World Conservation Congress in Marseille is the highest number ever received and represent a significant increase since the last Congress.

In accordance with its mandate and guided by the IUCN Statutes and Regulations, the Motions Working Group accepted 103 motions, merged 38 into 17 motions and rejected 77 motions. The resulting 120 motions were published online in October 2019 in the three IUCN official languages. Following the receipt of 43 appeals, the Congress Preparatory Committee acting as appeals body under Rule 62ter decided to reinstate 8 motions.

In accordance with Rule 62bis, the Motions Working Group transmitted all 128 motions to the online discussion of motions before Congress. The online discussion was organised in two readings from 11 December 2019 to 11 March 2020.

During the online discussion, Members made general comments on motions, proposed amendments and endorsed the suggestions made by other Members or participants. The Motions Working Group was pleased with the collegial and respectful manner in which participants engaged. Often, the online discussion succeeded in resolving disagreement over parts of motions, reaching a text that gained general support in order to be put to the vote.

Following the end of the online discussion, the Motions Working Group submitted 109 motions, some with amendments, to an electronic vote by the IUCN membership in accordance with Rule 62quinto. The Motions Working Group further decided to refer 19 motions to Congress for continued discussion and vote: 4 motions were considered as warranting debate at the global level during the Congress [Rule 45bis (c) i)], 13 motions were the subject of debate but divergent proposed did not allow to reach a consensus text for submission to a decision by electronic vote prior to Congress [Rule 45bis (c) ii)], and 2 motions were found to meet both of the previous conditions. In addition, the 9 motions on IUCN governance were also forwarded for further discussion and vote during the Congress. [Rule 45bis (d)]

1 The historic material of the online discussion, i.e. Members’ interventions and iterative versions of the motions, remain visible in the Union Portal at least until the next Congress.
In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and in order to ensure the safety of participants and visitors, IUCN and the French government decided to postpone the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, initially scheduled to take place on 11–19 June 2020, to 7–15 January 2021 in Marseille. In September 2020, the IUCN Council decided (C100/3) to postpone the Congress for a second time, to a later date in 2021. In light of this, an electronic vote on motions was open from 7 to 21 October 2020, and 9 governance motions were subject to an online discussion that took place from 22 October to 3 December 2020. Council also opted to send the motions proposed by the IUCN Council to reform the IUCN Statutes and other governance matters, along with other decision items included in the draft Agenda of the Congress, to an electronic vote, scheduled for 27 January to 10 February 2021.

The IUCN Members adopted all 109 motions, including 15 with amendments. As provided in Rule 62septimo, motions adopted by electronic ballot prior to the Congress have the same validity as motions adopted during the sittings of the Members Assembly. However, given the exceptional circumstances due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Members voted that as an exception to Rule 62septimo the motions adopted by electronic vote become effective at the close of the electronic vote on motions (i.e. 21 October 2020). Of the 1,176 IUCN Members eligible to vote, 729 Members, representing 62%, participated in the electronic vote. The voting result for each motion can be viewed in the Union Portal (only available to IUCN Members).

In December 2020, the IUCN Council (decision C/XVI) decided on the dates 3 to 10 September 2021, for the Congress to be held in Marseille. In April 2021, Council further agreed (decision C103/2) that the Congress was to be held in a hybrid format to allow more Members to be able to participate. Once more, these decisions had an impact on the motions process, in particular, in terms of the deadline for submission of new and urgent motions as well as for the organisation of virtual contact groups.

In accordance with Rules 52 and 53 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress, new and urgent motions could be submitted from one week prior to the opening of the Congress until the end of the plenary sittings on the first day of the Members’ Assembly, in this case, from 27 August to 4 September 2021 at 13:00 UTC/GMT. New motions had to be submitted by email by one Member eligible to vote with the co-sponsorship of at least 10 additional Members eligible to vote, from at least two IUCN statutory regions, using a simple template. Motions were only admissible if they complied with the criteria spelled out in Rule 52, such as that the issue of the motion is new (could not have been foreseen by the initial deadline for motions) and urgent (cannot wait until the next Congress).

By the deadline set by the Congress Preparatory Committee (which became the Congress Steering Committee at Congress), 20 new motions had been received. After careful consideration, the Congress Resolutions Committee decided to accept 9 new motions, reject 10 motions for not meeting the criteria in the Statutes and transmitted 1 motion to the Governance Committee for its consideration.

During the Congress in Marseille, 70 mostly virtual contact groups were held through which Members discussed 42 motions (including the 14 governance-related motions with reforms to IUCN Statutes and/or Rules). Thirty-nine motions were adopted by the IUCN membership in Marseille. The resulting 137 Resolutions and Recommendations adopted by the Members together with the other Decisions taken by IUCN Membership constitute the key decisions of the 7th World Conservation Congress and can be found in this document. We invite all constituents to consult, support and make use of this important set of outcomes of the Congress.

2 On average, each virtual contact group lasted for two hours. More than one contact group session was organised for most motions, and a couple held up to five consecutive contact group sessions. This implied a massive investment of resources – both in terms of logistics and human resources – to effectively organise, run those sessions and process the resulting texts of motions.
An overview of the number of motions submitted, considered and adopted on the occasion of the 7th IUCN World Conservation Congress is presented in the following table.

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<th>IUCN World Conservation Congress, Marseille</th>
<th>Overview of motions submitted, considered and adopted</th>
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<td>Motions submitted by deadline 28 August 2019</td>
<td>221</td>
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<td>Motions accepted by the Motions Working Group (as presented or with minor changes)</td>
<td>103</td>
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<td>Motions merged</td>
<td>38 merged into 17</td>
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<td>77</td>
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<td>Motions reinstated following appeals process</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total number of motions accepted and put to online discussion</strong></td>
<td><strong>128</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of motions submitted to and approved by an electronic vote of the IUCN membership prior to Congress</td>
<td>109</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of motions forwarded to Congress for continued discussion and vote</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motions related to the governance of the Union forwarded to Congress for continued discussion and vote</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total number of motions forwarded to Congress</strong></td>
<td><strong>31</strong></td>
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<td>Governance-related motion presented by Council in response to a request by Members and discussed during Congress; not approved 3</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td><strong>Total number of Resolutions and Recommendations approved by the IUCN membership</strong></td>
<td><strong>137</strong></td>
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As Chair of the Resolutions Committee, I wish to convey my deepest gratitude to the members of the Motions Working Group / Resolutions Committee for their invaluable advice and dedication throughout this process. We have all made a friendship that is certain to last.

On behalf of the Resolutions Committee, I want to acknowledge our profound gratitude to the Secretariat, in particular, the Motions Team, for their support, their professionalism and commitment to make this process run as efficiently and smoothly as it did in spite of all the challenges brought forward by this new online and onsite format – they make us all look good! In addition, the Resolutions Committee deeply acknowledges the key role that facilitators played in supporting this process during the online discussion and at contact groups, both virtual and onsite; the technical reviewers, the motion managers, and many others who contributed with their time and efforts to the success of the motions process. A lot happens behind the scenes that Members do not see, but is crucial to keeping motions moving.

The Resolutions Committee also thanks the Governance Committee and Programme Committee of Congress for their collaboration, as this is a joint effort that allowed us to collectively achieve very positive results.

Finally, let me convey our sincere appreciation to all IUCN Members for passionately highlighting and defending the Conservation issues that further the impact of our Union, for their active engagement during

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3 Motion M – Motion calling for an online vote on all motions following the Congress.
all stages of the process, and especially for their patience and understanding. To me, motions are the most important way for Members to keep the pulse on evolving conservation issues that we must address. This new hybrid format was very challenging to navigate but together we made the Marseille Congress a success for which we should all feel very gratified.

¡Gracias! Merci! Thanks!

Jon Paul Rodríguez
Chair of the Resolutions Committee
IUCN World Conservation Congress
Marseille, France, 2021
Acknowledgements

Resolutions Committee
Jon Paul RODRÍGUEZ, Chair
Said DAMHOUREYEH
Jean-Baptiste D’ISIDORO
Hilde EGGERMONT
Béatrice GALIN
Will GARTSHORE
Michael HOŠEK
Malan LINDEQUE
Teina MACKENZIE
Anaid VELASCO

Secretariat Motions Team
Sonia PEÑA MORENO, Motions Coordinator
David GOODMAN, Motions Core Team
Céline PREITNER, Motions Core Team
Victoria ROMERO, Motions Core Team

Motions Working Group
Jon Paul RODRÍGUEZ, Chair
Said DAMHOUREYEH
Mamadou DIALL
Hilde EGGERMONT
Michael HOŠEK
Sixto INCHAUSTEGUI
Jan Olov WESTERBERG
Will GARTSHORE
Teina MACKENZIE
Anaid VELASCO

Motion Managers
Stephanie ARELLANO
Sébastien DELAHAYE
Swati HINGORANI
Flore LAFAYE DE MICHEAUX
Rosemary MBOYA
Jacques SOMDA
Adriana VIDAL

Members Assembly Team
Luc De WEVER, Members’ Assembly Manager
Michelle KIMEU, Member’s Assembly Deputy Manager
Sandrine FRIEDLI-CELA, Legal Adviser

Documentation
Sarina VAN DER PLOEG, Documentation Centre Manager
Deborah MURITH, Documentation Centre Deputy Manager

Translators
Annette BENNET BAXTER
Delmar BLASCO
Wendy BYRNES
Danièle DEVITRE
Hélène FABRE
Sheila HARDIE
Christiane MILEV
Lise ROSEMBAUM
Paula SALNOT
Amalia THALER-DE KLEMM
Juan Carlos VALDOVINOS
Intuitiv

**Rapporteurs**
Tim JONES, Chief Rapporteur
Simon DELANY, Deputy Chief Rapporteur
Jose F.C. HONG
Leigh Ann HURT
Léah KHAYAT
Kristin MEYER
Mercedes MUÑOZ CAÑAS
Francis MUSAU
Hélène WILLEM

**IT Support**
Manuel GUEDE
Kader KONATE
Paul Edouard N’GUESSAN
Nuno VICENTE
Cristian MASTROMARINO / IIXIAM Global Solutions
Julian REULOS / IIXIAM Global Solutions
Miriam QUEROL / IIXIAM Global Solutions

**Facilitators – Contact Groups**
Ali Raza RIZVI
Ameyali RAMOS
Amran HAMZAH
Andrew BIGNELL
Ann-Katrine GARN
Aymun RABI
Bibiana SUCRE
Boris ERG
Carole SAINT-LAURENT
Chantal VAN HAM
Chris BUSS
Chris MAHON
Clément CHAZOT
Colman O’CRIODAIN
Cymie PAYNE
David GOODMAN
Diego JARA
Douglas NOWACEK
François SIMARD
Greg DONOVAN
Harry JONAS
Hilde EGGERMONT
James DALTON
Janaka DE SILVA
Jennifer MOHAMED KATERERE
Facilitators – Online discussions

Facilitators associated with IUCN Members and Commissions:
Abdollah SALARI
Aby Drame
Aziza Nassoro OMARY
Beth POLIDORO
Caroline LEES
Cedric Elsy SIELATCHOM NGALHA
Cristiano VERNESI
Danna LEAMAN
David OBURA
David TOOBY
Delmar Alberto BLASCO BELLOMARIA
Donald MOORE
Durojaye A SOEWU
Edgard YERENA
Emily GASKIN
Francisco Javier ZAPATA SALGADO
Jamieson COPSEY
Jorgelina MARINO
Julio MONTES DE OCA
Junior OHOUKO
Kamajit K SANGHA
Lilian Marlene APAZA VARGAS
Lily O. RODRIGUEZ BAYONA
Marina Rosales BENITES DE FRANCO
Martin ZORDAN
Michael BRUFORD
Michel Anthony NALOVIC
Mike WONG
Mourad AHMIM
Myles LAMONT
Nicholas DULVY
Nicole DUPLAIX
Nigel DUDLEY
Nirmal HARSII
Onnie BYERS
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<td>Engaging the private sector to combat wildlife trafficking</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-055-EN</td>
<td>Guidance to identify industrial fishing incompatible with protected areas</td>
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<td>067</td>
<td>Reducing the impacts of the mining industry on biodiversity</td>
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<td>Protection of deep-ocean ecosystems and biodiversity through a moratorium on seabed mining</td>
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<td>Accounting for biodiversity: encompassing ecosystems, species and genetic diversity</td>
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<td>Safeguarding coral reefs from harmful chemicals in sunscreen</td>
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<td>Combating the illegal trade in lion body parts and derivatives</td>
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<td>Promotion of the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions</td>
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<td>Partnerships and further development of a Global Ecosystem Typology</td>
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<td>Towards development of an IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation</td>
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<td>Role of children and youth in nature conservation</td>
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<td>Urgent call to share and use primary biodiversity in situ data</td>
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<td>Promoting conservation through behaviour-centred solutions</td>
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<td>Enhancing knowledge of natural resource conservation and alternative sustainable energy models through faith-based organisation networks</td>
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<td>Generalising alternative practices and techniques to the use of synthetic pesticides</td>
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<td>Call for Nature in Cities agendas and strengthening the IUCN Urban Alliance</td>
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<td>Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area</td>
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<td>Eliminate plastic pollution in protected areas, with priority action on single-use plastic products</td>
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<td>Taking action to reduce light pollution</td>
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<td>Ecological connectivity conservation in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework: from local to international levels</td>
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<td>Transboundary cooperation for conservation of big cats in Northeast Asia</td>
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<td>Effects of the increase in the use of paper as a substitute for plastic on plantations of timber species</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-078-EN</td>
<td>Conservation, restoration and sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-079-EN</td>
<td>Linking in situ and ex situ efforts to save threatened species</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-080-EN</td>
<td>Recognising, reporting and supporting other effective area-based conservation measures</td>
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<td>096</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-081-EN</td>
<td>Strengthening national spatial planning to ensure the global persistence of biodiversity</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-082-EN</td>
<td>Reducing marine turtle bycatch: the important role of regulatory mechanisms in the global roll-out of Turtle Excluder Devices</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-083-EN</td>
<td>Ensuring the compatibility of human activities with conservation objectives in protected areas</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-084-EN</td>
<td>Global response to protected area downgrading, downsizing and degazettement (PADDD)</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-085-EN</td>
<td>Rewilding</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-125-EN</td>
<td>Setting area-based conservation targets based on evidence of what nature and people need to thrive</td>
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<td>102</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Rec-086-EN</td>
<td>Strengthening mutual benefits of mobile pastoralism and wildlife in shared landscapes</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-087-EN</td>
<td>Urgent measures to safeguard the globally important Atewa Forest, Ghana</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-088-EN</td>
<td>Conservation of the natural diversity and natural heritage in mining environments</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Rec-089-EN</td>
<td>Preventing the extinction of the Great Indian Bustard (Ardeotis nigriceps) in India</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-090-EN</td>
<td>Continental conservation priority for the jaguar (Panthera onca)</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-091-EN</td>
<td>Global Conservation of rhino rays (Rhinidae, Glaucostegidae, Rhinobatidae)</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-092-EN</td>
<td>Adapting traditional medicine to achieve social and environmental sustainability</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-093-EN</td>
<td>A call for increased consideration of genetic diversity in IUCN planning and actions</td>
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<td>110</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Rec-094-EN</td>
<td>Safeguarding the Endangered narrow-ridged finless porpoise (Neophocaena asiaeorientalis) in the Yellow Sea</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-095-EN</td>
<td>Conservation of seahorses, pipefishes and seadragons (family Syngnathidae)</td>
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<td>112</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-096-EN</td>
<td>Maximising return on conservation investments and sustainable development: eradicating invasive alien species (IAS) to conserve island biodiversity and benefit society</td>
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<td>113</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Rec-097-EN</td>
<td>National Plan for the Sustainable Management of the Guanaco in Argentina</td>
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<td>114</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-098-EN</td>
<td>Saving the world’s otters</td>
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<td>115</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Rec-099-EN</td>
<td>Strengthening great ape conservation across countries, in and outside of protected areas, involving local actors</td>
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<td>116</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-100-EN</td>
<td>Building Madagascar’s capacity to counter the threat from invasive species</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Rec-126-EN</td>
<td>Reinforcing the protection of marine mammals through regional cooperation</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-102-EN</td>
<td>Improving process and action to identify and recover ‘Extinct in the Wild’ species</td>
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<td>120</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-103-EN</td>
<td>Action against Asian songbird trafficking</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-104-EN</td>
<td>Next IUCN World Parks Congress</td>
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<td>122</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-105-EN</td>
<td>Conserving and protecting coral reefs through the post-2020 global biodiversity framework</td>
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<td>123</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-106-EN</td>
<td>Protection of Kakadu World Heritage site and rehabilitation of the Ranger uranium mine and Ranger Project Area</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-107-EN</td>
<td>Reducing the impact of fisheries on marine biodiversity</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-127-EN</td>
<td>Strengthening the protection of primary and old-growth forests in Europe and facilitating their restoration where possible</td>
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<td>126</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-128-EN</td>
<td>Acting for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in the ocean beyond national jurisdiction</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-108-EN</td>
<td>Deforestation and agricultural commodity supply chains</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Rec-109-EN</td>
<td>Increasing funding for biodiversity in developing countries</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-129-EN</td>
<td>Avoiding the point of no return in the Amazon protecting 80% by 2025</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-130-EN</td>
<td>Strengthening sustainable tourism’s role in biodiversity conservation and community resilience</td>
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<td>131</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-131-EN</td>
<td>Ensuring adequate funding for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-132-EN</td>
<td>Controlling and monitoring trade in croaker swim bladders to protect target croakers and reduce incidental catches of threatened marine megafauna</td>
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<td>133</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Rec-133-EN</td>
<td>Call to withdraw draft-permit mining of fossil fuels underneath UNESCO World Heritage Site Wadden Sea</td>
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<td>134</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-134-EN</td>
<td>Protecting the Lower Congo River from large hydro-electric dam developments</td>
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<td>135</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-135-EN</td>
<td>Promoting human, animal and environmental health, and preventing pandemics through the One Health approach and by addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss</td>
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<td>136</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-136-EN</td>
<td>Protecting the Okavango from oil and gas exploitation</td>
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<td>137</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-137-EN</td>
<td>Affirming the right of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to sustainably manage and utilise wild resources in the context of COVID-19</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Dec-138-EN</td>
<td>Including subnational governments in IUCN's membership</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Dec-139-EN</td>
<td>Election of Regional Councillors resident in dependent territories</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Dec-140-EN</td>
<td>Establishment of an elected Indigenous Councillor position</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Dec-141-EN</td>
<td>Modification of the term “Regional Councillor”</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Dec-142-EN</td>
<td>To protect the intellectual independence of the knowledge-based and evidence-based work carried out by the Commissions and Secretariat of IUCN</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Dec-143-EN</td>
<td>Role of Commissions in National and Regional Committees</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Dec-144-EN</td>
<td>Clarification of conditions for readmission of former State Members</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Dec-145-EN</td>
<td>Establishment, operating rules and oversight of National, Regional and Interregional Committees</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Dec-146-EN</td>
<td>Functions of the IUCN Treasurer</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Dec-148-EN</td>
<td>Enabling effective attendance and participation of Members in future sessions of the World Conservation Congress</td>
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<td>Decision 149</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Dec-149-EN</td>
<td>Nature 2030 - IUCN Programme 2021–2024*</td>
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<td>Decision 150</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Dec-150-EN</td>
<td>Addendum to the IUCN Programme 2021–2024</td>
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<td>Decision 151</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Dec-151-EN</td>
<td>IUCN Financial Plan 2021–2024*</td>
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<td>Decision 152</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Dec-152-EN</td>
<td>IUCN Membership Dues Guide*</td>
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<td>Decision 153</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Dec-153-EN</td>
<td>Commission Mandate CEC*</td>
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<td>Decision 154</td>
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<td>Commission Mandate CEM*</td>
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<td>Decision 156</td>
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<td>Decision 157</td>
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<td>Decision 158</td>
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<td>Commission Mandate WCPA*</td>
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<td>Decision 159</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Dec-159-EN</td>
<td>Developing a comprehensive gender approach at IUCN</td>
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<td>Decision 160</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Dec-160-EN</td>
<td>The Marseille Manifesto</td>
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<td>Decision 161</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Dec-161-EN</td>
<td>Election of the IUCN President, Treasurer, Chairs of Commissions and Regional Councillors 2021-2025</td>
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Decision items marked by * were adopted by IUCN Members during the electronic vote of Members in February 2021. For details, see Annex 4 "Summary of online discussion and voting on motions ahead of the Members’ Assembly" of the Proceedings of the Members’ Assembly.

All Recommendations, Resolutions and other Decisions are available at: [https://portals.iucn.org/library/resrec/search](https://portals.iucn.org/library/resrec/search)
Resolutions, Recommendations and other Decisions
WCC-2020-Res-001-EN
Archiving Resolutions and Recommendations meeting retirement criteria, consolidating policy and future reviews

NOTING that since IUCN was established in 1948 its Members have convened in 19 sessions of the General Assembly and six sessions of the World Conservation Congress;

UNDERLINING that Resolutions and Recommendations adopted by the World Conservation Congresses and the preceding General Assemblies establish the fundamental body of IUCN policy;

FURTHER NOTING that a large body of IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations has accumulated and that to date Members have adopted 1,305 Resolutions and Recommendations;

RECALLING Resolutions relevant to the motions process, including, most recently, Resolution 6.001 Identifying and archiving obsolete Resolutions and Recommendations to strengthen IUCN policy and to enhance implementation of IUCN Resolutions (Hawaii, 2016);

FURTHER RECALLING that Council, in responding to Resolution 6.001, in its Decision C/96/22, approved a list of Resolutions and Recommendations to be retired and forwarded to the Members’ Assembly for endorsement, as well as the deployment and launch of an online archive to enable access to these retired Resolutions and Recommendations prior to the opening in May 2019 of the motions submission process for the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020;

NOTING that the IUCN Resolutions Database includes all active Resolutions and Recommendations; and

ALSO NOTING that the revised motions submission form for the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020 includes requirements for greater precision and specificity regarding implementation and reporting (and eventual archiving);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. WELCOMES the work of Council through its Task Force on Resolutions Retirement, including the development and application of criteria for identifying, implementing, elapsed, superseded or obsolete Resolutions and Recommendations, attached as Annex 1, and the creation of an accessible archive of Resolutions and Recommendations that no longer require implementation;

2. ENDORSES the final list of Resolutions and Recommendations to be retired and moved to the archive, attached herewith as Annex 2, noting that a number of these resolutions establish and provide the context for formal IUCN policy that remains current;

3. AFFIRMS that IUCN policies adopted by the World Conservation Congress by Resolutions that are subsequently archived remain active and in force, unless and until such policies are superseded, revised or repealed by a Resolution of a subsequent World Conservation Congress;

4. REQUESTS Council and the Director General to:

a. continue to work intersectorally to review and refine the criteria used to initially populate the archive in the light of feedback from the online discussion, to review the implementation of active Resolutions and Recommendations and to recommend to the next Members’ Assembly, applying these criteria, a list of Resolutions and Recommendations for retirement and archiving, together with the criterion for which each is to be retired and archived;

b. undertake a policy review before the next Members’ Assembly of all active Resolutions and Recommendations, and archived Resolutions that have established IUCN policy that remains active and in force, with a view to assemblage (and potentially proposing consolidation of) Resolutions that deal with the same or closely related issues to help ensure that IUCN’s policy positions are collated, clear and accessible; and

c. consider the need for, and modalities of a mechanism for the ongoing review of Resolutions and Recommendations adopted in future Members’ Assemblies, with a view to moving to the archive those that are implemented, obsolete, or for which a specified interval has elapsed or a milestone has been achieved, while ensuring their continued policy currency and relevance.

Annex 1: Criteria used for retiring and archiving Resolutions and Recommendations (set out in IUCN Council document C/93/PPC/5.1)

IMPLEMENTED
A Resolution/Recommendation can generally be considered implemented when either:

a. all actions stated in the Resolutions have been carried out; or

b. the intent of the Resolution has been achieved, even if not all actions carried out.; or

c. the requirements of the Resolutions have been appropriately formalised (e.g. included in the IUCN Statutes, establishment of a new dedicated program, etc.).

SUPERSEDED (precedence clause)
A given Resolution/Recommendation (‘Resolution A’) can be considered superseded when another Resolution/Recommendation (‘Resolution B’) was adopted afterwards, where:

a. Resolution B merely repeats the content of Resolution A; or

b. Resolution B recalls all items of Resolution A (without including them word for word); or

c. Resolution B covers the same issue and policy of Resolution A but adds additional components; or

d. Resolution B adopts a policy that is in contrast to the previously adopted policy in Resolution A (Precedence clause).

ELAPSED
The Resolution/Recommendation sets out a specific timeline or deadline for its implementation and by the time of considering the Resolution/Recommendation for retirement this deadline has been passed, the Resolution/Recommendation is considered to be elapsed. In particular where:

a. the Resolution sets out a specific timeline or deadline for its implementation, for example: to be done by year X; or by the next Congress; or over the coming X years; or

b. the Resolution was working or contributing towards a specific event without specifying a particular timeline, e.g. a conference, such as Rio+10.

OBsolete
A Resolution/Recommendation is considered obsolete if one of the following criteria is met:
a. the subject of the Resolution/Recommendation does not exist anymore or is no longer valid; or
b. the object of the Resolution/Recommendation:

i. does not exist anymore (problem solved), e.g. the Resolution called on the restoration of a specific ecosystem, but independent of IUCN’s work the ecosystem was restored – the Resolution is obsolete; or
ii. is no longer valid, e.g. the Resolution lays out actions to improve the status of a species, but the species went extinct in the meantime; or e.g. the Resolution called for the development of material to prevent the building of a specific dam, but the dam was still built – the Resolution is obsolete; or
iii. is based on scientific assumptions that have been refuted by more recent scientific findings / universally accepted concepts; or
iv. is no longer in line with IUCN’s objectives as outlined by the most recent IUCN Statutes.

Annex 2: List of Resolutions and Recommendations to be archived

6.092 2016 Hawai’i Urging the Congress of the Republic of Peru to shelve permanently the bill that proposes a road that will affect the Alto Purús National Park and other areas
6.090 2016 Hawai’i Two dams on the Santa Cruz River in Argentina: Their impact on an irreplaceable ecosystem and on the hooded grebe (Podiceps gallardoi) population, a Critically Endangered species endemic to Argentina
6.052 2016 Hawai’i Declaration of Astola Island as a Marine Protected Area
6.047 2016 Hawai’i Advancing conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction
6.056 2016 Hawai’i Proposed amendment to Article 6 of the IUCN Statutes concerning the duties of State and political/economic integration organisation Members adhering to IUCN
6.057 2016 Hawai’i Enhanced practice and reform of IUCN’s governance
6.056 2016 Hawai’i Members’ Assembly’s sole authority to amend the Regulations pertaining to the objectives, nature of the membership and membership criteria (follow-up to decision 22 of the 2012 World Conservation Congress)
6.055 2016 Hawai’i Election of the IUCN President
6.054 2016 Hawai’i Including indigenous peoples’ organisations in the structure of the Union
5.137 2012 Jeju Support for a comprehensive scientific review of the impact on global biodiversity of systemic pesticides by the joint task force of the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)
WCC-2012-Res-133202 Jeju Improving capacity for enforcement of legislation relating to wildlife crime
WCC-2012-Res-132202 Jeju Establishing a global online platform for sustainability commitments
WCC-2012-Res-129202 Jeju Courts and access to justice
WCC-2012-Res-128202 Jeju Need for non-regression in environmental law and policy
WCC-2012-Res-126202 Jeju The development of an Evaluation and Certification System for World Environment Hubs
WCC-2012-Res-119202 Jeju Collaborative partnership on wildlife
WCC-2012-Res-112202 Jeju Developing the concept of biodiversity security
WCC-2012-Res-110202 Jeju Biodiversity offsets and related compensatory approaches
WCC-2012-Res-105202 Jeju Conerving cultures and nature for food security
WCC-2012-Res-099202 Jeju IUCN Policy on Conservation and Human Rights for Sustainable Development
WCC-2012-Res-086202 Jeju Integrating protected areas into climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies
WCC-2012-Res-071202 Jeju Conservation of the Panama Bay wetlands
WCC-2012-Res-064202 Jeju Acknowledging Quebec’s advancement of conservation of the boreal region
WCC-2012-Res-062202 Jeju Atlantic Forest in Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay, as a priority biome for conservation
WCC-2012-Res-060202 Jeju Strengthening the role of IUCN in saving the world’s primary forests
WCC-2012-Res-056202 Jeju Enhancing connectivity conservation through international networking of best practice management
WCC-2012-Res-054202 Jeju Guaranteeing the protection of the Cabo Pulmo National Park
WCC-2012-Res-053202 Jeju Strengthening the participatory and equitable governance of the indigenous communities and peoples of Mexico
WCC-2012-Res-051202 Jeju Improving conservation and sustainability of the Yellow Sea
WCC-2012-Res-048202 Jeju Valuing and conserving geodiversity within the IUCN Programme 2013–2016
WCC-2012-Res-043202 Jeju Establishing a forum for transboundary protected area managers
WCC-2012-Res-039202 Jeju Healthy parks healthy people
WCC-2012-Res-038202 Jeju The Sydney With IUCN World Parks Congress 2014
WCC-2012-Res-032202 Jeju Action to recover the Atlantic bluefin tuna (Thunnus thynnus) population in the Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean
WCC-2012-Res-028202 Jeju Conservation of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway and its threatened waterbirds
WCC-2012-Res-016202 Jeju Framework for setting priorities for the conservation of threatened species
WCC-2012-Res-013202 Jeju IUCN’s name
WCC-2012-Res-012202 Jeju Strengthening IUCN in the Insular Caribbean
WCC-2012-Res-009202 Jeju Encouraging cooperation with faith-based organizations and networks
WCC-2012-Res-007202 Jeju Establishing an Indigenous Peoples Organization (IPO) membership and voting category in IUCN
WCC-2012-Res-005202 Jeju Strengthening of the IUCN National and Regional Committees and the use of the three official languages
WCC-2012-Res-004202 Jeju Improved opportunity for Member participation in IUCN
WCC-2012-Res-001202 Jeju Strengthening the motions process and enhancing implementation of IUCN Resolutions
WCC-2012-Rec-177202 Jeju Economic valuation and development of financial mechanisms for the payment for ecosystem services in areas of extreme poverty
WCC-2012-Rec-175202 Jeju Strengthening the autonomy of Colombia’s black communities for sustainable natural resource management in their areas, with special emphasis on mining
WCC-2012-Rec-173202 Jeju Offshore oil drilling in French Guiana, Suriname and Guyana
WCC-2012-Rec-171202 Jeju Australia’s Proposed Marine Reserve Network
WCC-2012-Rec-167202 Jeju Strengthening of European provisions for biodiversity in overseas entities
WCC-2012-Rec-163202 Jeju Action to increase the protection and sustainable use of the American Gran Chaco
WCC-2012-Rec-162202 Jeju The protection and sustainable use of the pampas and campos of South America
WCC-2012-Rec-161202 Jeju Protecting the Critically Endangered Balerine Shearwater in the Ebro Delta, Spain
WCC-2012-Rec-157202 Jeju Protection of the Okapi Wildlife Reserve and communities of the Ituri Forest in the Democratic Republic of Congo
WCC-2012-Rec-156202 Jeju Biodiversity conservation in the protected natural area under the sacred natural site modality of Huírica and the historico-cultural route of the Huichol people
WCC-2012-Rec-146202 Jeju The conservation of hammerhead sharks in the Mesoamerican Region and the marine corridor in the Eastern Tropical Pacific
WCC-2012-Rec-145202 Jeju Ensuring the conservation and management sustainability of mako sharks
WCC-2012-Rec-143202 Jeju Moratorium on the fishing of the Chilean jack mackerel (Trachurus murphyi) in the international waters of the South Pacific
4.106 2008 Barcelona Vote of thanks to the host country
4.103 2008 Barcelona Acknowledging Spanish-language environmental education publications
4.102 2008 Barcelona Advancing knowledge management in conservation
4.101 2008 Barcelona International Covenant on Environment and Development
4.094 2008 Barcelona Impetus and support for local and regional biodiversity conservation policies
4.093 2008 Barcelona Maintenance of ECOLEX: the gateway to environmental law
4.092 2008 Barcelona Open-pit metal mining exploration and exploitation in Mesoamerica
4.091 2008 Barcelona Establishing the IUCN Extractive Industry Responsibility Initiative
4.087 2008 Barcelona Impacts of infrastructure and extractive industries on protected areas
4.086 2008 Barcelona Guiding and improving IUCN’s involvement with the private sector
4.085 2008 Barcelona Establishing the 1% Earth Profits Fund and sustaining government conservation finance
4.084 2008 Barcelona Mining exploration and exploitation in and near Andean protected areas
4.083 2008 Barcelona Mobilizing action to build resilience and assist adaptation to climate change of coral reefs and marine ecosystems and people that depend on them
4.079 2008 Barcelona The European Union and its overseas entities faced with climate change and biodiversity loss
4.077 2008 Barcelona Climate change and human rights
4.076 2008 Barcelona Climate change mitigation targets and actions for biodiversity conservation
4.074 2008 Barcelona Climate change and overexploitation of natural resources – Inclusion in the IUCN Programme
4.073 2008 Barcelona Support the building of an ecological vision for the Amazon biome
4.072 2008 Barcelona Private protected areas and nature stewardship
4.071 2008 Barcelona Forest fire recovery and national park protection
4.070 2008 Barcelona Sustainable mountain development
4.068 2008 Barcelona Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD)
4.067 2008 Barcelona Advancing island conservation and sustainable livelihoods
4.066 2008 Barcelona Improving the governance of the Mediterranean Sea
4.062 2008 Barcelona Enhancing geocological networks and connectivity conservation areas
4.059 2008 Barcelona Promoting wildlife-based land uses in arid and semi-arid regions of Southern Africa
4.058 2008 Barcelona Mobilizing indigenous peoples and biodiversity conservation
4.051 2008 Barcelona Indigenous peoples and protected areas of La Mosquitia in Mesoamerica
4.050 2008 Barcelona Recognition of Indigenous Conservation Territories
4.049 2008 Barcelona Supporting Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conservation Areas
4.048 2008 Barcelona Artisanal fishing organizations active in the sustainable management of the Mediterranean
4.044 2008 Barcelona Actions to conserve the Pampas and Campos of South America
4.043 2008 Barcelona Environmental and social suitability of the initiative for Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America (IIRSA)
4.042 2008 Barcelona Establishment of a transboundary Peace Park between Honduras and Nicaragua
4.041 2008 Barcelona Following up on actions called for by the II Latin American Congress of National Parks and Other Protected Areas (Bariolche, 2007)
4.040 2008 Barcelona Conservation of geodiversity and geological heritage
4.039 2008 Barcelona Cross-Commission collaboration on sustainable use of biological resources
4.038 2008 Barcelona Recognition and conservation of sacred natural sites in protected areas
4.036 2008 Barcelona Best practice protected area guideline for ecological restoration
4.035 2008 Barcelona Strengthening IUCN’s work on protected areas
4.031 2008 Barcelona Achieving conservation of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdictions
4.029 2008 Barcelona Conservation and sustainable use of fish in the Rio de la Plata Basin
4.028 2008 Barcelona Action for recovery of the East Atlantic and Mediterranean population of Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Thunnus thynnus
4.027 2008 Barcelona Avoiding extinction of the Vaquita Porpoise Phocoena sinus
4.021 2008 Barcelona Elimination of the illegal use of poisoned bait as a method for controlling predators in the European Union
4.020 2008 Barcelona Quantitative thresholds for categories and criteria of threatened ecosystems
4.017 2008 Barcelona Stopping the amphibian crisis
4.016 2008 Barcelona Development of climate change guidelines for IUCN Red List assessments
4.015 2008 Barcelona Sustainable use and accountability
4.014 2008 Barcelona Development of an automated system to record members’ actions on resolutions and recommendations to improve reporting at, and between, World Conservation Congresses
4.010 2008 Barcelona Implementation of Congress Resolutions
4.009 2008 Barcelona Transparency of the IUCN Council
4.008 2008 Barcelona Including local and regional governmental authorities in the structure of the Union
4.007 2008 Barcelona Changing IUCN’s Statutory Regions
4.006 2008 Barcelona IUCN’s name
4.005 2008 Barcelona Mainstreaming gender equity and equality within the Union
4.004 2008 Barcelona Strengthening IUCN’s institutional presence in South America
4.003 2008 Barcelona Strengthening IUCN’s National and Regional Committees
4.002 2008 Barcelona Coordination of the IUCN Programme
4.001 2008 Barcelona Strengthening the links between IUCN members, Commissions and Secretariat
4.136 2008 Barcelona Biodiversity, protected areas, Indigenous peoples and mining activities
4.133 2008 Barcelona World appeal to prevent the loss of Lake Chapala and Lake Cocibolca, the largest wetlands in Mesoamerica
4.132 2008 Barcelona Conservation of the Western Iberian Peninsula
4.127 2008 Barcelona Indigenous peoples’ rights in the management of protected areas fully or partially in the territories of indigenous peoples
4.126 2008 Barcelona Protection of Chilean Patagonia
4.125 2008 Barcelona Protection of the peatlands of Tierra del Fuego, Argentina
4.124 2008 Barcelona Forest conservation in Tasmania
4.123 2008 Barcelona Protection of Category Va and VI Protected Areas for biodiversity conservation
4.122 2008 Barcelona World Heritage nomination for Ningaloo Reef
4.120 2008 Barcelona Protected areas and biological diversity management programmes: steps towards ensuring effective management
4.116 2008 Barcelona Fisheries management by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)
4.113 2008 Barcelona Conserving migratory and oceanic sharks
4.112 2008 Barcelona An effective European Plan of Action for Sharks
4.111 2008 Barcelona Conservation of Leatherback Turtles Dermochelys coriacea and hammerhead sharks Sphyrna spp. in the Eastern Tropical Pacific marine corridor
4.109 2008 Barcelona Funding programmes for small-scale civil society projects for global biodiversity conservation
4.107 2008 Barcelona Cooperation between members and committees from Latin America and the Mediterranean
3.089 2004 Bangkok Vote of thanks to the host country
3.079 2004 Bangkok Conservation of Gyps species of vultures in South and Southeast Asia
3.072 2004 Bangkok Legal aspects of the sustainable use of soils
3.071 2004 Bangkok International cooperation on forest management
3.070 2004 Bangkok Environmental protection of the Mediterranean Sea from the risk of maritime traffic
3.063 2004 Bangkok Cities and conservation
2.25 2000 Amman Conservation of plants
2.24 2000 Amman Establishment of an International Academy of Environmental Law
2.23 2000 Amman Improving IUCN's capacity for strategic information management/information technology
2.22 2000 Amman IUCN's work in the Arctic (see also 2.30 and 2.80)
2.21 2000 Amman IUCN Marine Component Programme
2.20 2000 Amman Conservation of marine biodiversity
2.19 2000 Amman Responding to the Recommendations from the World Commission on Dams
2.18 2000 Amman Strengthening actions for implementation of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD)
2.17 2000 Amman Climate and energy
2.16 2000 Amman Climate change, biodiversity, and IUCN's Overall Programme
2.15 2000 Amman IUCN Collaborative Management for Conservation Programme
2.13 2000 Amman Vote of Thanks to the Host Country
2.8 2000 Amman IUCN's Work in Oceania
2.7 2000 Amman Implementation of the IUCN Component Programme for the Mediterranean
2.6 2000 Amman Changes in the IUCN Regional Office for Mesoamerica
2.5 2000 Amman An IUCN Arid and Semi-Arid Lands Global Thematic Programme
2.2 2000 Amman Integrating Ecosystem Management in IUCN's Programme
2.1 2000 Amman Mandate for Commission on Environmental, Economic & Social Policy (CEESP)
2.94 2000 Amman Climate change mitigation and land use
2.93 2000 Amman Conservation of Kaibo Forest, Japan
2.89 2000 Amman Marine Protected Areas in the Baltic Sea
2.88 2000 Amman Establishment of an Ecological Corridor in the Americas
2.87 2000 Amman Protected areas and the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor
2.86 2000 Amman Protection of the Macal River Valley in Belize
2.85 2000 Amman Conservation of Middle and Lower Panama River
2.84 2000 Amman Unexploded ordnance contamination in sites of United States military activities in the Republic of Panama
2.83 2000 Amman Armed conflicts in natural areas (Panama and Colombia)
2.82 2000 Amman Protection and conservation of biological diversity of protected areas from the negative impacts of mining and exploration
2.81 2000 Amman Mining concessions and protected areas in Mesoamerica
2.77 2000 Amman Conservation of marine turtles on the Atlantic coast of Africa
2.76 2000 Amman Regional action plan for the conservation of marine turtles in the Indian Ocean
2.75 2000 Amman Conservation of Dugong (Dugong dugon), Okinawa Woodpecker (Sapheopipo noguchii) and Okinawa Rail (Gallirallus okinawae)
2.71 2000 Amman Co-operative regional action plan for the conservation of river dolphins (Platanista spp and Ipoetes spp.) in the South Asian region
2.70 2000 Amman Conservation of Tibetan Antelope (Pantholops hodgsonii)
1.111 1996 Montreal Vote of Thanks to the Host Country
1.110 1996 Montreal Antarctica and the Southern Ocean
1.106 1996 Montreal Protection of the Arctic Ocean
1.104 1996 Montreal Conservation of Kakadu World Heritage Site, Australia
1.102 1996 Montreal Australian Forests
1.100 1996 Montreal Mining in the Fly River Catchment, Papua New Guinea
1.99 1996 Montreal Forests of Oceania
1.98 1996 Montreal Environmentally Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin
1.96 1996 Montreal Protection and Conservation of the Mekong River Basin
1.95 1996 Montreal Tamagami Forests of Northeastern Ontario
1.94 1996 Montreal Conservation of Clayoquot Sound Temperate Rainforest
1.93 1996 Montreal Meso-America Biological Corridor
1.92 1996 Montreal Conservation of the Galapagos Islands
1.91 1996 Montreal Sustainable Forest Resource Use Policy in Suriname
1.90 1996 Montreal National Reconciliation Forest of El Salvador
1.89 1996 Montreal Funicular Railway in the Cairngorms Mountains, Scotland, UK
1.88 1996 Montreal Proposed Inclusion of Corso-Liguro-Provençal Basin in the Future List of Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean Interest (ASPAM)
1.87 1996 Montreal Spanish Network of National Parks
1.85 1996 Montreal Conservation of Plants in Europe
1.84 1996 Montreal Superquaries in Europe
1.83 1996 Montreal Forest Ecosystems of Africa
1.82 1996 Montreal Private Sector Financial Operations
1.81 1996 Montreal Productive Relationships between IUCN and the Private Sector
1.80 1996 Montreal Relations with the United Nations System
1.79 1996 Montreal Implementation of Earth Summit Commitments
1.78 1996 Montreal ASEAN Agreement
1.77 1996 Montreal Marine Pollution and MARPOL
1.75 1996 Montreal Armed Conflict and the Environment
1.74 1996 Montreal Combating Desertification
1.73 1996 Montreal Protocol or Other Legal Instrument to the Framework Convention on Climate Change
1.72 1996 Montreal Climate Change, Biodiversity and the IUCN Programme
1.71 1996 Montreal Climate Change
1.70 1996 Montreal Ramsar Convention Priorities
1.68 1996 Montreal Development of Guidelines for the Conservation of Places of Natural Heritage Significance
1.67 1996 Montreal World Heritage Convention
1.66 1996 Montreal Draft International Covenant on Environment and Development
1.64 1996 Montreal Persistent Organic Pollutants
1.63 1996 Montreal The Promotion of Organic Agriculture
1.62 1996 Montreal Illegal International Trade in Forest Products
1.60 1996 Montreal Environmental Trust Funds
1.59 1996 Montreal Initiative to Assist Heavily Indebted Poor Countries
1.56 1996 Montreal Indigenous Peoples and the Andes
1.55 1996 Montreal Indigenous Peoples and Forestry
1.54 1996 Montreal Indigenous Peoples and Conservation in Meso-America
1.50 1996 Montreal Indigenous Peoples, Intellectual Property Rights and Biological Diversity
1.49 1996 Montreal Indigenous Peoples of IUCN
1.48 1996 Montreal Changing Consumption and Production Patterns
1.47 1996 Montreal Transnational Corporate Compliance
1.45 1996 Montreal The Precautionary Principle
1.43 1996 Montreal Public Participation and Right to Know
1.42 1996 Montreal Collaborative Management for Conservation
1.41 1996 Montreal Environmental Law Programme
1.40 1996 Montreal Sustainable Use Initiative
1.38 1996 Montreal Ecological Networks and Corridors of Natural and Semi-Natural Areas
1.37 1996 Montreal Marine Protected Areas
1.36 1996 Montreal The World Network of Biosphere Reserves
1.35 1996 Montreal Protected Areas
1.34 1996 Montreal Support for the First Latin American Congress on National Parks and Protected Areas, Colombia, May 1997
1.33 1996 Montreal Conservation on Community and Privately Owned Lands and Waters
1.31 1996 Montreal The Significance of Pacific Salmon to Canada and USA
1.30 1996 Montreal Protection of the Biodiversity of the Amami Islands of Japan
1.27 1996 Montreal Protection of the Houbara Bustard
1.26 1996 Montreal Threats to Dogon
1.25 1996 Montreal Guidelines for Using the IUCN Red List Categories at the Regional, National and Sub-national Level
1.24 1996 Montreal Impacts of Human-Induced Fire Events on Biodiversity Conservation
1.23 1996 Montreal Forest Management Plans in South America
1.22 1996 Montreal Voluntary Independent Certification of Forest Management and Marketing Claims
1.21 1996 Montreal Forest Concessions
1.20 1996 Montreal Biological Diversity and Forests
1.19 1996 Montreal A Global IUCN Temperate, Boreal and Southern Cold Temperate Forests Programme
1.14 1996 Montreal Sustainable Development of Islands and Coastal States in the Mediterranean
1.12 1996 Montreal Conservation Action in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
1.11 1996 Montreal Riyadh Conservation Forum
1.10 1996 Montreal IUCN's Work in the Mediterranean
1.9 1996 Montreal IUCN's Work in Europe
1.8 1996 Montreal Strengthening IUCN's Activities in Central and Eastern Europe
1.7 1996 Montreal An IUCN Strategy for the Arctic
1.6 1996 Montreal Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of IUCN
1.5 1996 Montreal Definition of a Gender Policy for the Union
1.4 1996 Montreal Species Survival Commission
1.3 1996 Montreal Commission on National Parks and Protected Areas, now called the World Commission on Protected Areas
1.2 1996 Montreal Use of the Official Languages of IUCN
1.1 1998 1994 Buenos Aires Vote of Thanks to the Host Country
1.7 1998 1994 Buenos Aires Myanmar (Burma)
1.6 1998 1994 Buenos Aires The Andes
1.4 1998 1994 Buenos Aires IUCN Red List: Categories of Threat
1.43 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Convention on Biological Diversity and Forests
1.36 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Global Biodiversity Forum
1.29 1994 1994 Buenos Aires IUCN Action on Indigenous People and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources
1.28 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Support for the Implementation of Caring for the Earth in the Meso-American Region
1.18 1994 1994 Buenos Aires IUCN Policies and Action on Sustainable Development
1.15 1994 1994 Buenos Aires IUCN Sahel Programme
1.14 1994 1994 Buenos Aires IUCN in the Caribbean
1.13 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Increased IUCN Presence and Influence in South America
1.05 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Review of the IUCN Statutes
1.04 1994 1994 Buenos Aires National Parks and Protected Areas
1.03 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Species Survival Commission
1.02 1994 1994 Buenos Aires The Role of the IUCN Commissions
1.01 1994 1994 Buenos Aires The Strategy of IUCN - The World Conservation Union
1.97 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Strategy to Protect the Arctic Environment
1.96 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Antarctica and the Southern Ocean
1.94 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Management of Freshwater Supply in Spain
1.93 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Conservation in the Mont Blanc Region, France, Italy and Switzerland
1.92 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Establishment of Marine Sanctuaries for Large and Small Cetaceans in the Ligurian Sea, Western Mediterranean
1.89 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Forest Conservation in Tasmania, Australia
1.88 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Proposed Tasmanian Kent (Island) Group Marine Reserve, Australia
1.87 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Conservation of Kakadu World Heritage Site, Australia
1.85 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Creery Wetlands, Western Australia
1.84 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Clearing Native Vegetation in Australia
1.83 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Conservation of Endangered Species in Australia: Ghost Bat (Macroderma gigas) and Gouldian Finch (Erythrura gouldiae)
1.82 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Conservation of Mangrove Communities in Australia
1.81 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Conservation of the Gulf Region, Northern Territory, Australia
1.80 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Protection of Australian Native Forests
1.79 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Mining in the Fly River Catchment, Papua New Guinea
1.76 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Protection of the North Pacific Marine Ecosystem
1.75 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Tatshenshini-Alsek River System, Canada and USA
1.74 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Conservation of the South Atlantic Coastal Ecosystems of South America
1.73 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Paraguay-Paraná Waterway Project
1.72 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Prohibition of Flights Over Certain World Heritage Sites in South America
1.71 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Possible World Heritage Site at Parati, Brazil
1.70 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Biosphere Reserves in South America
1.67 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Prevention of Impact on Indian Peoples and Biodiversity as a Consequence of the Transamazonian Road between Brazil and Peru through Madre de Dios
1.66 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Opening of the Tapón del Darién
1.65 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Conservation of South American Native Forests
1.64 1994 1994 Buenos Aires Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary
17.35 1988 San José Regulation of hunting
17.34 1988 San José Conservation by the European community (EC)
17.29 1988 San José Third world debt and sustainable development
17.28 1988 San José National and regional conservation strategies
17.27 1988 San José Institutions for natural resource conservation and development
17.25 1988 San José International conservation financing programme
17.24 1988 San José New Brazilian constitution
17.22 1988 San José Development of environmental law
17.21 1988 San José Pollution and marine debris
17.18 1988 San José Depletion of ozone
17.15 1988 San José The international decade of natural disaster reduction
17.14 1988 San José Global warming of the atmosphere
17.12 1988 San José 40th anniversary of IUCN
17.11 1988 San José Youth in conservation
17.10 1988 San José Support for networks of environmental organisations in Latin America and the Caribbean region
17.7 1988 San José Consultation on the World Conservation Strategy companion volume
17.6 1988 San José An improved system of information management for natural resource data
17.5 1988 San José Use of the French and Spanish languages
17.3 1988 San José Election of WWF President as patron of IUCN
17.2 1988 San José Resolution of thanks to the host country
17.1 1988 San José Patrons of the Union
17.64 1988 San José Shiraha reef, Japan
17.63 1988 San José International importance of Scottish peatlands, United Kingdom
17.62 1988 San José Conservation of the Alps
17.61 1988 San José Protection of Juan Fernandez National Park and Biosphere Reserve, Chile
17.60 1988 San José Carajas pig iron plants, Brazil
17.58 1988 San José The Arctic international wildlife reserve, Canada and USA
17.57 1988 San José Bering land bridge World Heritage site, USSR and USA
17.56 1988 San José Nam Coa dam, Thailand
17.55 1988 San José Western Tasmania World Heritage site II, Australia
17.54 1988 San José Mount Etna, Australia
17.52 1988 San José Antarctica
16/43 1984 Madrid Thanks to host government
16/42 1984 Madrid Funding
16/41 1984 Madrid Parks Magazine
16/40 1984 Madrid World Charter for Nature
16/39 1984 Madrid World Heritage listing of outstanding tropical rainforest in Queensland, Australia
16/38 1984 Madrid Airstrip at Pointe Geologie, Antarctica
16/37 1984 Madrid Galapagos Archipelago, Ecuador
16/35 1984 Madrid World heritage convention
16/34 1984 Madrid Protection of wilderness resources and values
16/33 1984 Madrid Rivers of outstanding international importance
16/32 1984 Madrid Biosphere reserves
16/31 1984 Madrid Support for the protection of representative ecosystems
16/30 1984 Madrid Whaling
16/28 1984 Madrid Exploitation of chimpanzees in Spain
16/27 1984 Madrid Christmas Island (Indian Ocean)
16/26 1984 Madrid, Plant species in trade
16/24 1984 Madrid Wild genetic resources and endangered species habitat protection
16/21 1984 Madrid European community
16/20 1984 Madrid Development assistance institutions and conservation
16/19 1984 Madrid NGO partnership with IUCN on marine conservation initiatives
16/17 1984 Madrid Use of languages
16/16 1984 Madrid Conservation of wetlands
16/15 1984 Madrid Liability and compensation for oil spills from vessels
16/14 1984 Madrid Ocean disposal of radioactive wastes
16/12 1984 Madrid Environmental law of the sea
16/11 1984 Madrid Deep sea mining and the establishment of protected areas in the deep ocean
16/10 1984 Madrid Regional conventions
16/9 1984 Madrid Antarctica (II)
16/8 1984 Madrid Antarctica
16/7 1984 Madrid Support for conservation in Africa
16/6 1984 Madrid Human settlements and conservation action
16/2 1984 Madrid Conservation and military activities
16/1 1984 Madrid Nuclear winter
15/28 1981 Christchurch Resolutions procedure
15/27 1981 Christchurch Fund-raising
15/25 1981 Christchurch Thanks to host government
15/24 1981 Christchurch Environmental management in the south Pacific
15/23 1981 Christchurch Micronesian resource management assistance
15/22 1981 Christchurch Southwest Tasmania
15/21 1981 Christchurch Preservation of the Great Barrier Reef
15/20 1981 Christchurch Antarctica environment and the southern Ocean
15/19 1981 Christchurch Large and small cetaceans
15/18 1981 Christchurch Deep sea mining and establishment of protected areas of the ocean
15/17 1981 Christchurch Law of the sea
15/16 1981 Christchurch Ramsar convention
15/15 1981 Christchurch International trade in pesticides
15/14 1981 Christchurch Environmental effects of acid rain and snow and other acid deposition
15/13 1981 Christchurch Protection of free-flowing rivers from river engineering
15/11 1981 Christchurch Tropical moist forests
15/9 1981 Christchurch Renewable energy
15/7 1981 Christchurch The role of traditional lifestyles and local people in conservation and development
15/6 1981 Christchurch Urban fringes
15/5 1981 Christchurch Development assistance
15/4 1981 Christchurch Environmental planning
15/3 1981 Christchurch People, resources and environment
15/1 1981 Christchurch World Conservation Strategy
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Thanks to the host governments
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Thanks to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Thanks to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF)
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Thanks to governments
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Relations with the International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP)
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Moratorium on commercial whaling
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Triennial programme and estimates of income and expenditure
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad World Conservation Strategy
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Regulation of the ivory trade in Zaire
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad The Indian elephant (Elephas maximus) and its habitat
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Kagera river basin
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Kromote
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Gorges du Verdon
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Christmas Island - Indian Ocean
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Conservation of the Himalayan region
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Peatlands
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad World Heritage Natural Sites
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad The grey seals
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Seashells
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Wadden Sea
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Palau
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Antarctica and the southern Ocean
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Ocean trenches
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Marine atlas
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Marine oil tankers - pollution
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Incidental take
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Deep sea mining
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Environmental effects of sulfur dioxide pollution
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Environmental effects of modern agriculture
14/1 1978 Ashokhabad Conservation for development
13/43 1977 Geneva Resolution 434
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12/12 1975 Kinshasa Energy and conservation
12/10 1975 Kinshasa Convention on trade in endangered species
12/8 1975 Kinshasa Principles replacing maximum sustainable yield as basis for management of wildlife resources
12/6 1975 Kinshasa Conservation of tropical rainforests
12/5 1975 Kinshasa Protection of traditional ways of life
12/4 1975 Kinshasa Conservation of mangroves, salt habitats and related habitats
12/2 1975 Kinshasa Marine Parks
12/1 1975 Kinshasa Charter for Nature
11/22 1972 Banff Environmental Law
11/18 1972 Banff Agreements with industry on uses of threatened species
11/17 1972 Banff International trade in wildlife
11/15 1972 Banff Protection of wide-ranging species
11/14 1972 Banff Regional Parks in Brazil
11/13 1972 Banff New Hebrides Kauri Forest
11/12 1972 Banff Arctic International Wildlife Refuge
11/11 1972 Banff Marine parks and reserves
11/19 1972 Banff Oil exploration in the Mediterranean
11/8 1972 Banff Balanced tourism
11/6 1972 Banff Ecological principles for economic development
11/5 1972 Banff FAO activities in environmental issues
11/4 1972 Banff Man and the Biosphere Programme
11/3 1972 Banff Convention on Conservation of Wetlands
11/2 1972 Banff Conservation of the World Heritage
11/1 1972 Banff Stockholm Conference
10/35 1969 New Delhi Hosts of the 10th General Assembly
10/34 1969 New Delhi Population stabilisation
10/32 1969 New Delhi International co-operation in south Asia
10/31 1969 New Delhi Specialised wildlife departments
10/30 1969 New Delhi Calcutta salt lake area
10/29 1969 New Delhi Oceanic islands
10/27 1969 New Delhi Pesticides
10/26 1969 New Delhi Reservoirs
10/25 1969 New Delhi Natural and semi-natural vegetation
10/24 1969 New Delhi Integrated conservation
10/23 1969 New Delhi Social sciences
10/22 1969 New Delhi International co-operation in education
10/21 1969 New Delhi Youth and conservation
10/20 1969 New Delhi School education in India
10.18 1969 New Delhi Teacher training
10.16 1969 New Delhi Smaller feld species
10.14 1969 New Delhi The Asiatic lion
10.13 1969 New Delhi Orangutans
10.12 1969 New Delhi Study and conservation of marine turtles in Turkey
10.11 1969 New Delhi Grazing in wildlife reserves and national parks
10.10 1969 New Delhi Amazonian animal trade
10.09 1969 New Delhi Population studies of wild animals
10.08 1969 New Delhi Volcanoes national park
10.07 1969 New Delhi La Vanoise national park
10.06 1969 New Delhi The national parks in Congo
10.05 1969 New Delhi Reserves in expanding urban areas
10.04 1969 New Delhi Periyar wildlife sanctuary
10.03 1969 New Delhi Zoological and botanical gardens
10.02 1969 New Delhi List of national parks and equivalent reserves
10.01 1969 New Delhi Definition of national parks
9.25 1966 Lucerne Resolution of thanks and appreciation
9.24 1966 Lucerne Commercial exploitation of wildlife
9.23 1966 Lucerne Use of immobilisation techniques
9.22 1966 Lucerne Threatened species in Indonesia
9.21 1966 Lucerne Conservation in Peru
9.20 1966 Lucerne Anchoveta stocks in Peru
9.19 1966 Lucerne Whaling in the north Pacific
9.18 1966 Lucerne UN control of whale resources
9.17 1966 Lucerne The Italian National Parks
9.16 1966 Lucerne The Salonga National Park of Congo (Kinshasa)
9.15 1966 Lucerne The Kahuzi-Biega National Park of Congo
9.14 1966 Lucerne The Milieo area of Albert National Park and the chain of the Virunga volcanoes generally
9.13 1966 Lucerne The Grand Canyon
9.12 1966 Lucerne The integrity of national parks
9.11 1966 Lucerne Recreation
9.10 1966 Lucerne Iromote Jima
9.09 1966 Lucerne A checklist of important uninhabited or relatively undisturbed islands
8.86 1966 Lucerne Threatened species in Madagascar
8.51 1966 Lucerne Misuse of toxic chemicals
9.41 1966 Lucerne The second European meeting on wildfowl conservation
9.31 1966 Lucerne Wild bird protection
9.21 1966 Lucerne The International Biological Programme
9.11 1966 Lucerne Proposed Biosphere conference in 1968
8.41 1963 Nairobi Resolution of thanks and appreciation to the government of Kenya
8.40 1963 Nairobi Resolution on new National Parks in Tanganyika
8.39 1963 Nairobi Resolution on Sudan marine national park
8.38 1963 Nairobi Resolution on Rwanda
8.37 1963 Nairobi Resolution on north and south Luangwa game reserve in northern Rhodesia
8.36 1963 Nairobi Resolution on the Mt. Elgon National Park in Kenya
8.35 1963 Nairobi Resolution on the Udjunggu game reserve in Indonesia
8.34 1963 Nairobi Resolution on Congo (Leopoldville)
8.33 1963 Nairobi Resolution on red colobus monkey and suni in Zanzibar
8.32 1963 Nairobi Resolution on the blue whale
8.31 1963 Nairobi Resolution on birds of paradise
8.30 1963 Nairobi Resolution on the conservation of the green turtle
8.29 1963 Nairobi Resolution on marine turtles
8.28 1963 Nairobi Resolution on spotted cats
8.27 1963 Nairobi Resolution on orangutan
8.25 1963 Nairobi Resolution on capture and transport of primates
8.24 1963 Nairobi Resolution on a world conference on the survival of plants and animals threatened with extinction
8.23 1963 Nairobi Resolution on chimpanzee reserve in Tanganyika
8.22 1963 Nairobi Resolution on Mount Loma in Sierra Leone
8.21 1963 Nairobi Resolution on Sabah (North Borneo) sanctuaries
8.20 1963 Nairobi Resolution on dam in Huilule river in Natal
8.19 1963 Nairobi Resolution on Kenya marine national park
8.18 1963 Nairobi Resolution on National Parks in Jordan
8.17 1963 Nairobi Resolution on the Gran Paradiso National Park in Italy
8.16 1963 Nairobi Resolution on the Abruzzi National Park in Italy
8.15 1963 Nairobi Resolution on Indonesia reserves
8.14 1963 Nairobi Resolution on the Equator National Park in Ecuador
8.13 1963 Nairobi Resolution on translocation
8.12 1963 Nairobi Resolution on limitation of use of pesticides in National Parks
8.11 1963 Nairobi Resolution on savanna
8.10 1963 Nairobi Resolution on population increase
8.09 1963 Nairobi Resolution on need for ecology in development
8.08 1963 Nairobi Resolution on wildlife college for french-speaking Africa
8.07 1963 Nairobi Resolution on education
8.06 1963 Nairobi Resolution on public relations
8.05 1963 Nairobi Resolution on illegal traffic in wildlife species
8.04 1963 Nairobi Resolution on Conservation laws
8.03 1963 Nairobi Resolution on the African Charter for the Conservation and Protection of Nature
8.02 1963 Nairobi Resolution on the International Biological Programme
8.01 1963 Nairobi Resolution on government representation
7.16 1960 Warsaw Integrating nature conservation into economic and social affairs
7.15 1960 Warsaw Pieniny National park
7.14 1960 Warsaw International movement of rare animals
7.12 1960 Warsaw Protection of gorillas
7.11 1960 Warsaw Holartic forests
7.9 1960 Warsaw Landscape planning as part of good government
7.8 1960 Warsaw Impact of population growth on the environment
7.7 1960 Warsaw Conservation and natural resource management education
7.6 1960 Warsaw Antarctic fauna and flora
7.5 1960 Warsaw Protected areas in Japan
7.4 1960 Warsaw Energy demands in Scandinavia
7.3 1960 Warsaw IUCN support for conservation in Africa
7.2 1960 Warsaw Conservation Education in Africa
7.1 1960 Warsaw Conservation in Africa
6.246 1958 Athens National parks and nature reserves
6.2 1958 Athens Rare plants and animals of the Mediterranean region
6.1a 1958 Athens Education and conservation
6.1d 1958 Athens Influence of soil and water conservation on natural aquatic resources
6.1c 1958 Athens Rates of run-off and evaporation
6.1b 1958 Athens Effects of dams on habitat and landscape with special attention to semi-arid regions
5.4 1956 Edinburgh Relationship of ecology to landscape planning
5.3 1956 Edinburgh Rehabilitation of areas biologically devastated by human disturbance
5.2 1956 Edinburgh Biological effects of the recent spread of myxomatosis among rabbits
5.1 1956 Edinburgh Management of Nature Reserves on the basis of modern scientific knowledge
4.3 1954 Copenhagen Methods and means of publicity for nature protection
4.2 1954 Copenhagen Effects of modern insecticides on Mammals, Birds and Insects
4.1 1954 Copenhagen Protection of Arctic fauna committee
3.109 1952 Caracas Motion of thanks
3.101 1952 Caracas Resolution presented by Mr. W. Vogt
3.90 1952 Caracas Establishment of an association of "Friends of IUCN"
3.82 1952 Caracas Nature Protection through land treatment
3.38 1952 Caracas Cooperation for Nature Protection and Conservation
3.2 1952 Caracas Preservation of zoological or botanical species endemic in small islands, particularly in the Caribbean Sea
3.1 1952 Caracas Preservation of wild fauna in semi-arid regions, with particular attention to specific examples in Central and South America
3.11 1952 Caracas Hydroelectricity and the Protection of Nature
2.6 1950 Brussels Proposals by Mr. R. Videsott
2.5 1950 Brussels Motion put forward by the French delegation
2.45 1950 Brussels Relations with the International Committee for Bird Preservation
WCC-2020-Res-002-EN

Strengthened institutional inclusion concerning indigenous peoples

APPRaising that conservation must be equitable and inclusive of people, sustainable cultural practices and values;

REAFFIRMING Resolution 4.052 on Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Barcelona, 2008), in which the Union requested that "the Director General make indigenous peoples' role in conserving biological and cultural diversity a main concern of IUCN and future World Conservation Congresses";

RECALLING that the Members' Assembly at the 6th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Hawái, 2016) adopted Resolution 6.004 Including indigenous peoples' organisations in the structure of the Union, which created a new separate category of membership for indigenous peoples' organisations (IPOs), strengthening the recognition of their rights, participation, voice and role in IUCN;

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 6.075 Affirmation of the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts (Hawái, 2016) affirmed the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts and invited the Director General and Council to work with indigenous knowledge holders to integrate their values and approaches into modern conservation efforts;

WELCOMING the 2018 decision of IUCN Council under Article 38(f) of the IUCN Statutes to appoint the first IPO member of the Council;

BEARING IN MIND that the proposal for the IUCN Programme 2021–2024 provides for the active participation of indigenous peoples in order to achieve the Union’s objectives regarding governance, conservation and the sustainable use of nature and that indigenous peoples have tenure rights over at least 36 million square kilometres in 87 countries, representing over a quarter of the planet’s land surface and intersecting with approximately 40% of all the terrestrial protected areas and ecologically intact landscapes;

RECALLING Articles 4 and 7 of International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169, and reaffirming Article 8(j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which recognises the importance of traditional knowledge with regard to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;

NOTING that IUCN has adopted over 150 Resolutions that directly or indirectly refer to indigenous peoples' (IP) rights, indigenous and local knowledge, and IP conservation;

RECALLING Resolution 14.1. a Reporting on resolutions (Ashkhabad, 1978) calls upon "member States, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations to report formally on the follow-up action to all resolutions that apply to them one year before each General Assembly";

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 5.001 Strengthening the motions process and enhancing implementation of IUCN Resolutions (Jeju, 2012) calls upon the Director General to review and monitor the implementation of Resolutions to strengthen the motions process and enhance the implementation of IUCN Resolutions;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 6.001. Identifying and archiving obsolete resolutions and Recommendations to strengthen IUCN policy and to enhance implementation of IUCN Resolutions (Hawái, 2016) calls upon the IUCN Council to enhance implementation of past IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations by identifying and archiving obsolete texts, and

NOTING the work of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) on indigenous peoples and protected areas, including the development of various guidelines;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS on the Director General to ensure that the values and approaches of indigenous peoples, especially those concerning indigenous women and rights of indigenous peoples, are included within the institutional plans of IUCN;

2. CALLS on the Director General and Council to promote the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples’ organisations, in the ongoing work of the Union and to strengthen these organisations through regional focal points;

3. URGES the Director General and WCPA to:

   a. consider the development of mechanisms for the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples’ organisations (IPOs) and the regional focal points in the Union, including in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies, projects and guidelines for the management of protected natural areas and indigenous territories, adopting an inter-cultural approach; and

   b. incorporate indigenous peoples and know their views on protected areas, to develop knowledge-based policies, directives, standards and best practice guidelines regarding solutions to the challenges facing the management of protected areas, with the full participation of indigenous peoples;

4. CALLS on Council to assess IUCN’s compliance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in IUCN’s work and programmes;

5. CALLS on the Commissions to advance the representation of indigenous peoples in their steering committees and work programmes;

6. URGES the Commissions and Members to ensure implementation of all previously adopted IUCN Resolutions that concern indigenous peoples and that still remain relevant; and

7. ENCOURAGES State and Government Agency Members to urge their home government to implement a forum for local indigenous peoples to share concerns and solutions.
RECOGNISING that the world is at a crossroads with the convergence of several crises: catastrophic climate change, the sixth mass biodiversity extinction event, the modification of geological processes, loss of geological heritage and natural resources such as soils and water, generalised degradation of nature of our planet, massive land and ocean degradation, growing food insecurity and increasing economic inequality;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that transformative change for a system-wide reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is necessary; that current government mitigation contributions alone are insufficient to limit global warming to a level that avoids irreparable harmful impacts to humans and ecosystems; that IUCN has a global reputation for the integrity of its work and the capacity to provide global leadership; and that IUCN, exercising its unique convening powers, mobilising its membership, and implementing a step change in its communications, can fast-track the necessary transition to a green economy;

STRESSING that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on the impacts of Global Warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways points out that there is a gap between the Nationally Determined Contributions submitted by Parties in the context of the Paris Agreement of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the emission reductions needed to stay well below 2°C and to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, as agreed in Paris;

FURTHER STRESSING that this generates an existential threat to the survival of current and future generations;

NOTING the latest IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (SROCC), which indicates that some shallow marine ecosystems will experience a moderate to high risk, and very high in the case of coral reefs, as a consequence of climate changes;

NOTING the essential contribution of biodiversity protection and ecosystem integrity in achieving the targets adopted by the Paris Agreement to prevent global warming from exceeding 1.5°C;

FURTHER NOTING that enhanced action on climate change adaptation, mitigation and resilience is necessary to protect communities from the irreversible impacts of climate change;

RECOGNISING the importance of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement as the main legal instruments to deal with climate change in the multilateral framework; and

TAKING NOTE that the situation demands a new and powerful structural response by IUCN that will accelerate all components of the Union to help prevent global warming higher than 1.5°C; represent a profound focus for all Members, the younger generation, indigenous people, Island Nations, and other willing nations and partners; and allow the younger generations the chance to participate in a vanguard organisation with unremitting commitment to contribute to a solid and global response to achieving carbon neutrality and climate resilience with a view to avoid the consequences of global warming higher than 1.5°C;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON IUCN Members to agree on establishing a new Commission with the working title of ‘The Climate Crisis Commission’ with the aim of mobilising and coordinating the Union and engaging with Regional and National IUCN Committees and broader civil society efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change based on the best available science coming from the IPCC and taking into account the actions and initiatives that are developed in the UNFCCC through the Global Climate Action Agenda;

2. REQUESTS Council to provide guidance on the process to establish an interim Commission Chair and Steering Committee;

3. DIRECTS the Steering Committee to submit a proposal to Council presenting recommendations for the new Commission’s Terms of Reference (avoiding duplication with regard to existing bodies), mode of operation, membership and leadership; and

4. DECIDES that the new Commission shall be funded by extra-budgetary resources.
WCC-2020-Res-003-EN
Transforming global food systems through sustainable land management that is aligned to the UN SDGs

RECOGNISING the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which aims to eliminate poverty and hunger for all human beings and RECALLING that many Sustainable Development Goals support the Agenda, in particular Goals 2, 12 and 15 which call for zero hunger, responsible consumption, and life on land respectively;

RECOGNISING the growing global concerns over the role of unsustainable agriculture practices in transcending three major planetary boundaries (biophysical integrity, land-system change and biogeochemical flows);

AWARE that food insecurity is on the rise at global level, with more than 820 million people suffering from hunger and that global demand for food continues to grow;

NOTING that agricultural land can provide a number of ecosystem services when managed sustainably and that farmers and landowners can be incentivised to conserve those services;

RECOGNISING that the full value of agricultural land and landscapes depends especially on restoring and protecting land health, for which soil organic carbon and soil biodiversity are key indicators;

NOTING the call for transformation of the food and agriculture system in the Hawai‘i Commitments, as well as IUCN’s history of Resolutions and Recommendations that relate to food and agriculture, and also the work of the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) and the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) on nutrition and food systems;

MINDFUL of the major contribution of unsustainable agricultural practices to environmental degradation and the extinction crisis;

MINDFUL, conversely, that well-managed agricultural practices and sustainable agricultural and forest systems can provide important conservation and social benefits and are vital tools for the restoration of degraded lands;

NOTING that 40% of agricultural land is degraded or degrading and this presents both a risk and an opportunity;

ALSO RECOGNISING the centrality of land health and soil biodiversity to maintaining ecosystem functionality in production landscapes;

ACKNOWLEDGING the significant knowledge gaps in the taxonomy and characterisation of soil biodiversity;

EMPHASISING the need to manage soil as an ecosystem and not as a substrate and that this knowledge is already embedded in many traditional and contemporary land management systems;

ACKNOWLEDGING that increased multi-stakeholder dialogue and engagement is required if the world is to achieve a sustainable food and agriculture system;

RECOGNISING the growing number of actors in the agriculture sector that are striving for sectoral transformation towards sustainability; and

NOTING IUCN’s growing role in promoting sustainable land management as an accredited agency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the opportunity for promoting sustainable land management as a Nature-based Solution for sustainable agriculture and food production;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to:
   a. improve and deliver information for supporting improvement of food systems, both using the value of nature and reducing the threats to nature, including information on soil biodiversity, management practices, land health related to agricultural systems, and agricultural landscape functionality;
   b. accelerate IUCN’s field action on sustainable agriculture, Land Degradation Neutrality and Landscape Restoration, as major components of IUCN’s contribution to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, in cooperation with other competent organisations;
   c. invest in developing partnerships with key stakeholder groups in the food and agriculture sector to promote sectoral transformation;
   d. promote land health and soil biodiversity in relevant policy fora; and
   e. structure IUCN’s engagement in agriculture to transcend current IUCN thematic programme areas and connect across all of IUCN’s relevant work on science, policy and practice;

2. RECOMMENDs that Commissions improve availability of knowledge on sustainable agriculture, including indicators and values of land health and soil biodiversity, and evidence of successful approaches for large-scale transformative action, as well as methods to develop estimates of the value of ecosystem services provided by agricultural lands; and

3. CALLS ON governments, civil society and private investors to prioritise the transition of the food and agriculture sector, from being a contributor to biodiversity loss to becoming an integral part of restoration and sustainable management of the environment, and to mobilise adequate resources to support sustainable practices at farm, landscape and supply-chain levels.
Urgent action against the grass *Cortaderia selloana* outside of its natural distribution range

CONSIDERING that invasive alien species are recognised as an important direct or indirect cause of biodiversity loss worldwide;

RECALLING Recommendations 2.79 *Introduction of alien species* and 2.67 *Invasive alien species* (both adopted in Amman, 2000), which referred to the damaging effects of invasive species for natural ecosystems, with these effects being increased by global trade and worsened by the effects of climate change;

FURTHER RECALLING the importance of implementing Resolution 5.021 *Implementing the provisions on alien species of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* (Jeju, 2012);

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that *Cortaderia selloana* was included in the list of the 100 most harmful species for Europe by the DAISIE (Delivering Alien Invasive Species Inventories for Europe) project;

ALARMED because today its seeds can be bought easily and cheaply anywhere in the world, without any legal constraints, through different Internet platforms;

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that *C. selloana* is highly tolerant of extreme conditions that would be very harsh for any other species, and its ecological requirements are not demanding;

CONCERNED about the great capacity of *C. selloana* to grow in degraded habitats associated with construction sites for land transport infrastructures such as roads and railways, in which the dispersive capacity of the seeds is increased across hundreds and thousands of kilometres, coming into contact with habitats of high value and protected natural areas;

FURTHER CONCERNED because its seeds are easily blown up into the air by turbulence caused by passing vehicles, which allows them to be dispersed even on days with little wind; and

FEARING that with the current situation of climate change it is likely that this species will take advantage of the new situation, given how quickly ecological changes are taking place and because of its capacity to adapt to these changes;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES the Director General to continue to inform IUCN Members about the threat that invasive alien species pose to biodiversity;

2. URGES IUCN Members outside the species’ original range in places where it is currently or may potentially be invasive to:
   a. take specific measures in the short term to control its populations and proceed to eradicate it in the medium term;
   b. include *Cortaderia selloana* in the list of species that could be identified in an early detection plan, so as to simplify and lower the cost of controlling it in high-risk areas;
   c. take steps to avoid it being introduced to different countries through the trade in garden plants or via Internet sales; and
   d. regulate the e-commerce in invasive alien species via the Internet in order to restrict its sale outside its original distribution range;

3. URGES the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) to:
   a. support the work carried out by the relevant institutions to deal with the e-commerce in invasive alien species; and
   b. define how invasive *Cortaderia selloana* is in comparison with other aggressive invasive alien species in temperate regions; and

4. CALLS ON governments in the European Union to propose the inclusion of this species in the List of Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern.
Recognising that cranes serve as ambassadors for conservation across agricultural landscapes, and that cranes are flagships for integrating biodiversity conservation into agricultural practices;

Also recognising that issues affecting cranes also affect broader diversity, and that cranes can be early warning systems for problems in agricultural landscapes;

Noting that all cranes are adapted to agricultural landscapes, which have become a key driver in global crane population dynamics;

Acknowledging that food production will need to increase by about 70% by 2050 to cope with human population growth, which will increase competition between humans and wildlife for land and water resources;

Recognising that, worldwide, most land is privately owned, is primarily used for agricultural purposes, and that it is necessary to work closely and effectively with private landowners;

Understanding that the life-histories of cranes are closely tied to wetlands and grasslands, the ecosystems most vulnerable to agricultural conversion;

Concerned that while agricultural intensification has resulted in a greater abundance of food for cranes, rapid agricultural expansion, contraction and industrialisation have had both positive and negative effects on cranes;

Recognising that sustainable agricultural development, in concert with wetland conservation, can harmonise the growing need for food production while ensuring a future for wetlands and cranes in an era of climate change and declining food and water security;

Concerned that the greatest threats to cranes worldwide are related to agricultural activities, including direct losses of wetlands and grasslands, altered wetland hydrology, fire, agricultural chemicals, human disturbance, disease risk; and collisions with power lines in and near agricultural lands;

Recognising that methods are available to reduce escalating conflicts between cranes and farmers; and

Acknowledging that integrated, landscape-level approaches are required to resolve conflict and that solutions will be situation-specific;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. Calls on commissions and members to:
   a. Better understand the crane-agriculture interface, and the role that cranes can play as ambassadors for the biodiversity-agricultural nexus, through reference to the Handbook on Cranes and Agriculture: Humans and Cranes Sharing the Landscape;
   b. Collaborate and partner with governments, conservation practitioners, agricultural experts and other stakeholders to explore effective, multi-disciplinary solutions to mitigating human-crane conflicts occurring in agricultural landscapes;
   c. Disseminate information to farmers and land managers about sustainable farming, genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and chemicals that harm animal life, sound water use, and methods to avoid conflicts with cranes in areas significant to cranes (i.e. breeding, staging, wintering grounds); and
   d. Share lessons learned and experiences in the wildlife-agricultural landscape;

2. Also calls on governments to adopt and enforce policies that sustain biodiversity values within agricultural landscapes, including protection of wetlands and other ecologically important habitats from degradation, ensure that wildlife receives adequate appropriations in water allocation decisions, and that regulation and safe use of GMOs, pesticides, and herbicides (e.g. glyphosate) do not threaten ecosystem health or biodiversity; and

3. Requests researchers to develop alternative management practices that better address agriculturists’ concerns and conflicts – especially where traditional, subsistence or small-scale farming dominates – and that would more likely lead to practices benefitting both agriculturists and biodiversity.
WCC-2020-Res-006-EN
Declaration of priority for the conservation of tropical dry forests in South America

RECOGNISING that Tropical Dry Forests (TDFs) are extremely fragile and vulnerable to the current contexts of transformation and to scenarios of the intensification of droughts and fire, and that they are home to unique organisms adapted to conditions of water stress, important in the strategies of adaptation to climate change;

OBSERVING that the knowledge on biodiversity and ecological functioning of TDFs is insufficient and that over 97% of the current plant cover in this ecosystem are in danger of extinction on a global level as a result of different threats due to land-use changes and climate change;

CONSIDERING that 54% of all the world's TDFs are found in the Americas, particularly in South America, and that only 5% of these forests are legally protected;

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that in countries such as Colombia and Ecuador, only 8% and 2% respectively of the original TDFs remain, and that there are still large sectors such as the Chiquitano Dry Forest, the Cerrado and the Gran Chaco (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay), where the deforestation rates are increasing and alarming;

CONSIDERING the importance of conserving the Chaco, since it is the only ecoregion outside the Amazon region that still contains uncontacted people living in voluntary isolation, from the indigenous Ayoreo people, between Bolivia and Paraguay;

INDICATING that the recent studies based on the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems indicate that in the Americas TDFs are in danger of collapsing, and that in the dry period of 2019 over two million hectares were burnt, above all in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay;

AWARE that 66% of the freshwater reservoirs in the Americas are associated with TDFs, and that over 100 million people depend on these ecosystems, with them being sources of food security for indigenous peoples and communities;

RECALLING that most of the past IUCN Resolutions linked to the conservation of forests and forest landscapes (for example Resolution 016 Tropical Forests (Ashkhabad, 1978), Recommendation 029 Tropical Forest Alteration and Species Extinctions (Perth, 1990) and Resolution 061 IUCN Strategy for tropical forest ecosystems of Amazonia and Congo Basins and South East Asia basins (Jeju, 2012)) focus on temperate forest or rainforest ecosystems; and

FURTHER RECALLING that IUCN has Resolutions that highlight the value of the protection of primary forests (Resolution 045 Protection of primary forests, including intact forest landscapes (Hawaii, 2016)), and the danger of deforestation and soil degradation related to deforestation and climate change (Recommendation 134 Responding to deforestation and land degradation related to climate change and desertification (Barcelona, 2008));

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France: ASKS the Director General to:

a. call on all states, and in particular those in South America to:

i. make efforts to assess the conservation status of TDF ecosystems, involving indigenous peoples and local communities and following the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems protocols;

ii. determine the biological and economic value of the ecosystem functions of these forests in socioeconomic development and adaptation to climate change strategies;

iii. establish as a priority the increase in the amount of TDF land protected by various legal mechanisms; and

iv. promote economic and social incentive processes and mechanisms to safeguard TDFs in sustainable agricultural production schemes;

b. urge the United Nations international organisations and programmes, especially the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), and the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), to take into account the fragile condition and state of deterioration of TDFs in South America and establish and/or promote joint agendas that include actions for the conservation, effective management, restoration and sustainable use of these ecosystems involving indigenous peoples and local communities; and

c. call on the IUCN Regional Office for South America (IUCN-Sur) and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) to promote a regional strategy, through one or more events, with the participation of the Members, specialists in ecology and the effective management of TDFs, and indigenous peoples and local communities, aimed at exerting an influence on states, the private sector and civil society in order to help support the conservation of these ecosystems.
ACKNOWLEDGING that agroecology is one of a number of innovative and sustainable approaches to achieve agricultural sustainability;

CONCERNED about the growing pressure on natural resources throughout the world, in particular on soils and water, and about significant loss of biodiversity, as well as climate change;

RECALLING that in this context it is necessary to improve the sustainability of food and agricultural systems, adapted to pedoclimatic conditions, producing sufficiently while improving the socio-economic and environmental performances of farms regardless of their size;

RECOGNISING the definition of nature-based solutions (NbS) adopted in Resolution 6.069 Defining Nature-based Solutions (Hawaii), 2018 and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Resolution 7/2019 Further integration of sustainable agricultural approaches, including agroecology, in the future planning activities of FAO (Rome, 2019);

FURTHER RECOGNISING that NbS with safeguards can be efficient, cost-effective and that they offer an opportunity to enhance the resilience of ecosystems to climate change and to help accelerate the transition towards more sustainable food and systems;

ALSO RECOGNISING the positive environmental externalities generated by agroecological approaches;

WELCOMING the work of FAO on agroecology and RECALLING that, according to FAO, agroecology is based on applying ecological principles to optimise mutually beneficial interactions between plants, animals, humans and the environment, while taking into consideration the economic and social aspects that need to be addressed for a sustainable and fair food system;

NOTING that agroecology includes a diversity of farm-based or landscape-based sustainable approaches and practices that intend to allow functional biodiversity, including the cultivated and domesticated component, to increase in agroecosystems, to strengthen regulatory ecosystem services and to close geochemical cycles; and

NOTING that several recent reports show that agroecology can contribute to the transition towards more sustainable food and agricultural systems;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Secretariat to seek relevant funds and prepare a report on agroecological practices as nature-based solutions (NbS), focusing on the diversity of ecosystem services they provide, in the IUCN Programme 2021–2024, in collaboration with FAO, and on the basis of the recent reports linked to this theme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE), FAO, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative (IPS), and other relevant reports;

2. FURTHER REQUESTS the Secretariat to support the dissemination and implementation of agroecological practices in its projects and programmes on the protection and conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems;

3. RECOMMENDS that states, communities, indigenous peoples, local stakeholders, and industry develop, promote and incentivise the adoption of agroecological practices as NbS as appropriate and integrate them into their national policies, as part of sustainable food systems. Measures to promote agroecological approaches should be implemented by states consistently with their national and international obligations; and

4. ALSO RECOMMENDS that farmers, industry, and other value-chain and local stakeholders engage in actions for the transition towards agroecological practices as appropriate, as solutions to economic, environmental and social challenges of farms and landscapes, food insecurity, malnutrition and biodiversity loss.
WCC-2020-Res-008-EN
Protecting rivers and their associated ecosystems as corridors in a changing climate

RECOGNISING the many ecosystem services healthy rivers and their associated ecosystems provide, including drinking water, fisheries, sediments and nutrients, biodiversity, and recreational and cultural values;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that freshwater species populations are declining over twice as fast as terrestrial and marine species and that nearly one-third of freshwater species are threatened with extinction;

NOTING that climate change is altering the water cycle, as demonstrated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC);

AWARE that riparian areas, floodplains and other wetlands absorb and filter pollutants and slowly release precipitation into rivers, and help mitigate extreme floods, droughts and storm surges;

KNOWING that river systems must retain their four-dimensional connectivity to support freshwater species, ecosystems and many of their services;

NOTING Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 for terrestrial, freshwater and marine conservation through “well-connected systems of protected areas” and Strategy 1.7 of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands to “ensure…policies and implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)…particularly concerning…catchment/river basin management”;

UNDERSTANDING that connected rivers transport organic matter and nutrients to and from floodplains and release them in deltas, supporting important agriculture and fisheries, and homes and livelihoods for hundreds of millions of people;

KNOWING that many freshwater and terrestrial species must move along rivers to survive and that connected rivers are diminishing with only one-third of major rivers remaining free-flowing;

AWARE that climate change can impact human populations and that deltas and wild-capture fisheries, nourished by free-flowing rivers, can contribute to resilience of coastal and inland communities; and

CONCERNED by the lack of river protection and expanding development that harm river flows and freshwater species;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ENCOURAGES the Director General, Commissions, Members and States to promote the inclusion of river protection and connectivity within the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the monitoring of Sustainable Development Goal Target 6.6;

2. ALSO ENCOURAGES IUCN to:

a. assess the sustainability of existing river protection models (i.e. the effectiveness of legal mechanisms in maintaining the values and free-flowing nature of rivers) (World Commission on Protected Areas – WCFA, World Commission on Environmental Law – WCEL);

b. support learning exchanges, innovation and adoption of durable protection and governance models for rivers and associated ecosystems (WCFA, Water Programme);

c. assess free-flowing river status and its relationship to protection of the underground water system; and

d. encourage countries to support protection and restoration of rivers and their associated ecosystems, including through funding;

3. ENCOURAGES governments to:

a. work with civil society, communities, indigenous groups, the private sector and others to identify, restore and protect free-flowing rivers or stretches, and their associated ecosystems, that provide essential services, or resilience in a changing climate;

b. balance development by enacting durable legal protections and enhanced governance for rivers, including riparian buffer protections and other IWRM approaches and tools;

c. restore rivers or stretches, and their associated ecosystems, in which sufficient connectivity and flows could feasibly be restored;

d. promote cooperative management among governments to strengthen transboundary river governance;

e. use the IUCN Guidance for Conserving Connectivity through Ecological Networks and Corridors;

f. support protection and restoration of rivers and their associated ecosystems;

g. ensure that all contracts involving major infrastructure projects impacting national waterways include a provision that local stakeholders are included in the initial planning stages and that their concerns are incorporated in further discussions; and

h. ensure that employment or retraining opportunities are provided by developers to the local communities whose livelihoods are most disrupted by such projects; and

4. URGES civil society to support identification, restoration and protection of free-flowing rivers or stretches and their associated ecosystems.
WCC-2020-Res-009-EN
Protecting and restoring endangered grassland and savannah ecosystems

RECOGNISING the global importance of grasslands, which occupy 30% of the Earth’s land surface and harbour up to a third of terrestrial biodiversity, and which include the Cerrado, Pampas, Gran Chaco, Pantanal and Orinoco, Andean and African grasslands; grasslands of Northern America such as the Great Northern Plains; Eurasian steppes, in particular the Mongol-Manchurian grassland and steppes in Russia, Nepal, and China; savannas in Africa; and lowland grasslands of south-eastern Australia;

RECOGNISING the multiple ecosystem services (carbon sequestration, filtration and storage of freshwater, soil retention), animal and plant biodiversity and the strong economic, social and cultural bonds that tie many traditional pastoralist people to grasslands and savannahs;

RECOGNISING that 500 million people across the globe identify themselves as pastoralists, many of whom are historically marginalised, with limited access to health, education and other services;

CONCERNED that the world’s native grasslands and savannahs are undergoing land-use change and degradation at a rate likely exceeding that of any other biome;

FURTHER CONCERNED that threats to native and natural grassland and savannah ecosystems have received far less attention than losses of forests, freshwater or coastal systems;

ALSO CONCERNED that according to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) approximately 20% of the Earth’s vegetated land surface showed a persistent decline in productivity caused by land degradation;

CONCERNED that grassland ecology is inadequately understood and grassland biodiversity is insufficiently valued and these knowledge gaps contribute to under-investment and un-supportive policies;

AWARE that immediate drivers of land conversion include agricultural developments for livestock, food, fibre and energy production, mining and other extractive industries, unsustainable grazing and climate change;

AWARE, conversely, that well-managed agricultural practices and sustainable grazing systems on natural and semi-natural grasslands can provide important conservation and social benefits; and

ALSO AWARE of the full range of options for the world’s grasslands and savannahs, such as protection, sustainable management and restoration;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to support actions to address urgent issues relating to conversion and degradation of these ecosystems;

2. CALLS ON IUCN Commissions and Members to support the preparation of a Global Status Report on grasslands and savannahs identifying:
   a. areas of chief conservation concern, including existing and projected conversion fronts and degradation trends, fragmentation of landscapes and Key Biodiversity Areas;

   b. the value of associated ecosystem services and their benefits for human communities addressing local knowledge, land rights and customary institutions; and

   c. successful and replicable grassland restoration practices, indicators of grassland and savannah quality and best practices for protection, sustainable management and restoration of grasslands and savannahs, including those that can be implemented on working lands;

3. RECOMMENDS that IUCN and its Members work, as appropriate, with their national-level and other counterparts engaged in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to encourage them to seek to support the inclusion in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework of a target on zero net loss of natural ecosystems, including grasslands and savannahs, thus avoiding leakage from one biome to another;

4. CALLS ON Commissions and Members to support efforts to foster grassland and savannah protection and restoration in the focus of the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration, possibly through setting targets for integration of grassland and savannah protection in land-planning policies, as part of an Ecological Restoration Plan, and requesting governments to designate resources for the implementation of such a plan;

5. ENCOURAGES Members and governments to apply the UNCCD’s Scientific Conceptual Framework for Land Degradation Neutrality as a means to support implementation of the UNCCD and to fulfil Sustainable Development Goal 15.3. within all areas of grassland and savannah around the world; and

6. REQUESTS IUCN to seek support from State Members for the process initiated by the Committee on Agriculture (FAO) of the United Nations, to designate a ‘United Nations International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists’ in order to increase worldwide understanding of the importance of rangelands, including grasslands and savannahs, for the conservation of biodiversity and local livelihoods, to be voted on at the 27th session of the FAO Conference in June 2021, and the United Nations General Assembly in September 2021.

Note: The proposal to designate a ‘United Nations International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists’ was endorsed at the 27th Session of the FAO Committee on Agriculture. It will proceed to votes at the 165th Session of the FAO Council meeting in December 2020, the 42nd Session of the FAO Conference in June 2021, and the United Nations General Assembly in September 2021.
WCC-2020-Res-010-EN
Preventing conflicts of interest related to chemicals and plant protection products

WISHING to maintain public confidence in the authorities providing advice or helping to make decisions on the production, launching and dissemination of chemical or plant protection products that can be harmful to public health or animals, and the environment, in particular soil, water, flora, fauna, pollinating insects and other living organisms;

NOTING that these authorities do not always have resources or independent scientific data, or because of conflicts of interest between experts and companies or sectors manufacturing, marketing or using these products;

OBSERVING that funding policies give priority to applied research at the expense of basic research, thus increasing the risk of conflicts of interest within the scientific community that is asked to provide expertise;

NOTING that numerous treaties, in particular the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), include provisions on the prevention and management of conflicts of interest and have led to the establishment of rules and procedures in this area;

NOTING however, that the mechanisms designed for this purpose in national and international law lack coherence and still do not include sufficient laws to prevent or manage conflicts of interest;

CONVINCED of the need to generalise and reinforce legal arrangements aimed at preventing and managing conflicts of interest that could affect the independence of experts in the field of environmental conservation and health; and

IN THE SPIRIT that led the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) to support the establishment of a Global Pact for the Environment, aimed at giving a binding legal value to the principles of international environmental law;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON Members to ensure that national laws and regional and international conventions contain measures to prevent and manage conflicts of interest regarding experts' advice on decision making with respect to the manufacture, launching and dissemination of chemical or plant protection products that may be harmful to the environment or to health; and

2. CALLS ON the WCEL to provide technical advice on this matter to the membership.
RECALLING that, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the total global forest area declined by 129 million hectares over the period 1990-2015, in other words a total area almost equivalent in size to South Africa;

DEFINING imported deforestation as the importation of goods whose production has contributed, directly or indirectly, to the deforestation or conversion of natural forest ecosystems;

RECALLING the responsibility of companies that import agricultural products, first and foremost soya, palm oil, cacao, beef and its by-products, rubber, timber and derived products that do not come from sustainably managed forests, as well as others such as coffee, tea or even cane sugar, which have an impact on the deforestation and conversion of natural ecosystems;

RECALLING the European regulations on agrofuels, including the revision of the 2018 Renewable Energies Directive and the Delegated Act on Indirect Land-Use Change (ILUC), which incorporates a better framework for the impacts of biofuels, notably in terms of deforestation;

RECALLING the New York Declaration on Forests of 2014, the Amsterdam Declarations of 2015 and the G7 Environment Declaration of 2019 on halting deforestation, notably thanks to sustainable supply chains for agricultural commodities, and in particular their commitments to supporting the efforts of the private sector to eliminate deforestation from their supply chains;

WELCOMING the initiatives of states committed to the fight against imported deforestation, such as France, which has a national strategy aimed at ending this by 2030, and Norway; and

RECALLING the Zero-deforestation commitments made by representatives of the financial sector and by companies, from all sectors, as well as the call of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to extend their commitments to all the private sector stakeholders involved;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. RECOMMENDS that states that import products responsible for deforestation:
   a. adopt ambitious regulations and strategies to fight against imported deforestation, aimed at halting deforestation as quickly as possible;
   b. implement differentiated taxation, increasing the taxes on the importation of agricultural products involved in deforestation, which do not respect the certification standards including a “zero deforestation” criterion, based on the High Carbon Stock (HCS) and High Conservation Value (HCV) approaches;
   c. consider financial support, in particular through the allocation of the revenue generated by this tax, for sustainable agricultural practices for small producers in the products’ countries of origin;
   d. eliminate tax regimes that favour first-generation agrofuels and limit their use in general; and
   e. take specific measures to encourage the consumption of agricultural and non-agricultural products that do not contribute to deforestation;

2. RECOMMENDS that states promote agro-ecological production processes, and that agricultural producers use HCS approaches or the equivalent to identify the production areas or forest zones that need to be protected;

3. RECOMMENDS that companies guarantee supply chains that do not involve deforestation; and

4. ENCOURAGES states, local authorities and companies to support initiatives aimed at preventing the conversion of land in areas particularly rich in biodiversity, as in the Cerrado Manifesto and the Amazonian Soy Moratorium.
RECALLING Resolutions 151, Indigenous Peoples, Mineral and Oil Extraction, Infrastructure and Development Works (Montreal, 1996) and 2.34 Multilateral and bilateral financial institutions and projects impacting on biodiversity and natural features (Amman, 2000), as well as Resolutions 2.19 Responding to the Recommendations from the World Commission on Dams (Amman, 2000), 19.29 Dam Construction, Irrigation and Water Diversions and 19.44 Water Regimes of Rivers, Floodplains and Wetlands (both adopted in Buenos Aires, 1994);

CONSIDERING that eight major Andean Amazon river basins, of which five are in Peru (Madre de Dios, Ucayali, Marañón, Napo and Putumayo), have some of the longest free-flowing river stretches in the world, contain high levels of sensitive biodiversity, and are critical for connectivity, sediment and water flow for the highly productive ecosystems in the lowland Amazon, including the floodplains in the Pacaya Samiria National Reserve and the largest and most complex wetland in Peru, the Abarico del Pastaza;

AREAW the Amazon Basin is home to over 2,400 known species of freshwater fish, of which nearly half are endemic, and that the fragmentation of Andes-Amazon connectivity could particularly impact migratory freshwater fish that are a vital source of protein for people in the Amazon Basin;

RECOGNISING that in Peru these rivers support over 14 indigenous ethnic groups, comprising over 424 communities that depend on these rivers and associated ecosystems for their livelihoods and culture, with local people consuming up to 500g of fish a day, and therefore these rivers play a key role with regards to local populations' food security;

NOTING that several Peruvian cities and local communities in the Amazon Basin, depend on the resources from these rivers and associated ecosystems for food and economic activities;

CONCERNED that an increasing number of infrastructure projects in Peru, including dams and connectivity (Amazon Waterway) proposals based on dredging these rivers, are being carried out with very low environmental and social standards, poor citizen participation mechanisms, a failure to identify and incorporate ancestral knowledge of indigenous peoples and traditional knowledge of local communities, insufficient technical studies on the justification of these projects and their negative social and environmental impacts, including impacts on biodiversity and fish migration patterns, toxicological impacts from the disturbance of sediments, and impacts on indigenous peoples and local communities;

CONCERNED that 20 hydro-dam sites in the Marañón River were declared in 2011 of national interest, for which five proposals have been granted concessions, of which one is already in operation, two have expired, and two have valid concessions and could begin construction; and

CONSIDERING that there is local and indigenous opposition to major infrastructure projects, including opposition to the Amazon Waterway Project by the Inter-ethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest (ADESEP) and Peru’s main indigenous peoples’ federations (Organización de Pueblos Indígenas del Oriente (ORPIO), ORPID, Coordinadora Regional de los Pueblos Indígenas de San Lorenzo (CORPI-SL) and Organización Regional Aidesep Ucayali (ORU)), and considering that the environmental impact assessment received over 400 observations from governmental institutions and civil society, and that the agreements regarding the prior consultation of indigenous communities had not been fully complied with; and

CONSIDERING the opposition to the Chadín II hydro-dam project by the local communities of Tugán Grande and Mendán;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to:
   a. send a letter to the President of Peru conveying the appeal in operative paragraph 3 of this Motion regarding the importance of maintaining the free-flowing nature (current connectivity status) of the Marañón River and of compliance with Peru’s environmental and social standards for large infrastructure projects, as well as the importance of creating a legal framework for the protection of emblematic free-flowing rivers in Peru; and
   b. offer, as far as possible, technical support to Peruvian organisations that are IUCN Members, as well as to the Peruvian Government, in relation to the content of this Motion;

2. URGES the Republic of Peru to:
   a. Re-evaluate the prioritisation of the Amazon Waterway Project in the current technical conditions, from the list of projects in the National Infrastructure for competitiveness Plan and to prioritise sustainable alternatives for promoting safe and improved Amazonian river transportation without dredging, through the creation of a space for technical and multicultural dialogue that includes the participation and proposals of indigenous peoples and local communities; and
   b. communicate to the communities that would be directly and indirectly impacted by the Chadín II and Veracruz hydroelectric dams that the environmental licenses of the projects have expired, and that without a valid environmental license, the concessionaires cannot exercise any rights;

3. ENCOURAGES the Republic of Peru to:
   a. create a framework for protecting Peru’s free-flowing rivers;
   b. take all necessary steps to ensure that aquatic and riparian ecosystems and territories of the local populations of the Amazon rivers are not significantly affected by the development of infrastructure projects in this region, including the Amazon Waterway Project and Marañón hydro-dams;
   c. lead a South American regional effort for sustainable transboundary water management for the Amazon Basin that establishes issues such as common conservation goals and maintaining Andes-Amazon connectivity, sustainable use, information exchange and conflict resolution; and
   d. respect standards set by International Labour Organization Convention No. 169, ratified by Peru in 1994 and Law 29785 (Ley de Consulta Previa de Pueblos Indígenas), in relation to Free, Prior and Informed Consent and Prior Consultation rights, as a condition for the development of infrastructure projects that affect the rights of indigenous peoples;

4. CALLS ON bilateral and multilateral funding bodies to strengthen their safeguards for infrastructure projects affecting the biodiversity of Amazon rivers, including the need for requiring their clients to undertake rigorous studies based on scientific and local knowledge of the conditions of those rivers in order to understand their complexity and their relationship to the forests, land and ecosystems of the region; and

5. URGES United Nations agencies to support the countries of the Andes-Amazon region in generating knowledge, strategies and mechanisms to ensure the conservation of aquatic ecosystems and biodiversity of Amazon rivers in the face of infrastructure activities in the Amazon Basin, such as the Amazon Waterway Project and the Marañón hydro-dams.
WCC-2020-Res-012-EN
Aquatic biodiversity conservation of shallow marine and freshwater systems

RECALLING that the global population is forecast to reach nine billion by 2050 and that currently about 40% of the global population lives within 100 km of the coast;

RECOGNISING that biodiversity in aquatic ecosystems is richest in shallow waters, and that human pressures, including overfishing, eutrophication and climate change, are most severely impacting coastal, estuarine and freshwater systems, where human populations are mostly densely situated;

CONCERNED that synergistic human pressures in addition to overfishing, such as global warming and soluble and solid pollution, are occurring at both local and broad scales;

FURTHER CONCERNED for both the negative impact on the ecological status and loss of social and economic services that the degradation of biodiversity within these shallow-water systems is having;

NOTING the latest special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on oceans and cryosphere (SROCC), which indicates that some shallow marine ecosystems will experience a moderate or high risk, and very high in the case of coral reefs, as a consequence of climate change;

NOTING that fisheries impacts are unequal across the globe, with many resources that were once over-fished having been, or are in the process of being, rebuilt, while in other areas overfishing continues;

ACCEPTING that transformative change for biodiversity requires the engagement and active participation of a wider constituency of groups, especially those that engage directly in the use of biodiversity;

MINDFUL that management of the different sectors impacting shallow waters is most often done independently — with limited coordination between government agencies and commercial sectors; and

NOTING the initiative of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on mainstreaming of biodiversity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals 14 and 11;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ENCOURAGES IUCN to:

   a. prioritise biodiversity conservation actions for shallow-water aquatic (freshwater, brackish waters and marine) systems — rich in biodiversity and experiencing high levels of synergistic human pressures — where governance is struggling to address current and increasing threats;

   b. improve coordination of management approaches within and across freshwater, wetland and ocean sectors to ensure ecosystem-based and precautionary, coordinated contributions to biodiversity conservation, and to ensure that any use is ecologically sustainable and well within the assimilative capacity of the environment to ensure that future social and economic needs can be met; and

   c. establish biodiversity conservation plans for freshwater, estuarine and coastal systems with multiple communities-of-practice partners by 2030; and

2. ENCOURAGES states to support targets and strategies for shallow-water aquatic conservation at the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and promote uptake of such a focus in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and beyond.
WCC-2020-Res-013-EN
Supporting the Lower Mekong Basin countries with the transboundary management of water resources, ecosystems and biodiversity

DEEPLY CONCERNED that the Lower Mekong Basin faces great challenges because of its vulnerability to human and naturally induced changes in the context of economic development, climate change and sea-level rise, causing more extreme weather and affecting people’s livelihoods;

CONCERNED that the harmful consequences of regional economic development in which the construction of hydropower plants and the diversion of water from upstream parts of the Mekong Delta cause changes to the flow, increased salinisation, and reduced sediment and fisheries resources, which results in negative impacts on regional socio-economic development;

CONCERNED that other negative impacts include environmental pollution, serious ecological imbalance and overuse of groundwater, while over-extraction of sand, and construction and infrastructure along rivers and canals increase the rate of river erosion and the risk of disasters;

STRESSING SUPPORT for the strategic development orientation of the Lower Mekong Basin;

RECOGNISING that people need to live with and adapt to climate change and sea-level rise, and can turn these challenges into opportunities by proactively living with floods, droughts and salinity;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that water resources should be the core factor, the basis for developing strategies and policies, and regional development master planning, and that there is a need for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) of the entire river basin, and that brackish water and saline water are also resources to be accounted for and exploited, alongside freshwater; and

STRESSING that strengthening the management and efficient use of water and land resources and other resources in the Mekong Delta necessarily requires recognition that these resources are transboundary in nature, that cooperation with upstream countries is also necessary for the sustainable development of the Mekong Delta, and that initiatives that promote the transboundary management of water resources, ecosystems and biodiversity are therefore needed;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to:
   a. work proactively with all relevant stakeholders to strengthen partnerships within the Lower Mekong Basin countries;
   b. advance understanding, knowledge and learning to better conserve and sustainably manage water resources, ecosystems and biodiversity; and
   c. advocate for appropriate policy changes at national and regional levels, such as transboundary management of water resources, ecosystems and biodiversity, to enhance sound ecosystem stewardship;

2. CALLS ON the Director General, Commissions and Members to:
   a. advocate for increased sustainability use of water resources, ecosystems and biodiversity between Lower Mekong Basin countries;
   b. contribute to initiatives and cooperation frameworks aimed at reducing the negative impacts of regional economic development on biodiversity and environment; and
   c. raise awareness concerning unsustainable socio-economic development and the overuse of groundwater in the Mekong Delta; and

3. URGES governments, civil society, development partners, the private sector and the media to recognise the importance of the transboundary management of water resources, ecosystems and biodiversity and to:
   a. work to ensure new developments commit and adhere to international standards for Environmental Impact Assessments, and that Strategic Environmental Assessments include said new developments; and
   b. actively look for alternatives to new dams that will reduce the impact on the Mekong River’s ecosystems, including changes to river flows, increased salinisation, and reduced sediment and fisheries resources.
The importance of a cross-border approach to prioritise biodiversity conservation, a adaptation to climate change and risk management in the Río de la Plata Basin

AWARE that the Río de la Plata Basin is the second largest in South America, and measures 3,300,000 km², with over 100 million inhabitants in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay;

OBSERVING that its three large tributaries, the River Paraná, the River Paraguay and the River Uruguay, receive water from rivers of great importance in the continent such as the rivers Pilcomayo, Bermejo, Paraguay, Iguazú, Negro, Salado, Carcará, Güaleguay, Araype, etc.;

ALSO OBSERVING that these waters flow into the Río de la Plata Estuary, where there are cities with a total of over 13 million inhabitants, representing over 10% of the entire population in the macro-region;

BEARING IN MIND that this complex network of rivers, streams and wetlands constitutes the main Guaraní Aquifer recharge system, which provides drinking water to part of the abovementioned population and forms part of an important migratory route for Neotropical waders in the centre of the continent;

CONSIDERING that despite the efforts made to conserve the biodiversity in the region, these areas include extremely fragile ecosystems, and that, due to the whole range of bioclimatic landscapes and the size of the territory, the knowledge of biodiversity is incomplete;

AWARE that the upper Río de la Plata Basin displays one of the most notable fragmentations in basins worldwide, mainly due to a change in the use of land for agriculture and livestock farming, which is a driver of change in ecosystems in the Río de la Plata Basin, in addition to the consequences of the impact of climate variability and extreme events such as floods and droughts that affect large tracts of land, ecosystems and cities in the basin, increasing the vulnerability of the populations involved, also considering the high number of small dams planned;

CONCERNED about the impact in the region of extensive extractive and productive activities and the growing and alarming deforestation rate; and

RECALLING Recommendation 2.85 Conservation of Middle and Lower Paraná River (Amman, 2000); Recommendation 3.097 Conservation of the Wetland Corridor of the Fluvial Littoral, Argentina (Bangkok, 2004); Resolutions 4.029 Conservation and sustainable use of fish in the Río de la Plata Basin and 4.004 Strengthening IUCN's institutional presence in South America (both adopted in Barcelona, 2008); and Resolution 5.070 Río de la Plata Basin wetlands regional initiative (Jeju, 2012);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

ASKS the Director General to:

a. call on South American states to:

i. increase their efforts to assess and conserve the Río de la Plata Basin ecosystems, weighing up the rationalisation of human resources and skills and contributing to sustainable development;

ii. limit the rapid expansion of the industrial agricultural frontier, to the detriment of the indigenous territories, including those of the Ayoreo People who live in voluntary isolation, in the best interests of the conservation of the ecological functions of the Río de la Plata Basin and its ecosystems' contributions to humans;

iii. promote policies to manage transboundary resources favouring an ecosystem-based approach, aimed at the use of transboundary waters in an equitable, reasonable and optimal manner, considering the principles of "profit sharing" and "eliminating damage in the context of joint responsibility";

iv. conserve the Paraguay-Paraná River Corridor as a global reference system based on its conditions of free flow and the connectivity of flood plains;

v. develop a comprehensive review of the dams planned in the upper Pantanal, bearing in mind their possible impact and their contribution to the network's energy efficiency;

vi. develop strategies to strengthen the capacities of civil society and governments in the management of aquatic ecosystems and their ecosystems, as well as cities, in order to foster the empowerment and development of resilient communities, in a context marked by change and climate variability;

vii. design an integrated approach for the comprehensive risk management of disasters and the adaptation to climate change and to take measures aimed at promoting the conservation and restoration of aquatic ecosystems, the adaptation of cities, the reduction of risks for vulnerable populations, applying nature-based solutions with a focus on the Basin and actions aimed at vulnerable ecosystems, cities and communities; and

viii. establish as a priority the increase in protected areas in various legal forms, taking into account the participation of young people and women who are considered to be a fundamental element in the implementation of the planned measures as well as pillars of the culture of the Basin inhabitants;

b. urge the international organisations and programmes carried out by the United Nations, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to prioritise solutions that address the high fragility and deteriorated state of the ecosystems in the Río de la Plata Basin and to establish and/or promote joint agendas that include actions to strengthen the knowledge about and conservation of these ecosystems and to strengthen the communities; and to promote an interinstitutional and transboundary platform for the socio-environmental monitoring of the Basin with standardised indicators, and trustworthy reports and journals on state of integrity of the ecosystems; and

c. ask the IUCN Regional Office for South America (IUCN-Sur) and the relevant Commissions to promote regional events, with the participation of the Members and specialists to ensure greater understanding of the complex systems to support the life in and the vulnerabilities of the Basin.
CONCERNED that the majority of transboundary rivers, lakes and groundwater basins, which are shared by 153 countries and contain 40% of the world’s population, lack a cooperative management framework, as indicated by the first report on the Progress on Transboundary Water Cooperation for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 6.5.2;

RECOGNISING that transboundary water cooperation is key for the sustainability of ecosystems, particularly transboundary ecosystems, and the livelihoods of populations living there;

NOTING that a significant proportion of pollution of the marine environment is conveyed to the sea by transboundary rivers;

RECALLING the importance of transboundary water cooperation to address climate impacts, such as floods and droughts, to avoid consequences of maladaptation and to harness the co-benefits of improved regional cooperation;

UNDERLINING the importance of international commitments related to freshwater cooperation and conservation, particularly the Convention on the Law of Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses (Watercourses Convention), the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs, and the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration for 2021-2030;

NOTING that the UN Secretary-General is calling upon countries to accede to both the Watercourses Convention and the Water Convention and to strive for their full implementation;

WELCOMING the entry into force of the Watercourses Convention in 2014, as well as the promotion efforts by IUCN and others to achieve this, and the accessions by Chad and Senegal to the Water Convention following its global opening in 2016; and

RECALLING Resolutions 4.065 freshwater biodiversity conservation, protected areas, and management of transboundary waters (Barcelona, 2008) and 5.089 Dams and hydraulic infrastructure (Jeju, 2012);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that the IUCN Secretariat contributes to strengthening the governance of transboundary waters, in particular by disseminating information on the role of the Watercourses Convention, the Water Convention and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and by building capacity for acceding and implementing them;

2. CALLS ON IUCN Members, in particular civil society organisations, to promote the cooperative, equitable and sustainable management and protection of transboundary waters, and to foster accession to and implementation of the Watercourses Convention, Water Convention and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands;

3. URGES governments to:
   a. ratify/accede to and implement the Watercourses Convention, the Water Convention and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands;
   b. fulfil relevant commitments under international instruments, towards achieving global goals and targets on water, environment and development; and
   c. develop and implement operational arrangements for transboundary water cooperation for all shared basins, fostering conservation and sustainable management of freshwater and related ecosystems and their biodiversity; and

4. ENTREATS governments to:
   a. cooperate in developing and implementing strategies and measures, in particular nature-based solutions, to adapt to climate change in transboundary basins; and
   b. integrate a source-to-sea approach to transboundary water cooperation to reduce marine pollution, including plastics pollution.
WCC-2020-Res-016-EN
Conservation of spring ecosystems in the Mediterranean region

CONSIDERING that springs are in themselves, and due to the hydrogeological processes that they generate, of great geological interest and can be located in areas with a rich geological heritage;

CONSIDERING that recent research has revealed that natural springs are the biotopes with the richest biodiversity in Mediterranean terrestrial ecosystems, each of them being home to several hundred species in a surface area of only a few square metres, and are therefore particularly critical points or ‘super hotspots’;

CONSIDERING that they play an essential ecological role (‘keystone ecosystems’), containing the greatest concentration of biological wealth in arid or semi-arid countries, and constitute a diffuse ecosystem that indirectly sustains all the aquatic and terrestrial communities in these areas where the water network is seasonal, and are thus essential for the maintenance of the European, North African and Middle Eastern biological heritage at a regional level;

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that they are rich in exclusive taxa (crenobiots), and constitute the only refuge for numerous rare and endangered species, and for the most sensitive species, especially in the more developed regions of the planet;

MINDFUL of the fact that research carried out in different parts of the world has revealed that each small-spring stronghold is the result of a long evolution in isolated conditions and, because of this, constitutes a unique biological cosmos, which is unique and different from any others;

AWARE that they probably constitute one of the rarest, most fragile habitats, threatened by the effects of climate change and the over-exploitation of water resources;

WARNING that there are reports of the accelerated loss of springs, and even the disappearance of entire spring systems on a territorial level;

FURTHER WARNING that this scenario may be hiding a silent but massive biological extinction in the whole Mediterranean biogeographic region; and

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that, in the case of the Mediterranean region, springs are one of the least explored and most neglected habitats, and that de facto – or reasons of scale – they were not protected throughout the region by the European Union’s Habitats Directive or Water Framework Directive;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:
1. URGES the Commissions to raise greater awareness regarding the importance of conserving spring ecosystems, promoting projects that allow for progress to be made in their conservation;

2. ENCOURAGES State Members in the Mediterranean region, from within the IUCN Statutory Regions of West Europe, West Asia and Africa, as well as their regional governments, to adopt effective conservation measures for spring biodiversity, its geo-diversity and geological heritage;

3. URGES State Members in the Mediterranean region to include habitat conservation as a priority in the Union’s policies and strategies that focus on the conservation of biological and geological diversity, and to recognise:
   a. spring habitats as a key biotope for preserving European aquatic biodiversity, including them as priority habitats of community interest in the Mediterranean region; and
   b. natural springs as an "ecosystem dependent" on groundwater bodies, and encourage their monitoring and management; and

4. CALLS ON all State Members to:
   a. adopt, in their areas of competence, urgent legal measures that protect habitats and ban their direct destruction or overexploitation; and
   b. include the conservation of spring ecosystems as a priority objective in their national strategies and plans regarding biodiversity and adaptation to climate change.
NOTING that the Global Wetland Outlook 2018 published by the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands states that "wetlands are declining fast, with 35% loss since 1970", and that "quality of remaining wetlands is also suffering, due to drainage, ..., disrupted flow regimes and climate change";

CONCERNED that a major driver of disruption and reductions to flow regimes of rivers from their headwaters to the coast, including estuaries, and from river main channels to flood plains, has been the construction of water management infrastructure, including dams, water diversion channels, coastal or estuarine barrages, double-dyke reclamations, and mega tide banks;

CONSIDERING that ground water is essential to maintain the natural flow of water because it allows rivers and lakes not to dry completely between precipitation events, hence supporting biodiversity and other ecosystem services;

NOTING that while construction of such artificial structures may provide short-term benefits to some people, they lead to deterioration of riverine, floodplain and coastal wetlands and their ecosystems through preventing the natural flow of water, and that this threatens the lives of indigenous people and local communities through impacting on traditional and sustainable use, and blocking migratory routes of fauna;

RECOGNISING that Resolution 5.089: Dams and hydraulic infrastructure (Jeju, 2012) and Resolution VIII.2 of the 8th Conference of Contracting Parties to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on the Report of the World Commission on Dams (WCD) and its relevance to the Ramsar Convention (COP8, Valencia, 2002) address the long-standing efforts of IUCN to overcome controversies over large dams and their impacts, including through WCD, and that the Ramsar Convention has in its resolutions and guidelines repeatedly emphasised the importance of maintaining the natural flow of water through Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM), including Resolutions VIII.1 Guidelines for the allocation and management of water for maintaining the ecological functions of wetlands (COP8, Valencia, 2002) and XII.2 The Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016–2024 (COP12, Punta del Este, 2015);

RECALLING the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai that emphasised the role of ecosystems in disaster risk reduction (Eco-DRR); and

WELCOMING recent efforts, including the removal of the Arase and Vezins Dams in Japan and France, respectively, the proposal by the Republic of Korea for re-naturalisation of rivers, and the European Union's Water Framework Directive linking water and ecosystem services;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS that the Director General, in collaboration with the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), draws from the Global Wetlands Outlook to highlight the present situation of the loss and deterioration of wetlands in river basins and coastal regions, as well as the construction of artificial structures that prevent the natural flow of water;

2. ALSO REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with the Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP), to ensure that IUCN programmes protect remaining natural wetland habitats and restore functioning wetland ecosystems, promote wetland habitats as nature-based solutions to flood mitigation and carbon sequestration, and develop Communication, Education, and Public Awareness (CEPA) activities on the importance of protecting and restoring the natural flow of water and its connectivity;

3. REQUESTS the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), in cooperation with other stakeholders, to update the protected area management guidelines in order to guarantee effective protection of wetland habitats;

4. INVITES governments of all states, and other competent authorities, including, but not limited to, IUCN State Members, to review, reform and implement legislation based on the precautionary principle to control the construction of artificial structures that prevent the natural flow of water in rivers, on the coast, and in aquifers, to maintain wetland ecosystems and the lives and the livelihoods of people depending on them;

5. REQUESTS international and national NGO Members to propose to governments and the private sector such projects that are based on the Nature Based Principle and the idea of Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction, to maintain and improve the natural flow of water and sediments in rivers, coasts, and aquifers;

6. ENCOURAGES governments of all states, and other competent authorities, including, but not limited to, State Members to investigate removing or changing the artificial structures that have destroyed wetlands, or that have halted the natural flow of water and sediments, to restore such wetlands, where appropriate; and

7. REQUESTS governments of all states, and other competent authorities, including, but not limited to, State Members, to accept a fair third-party review, including local communities and scientists, of the necessity, validity and impacts of any project involving the building of such artificial structures.
WCC-2020-Res-018-EN
Valuing and protecting inland fisheries

RECOGNISING that inland fisheries are a critical source of food security for nearly a billion people, particularly in developing countries;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that inland fisheries have an estimated economic value of US$ 38–44 billion;

ALSO RECOGNISING the potential co-benefits among fishing communities, fish biodiversity and environmental integrity through sustainable inland fisheries;

NOTING that more than 60 million people globally are directly employed in the fisheries and aquaculture sector, and that women play a particularly large role in the secondary sector;

MINDFUL that inland fisheries are frequently degraded by other freshwater sector activities that alter the health of freshwater ecosystems;

ARE AWARE that inland fisheries are data limited, hence underrepresented in planning;

CONCERNED that the productivity of inland fisheries is gravely threatened by habitat degradation, flow management, overharvesting, and climate change;

FURTHER CONCERNED that inland fisheries may be insufficiently addressed in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with SDG 14 (Life below Water) focused on marine fisheries, and SDG 15 (Life on Land) worded so that the value of inland fisheries may be missed in development plans;

ARE AWARE that Aichi Biodiversity Target 6, addressing sustainable harvesting of fishes, is generally applied to marine rather than freshwater fisheries, as evidenced by the marine focus of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) ‘Scientific Assessment of Progress towards Aichi Target 6’;

CONFIRMING the need for integrated river basin management for improving access to affordable food, such as through fisheries, as requested by Resolution 4.065 Freshwater biodiversity conservation, protected areas, and management of transboundary waters (Barcelona, 2008);

RECALLING that Resolution 5.106 Safeguarding the contribution of wild living resources and ecosystems to food security (Jeju, 2012) highlights that unsustainable use of wild living resources or ecosystems for food systems leads to a decline in biodiversity and ultimately undermines people’s food security; and

REITERATING guidance contained in Resolution 2.29 IUCN Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources (Amman, 2000) that enhancing sustainability of wild living resources, like inland fish, requires on-going improved management;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGE S the IUCN Director General, Commissions, Members and states to:
   a. support more explicit inclusion of inland fisheries in the post-2020 biodiversity framework, especially through the post-2020 zero draft target 5 (ensure by 2030 that the harvesting, trade and use of wild species, is legal and at sustainable levels) or through the finalised equivalent of this target, and through reference to inland fisheries in SDG Targets 14.4, and 14.6 (regulate harvesting and prohibit subsidies contributing to overfishing), or in 15.1 (sustainable use of freshwater ecosystems);
   b. support assessment of inland fisheries in the SDGs, such that the national status of inland fisheries should not decline from their current state, or should be improved where the existing state is degraded;
   c. enhance the collection of data to document the status and trends of inland fisheries; and
   d. strengthen IUCN’s focus on sustainable inland fisheries as part of IUCN’s programmes on species, water and ecosystem management;

2. REQUESTS the Commission on Ecosystem Management Fisheries Expert Group to address equally both inland and marine fisheries; and

3. CALLS ON government agencies to:
   a. support ecosystem-based management of inland fisheries;
   b. adopt recommendations made in the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization ‘Rome Declaration for Responsible Inland Fisheries’; and
   c. consult local fishing communities at the start of planning infrastructure projects that impact their inland fisheries.
RECALLING that the health of marine or coastal ecosystems is today seriously threatened by the impacts of human land-based and marine-based activities, including climate and global change, and that the pressure from these activities jeopardises their integrity;

RECALLING that the sea and the coasts are historically places used for human activities and the development of new uses and that the intensification and diversification of these activities lead to an increased risk of land-use conflict and biodiversity and geodiversity loss;

CONSIDERING therefore that it is necessary to organise these activities in a consistent, sustainable manner in order to reduce these conflicts and this biodiversity and geodiversity loss;

RECALLING that these maritime activities may indeed be associated with indirect, direct and sometimes irreversible impacts, on the natural capital, and that these individual impacts are added to so-called “cumulative impacts”, resulting from the sum and the combination of these individual impacts, particularly in the context of climate change;

ALSO RECALLING that these cumulative impacts very often exceed the simple addition of the individual impacts and that there may be impacts well beyond the maritime and coastal territories where these activities are carried out;

ALSO RECALLING that, although marine space is divided up into areas under national and international jurisdiction, it is also a space where all states have common interests;

FURTHER RECALLING that, whilst territories with maritime and coastal areas can legitimately develop in a sustainable manner the riches associated with these ecosystems, they have an important responsibility for their protection;

FINALLY RECALLING that the states are committed to the integrated management of coastal zones and the planning of maritime areas through the establishment of adapted governance and strategies, including spatial planning, in line with the recommendations of the Rio Summit and in view of attaining the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular the one on aquatic life, as well as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

RECOGNISING the work and conclusions of international bodies (UNESCO’s Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC)) and regional bodies regarding the planning of maritime areas;

CONSIDERING the need to apply an ecosystem approach on the scale of marine regions, together with the distribution area of migratory species, in order to establish adapted governance and strategies, including spatial planning, that are efficient for the sustainable development of marine and coastal activities; and to fully understand the cumulative impacts of all current and future activities whether or not they are subject to authorisations, declarations or environmental assessments; and

FURTHER CONSIDERING that the planning of marine areas is a tool that allows for the reinforcement of the necessary protection of marine and coastal ecosystems through the a priori assessment of impacts, including cumulative impacts, and for the anticipation of the needs for compensation areas, for restoration or protection in order to achieve no net loss of biodiversity and geodiversity;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES the states to adopt a forward-looking approach to planning their maritime areas, which guarantees the preservation and long-term protection of marine and coastal ecosystems and the maintenance or restoration of their natural connectivity by:
   a. associating indigenous peoples and all stakeholders for its preparation, the assessment of both singular and cumulative impacts, and its review;
   b. developing a strategic, nested approach at local, national and regional levels in which the cumulative impacts of all activities will be assessed, notably in studies of the impacts or incidences of any projects, plans or programmes affecting the marine environment at a relevant level; and
   c. seeking coherence, organisation and continuity between different maritime, coastal and terrestrial plans, as well as with the neighbouring states;

2. ASKS the states, on the basis of the best information available, to base this approach on:
   a. a systematic diagnosis of knowledge on the biodiversity and geodiversity of marine and coastal ecosystems, and a constant effort to fill knowledge gaps;
   b. the characterisation of all types of pressure on these ecosystems and their biodiversity and geodiversity;
   c. the implementation of the precautionary and preventive principles, as well as ecosystem-based management;
   d. the definition and effective management of networks of marine protected areas;
   e. assessment shared with the public:
      i. of the cumulative impacts on all offshore and onshore usages;
      ii. of the potential for development of all kinds of current and future maritime and coastal activities;
      iii. of the evolution of the pressure linked to the exploitation of this potential in terms of the resilience of the ecosystems; and
      iv. of the compatibility of these different usages with the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems;
   f. the measurement of the consequences on species (life cycles, migration, etc.) and on the functioning of marine and coastal ecosystems;
   g. the avoidance of the identified impacts by searching for the solution with the slightest environmental impact, and by reducing those that cannot be avoided, in order to guarantee the good ecological status of ecosystems and species in an approach aimed at achieving no net loss of biodiversity and geodiversity, and even, where possible, to increase biodiversity and geodiversity; and
   h. the anticipation of the evolution of cumulative impacts and the need for ecological compensation zones at sea, for strong protection or areas that need to be restored in view of their importance in the ecosystem; and

3. INVITES states to:
   a. guarantee the necessary funding for the definition and implementation of this planning as well as for the open publication of the assessments, if possible; and
   b. ensure regular monitoring with the states and the regional organisations concerned.
WCC-2020-Res-019-EN

Stopping the global plastic pollution crisis in marine environments by 2030

ALARMED by the presence of plastic waste in the marine environment on a global scale;

NOTING WITH CONCERN the impact of plastic waste pollution on the marine and coastal environment, and on the ways of life, health, economy and well-being of coastal communities;

NOTING that the production of plastic in the world has been constantly rising for decades and already vastly exceeds collection and management capacities, and that production is due to increase by 40% over the next 15 years;

FURTHER NOTING that the predominant throwaway model means that over 75% of the plastics ever produced to date are waste, notably because the price of plastic on the market does not represent all of the costs of its lifecycle to nature or society;

NOTING that lost and abandoned fishing gear constitutes a source of plastic pollution in the oceans that causes significant harm;

NOTING WITH CONCERN the increasing number of scientific studies and analyses highlighting the presence of plastic waste, notably in the form of microplastics, in the remotest and deepest parts of the ocean, as well as in the entire food chain;

HIGHLIGHTING the lack of complete information in the medium and long term on the potential dangers of plastic pollution, both physical and chemical, to marine fauna and flora and also to human health, which does not prevent the need for actions based on the best available data;

NOTING that all stakeholders can take important actions in order to prevent plastic pollution and the problem of plastic waste in nature;

RECALLING the ‘Osaka Blue Ocean Vision’ shared at the 2019 G20 Osaka Summit, which aims to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050 through a comprehensive life-cycle approach that includes reducing the discharge of mismanaged plastic litter by improved waste management and innovative solutions, while recognising the important role of plastics for society; and

RECALLING Resolution 4/6 of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-4) on marine litter and microplastics, and Sustainable Development Goal 14.1

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ASKS the Director General, according to the IUCN Programme 2021–2024, and Members to take action and to encourage the implementation of the measures detailed below;

2. URGES the Commissions to collaborate with Members on raising public awareness and promoting innovative solutions to preventing marine plastic pollution;

3. ASKS the international community to reach a global agreement to combat marine plastic pollution, in order to:

a. ensure resource efficiency and circular economy through the elimination of unnecessary production and use of plastic, in particular single-use items, and through the promotion of innovation along the entire value chain, facilitating responsible management of plastic waste and scrap and stopping leakage in nature and in the oceans;

b. promote responsible management of single-use plastic waste and scrap that prevents its leakage into the environment;

c. invest in environmentally sound plastic waste collection and recycling and disposal systems, based on separate collection of plastic waste and recycling in the first instance, and other forms of recovery, prevention and alternatives to plastic, where recycling of environmentally sound plastic waste is not possible, taking into account all their impacts on the environment;

d. introduce measures that take appropriate national actions for the prevention and significant reduction of discharges of plastic litter to the ocean, in partnership with relevant stakeholders;

e. work with other international efforts, including the Alliance to End Plastic Waste, New Plastics Economy, Consumer Goods Forum Plastics Working Group and Basel Convention Plastic Waste Partnership, to improve knowledge of the sources of plastics and their impact on the environment, and particularly on biodiversity and human health;

f. carry out public-awareness measures aimed at sustainable consumption and improved waste management; and

g. mobilise technical and financial support to facilitate implementation of these actions.
WCC-2020-Rec-020-EN

Protection of herbivorous fish for improved coral community

CONSIDERING the importance of coral communities for marine life, the conservation of which is a great responsibility for humanity, and aware of their essential role for the socio-economic and cultural well-being of more than half a billion people in the world;

NOTING that the health of coral communities continues to decline due to direct (fishing, illegal fishing, tourism, maritime traffic, etc.) and indirect (land-based pollution, etc.) pressures, and that this ecosystem is one of those most immediately threatened by the impacts of climate change;

ALARMED by the findings of the 2018 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, which predicts a 70–90% decline in coral reefs under a scenario of a 1.5°C temperature increase, and a more than 99% decline with a 2°C increase;

EMPHASISING that healthy coral communities – more resilient to the impacts of climate change – involve an ecological balance between corals and algae, within which herbivory, and particularly that of herbivorous fish, is one of the keys;

NOTING that overfishing of herbivorous fish affects the resilience of coral communities, particularly in the Caribbean region due to the use of certain fishing techniques and historic decline of other keystone herbivores, namely the urchin Diadema antillarum;

RECALLING the Recommendation of the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) on addressing the decline in coral reef health throughout the wider Caribbean: the taking of parrotfish and similar herbivores adopted at the 28th ICRI General Meeting (Belize, 2013); and

COMMENDING those countries that have already taken regulatory measures to protect herbivorous populations (parrotfish in the Bahamas, Belize, Bermuda (UK), Bonaire (Netherlands), Colombia, St-Barthélémy (France), Turks and Caicos (UK), and the United States), and regulation of herbivorous fish fisheries and coastal protection in French Polynesia;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES governments to adopt conservation and sustainable fisheries management strategies that allow the recovery of populations of herbivorous fish to restore the balance between algae and corals, including through a range of measures such as prohibition of some fishing techniques, minimum catch sizes, fishing quotas and managed areas, as well as management of other human activities that impact on herbivorous fish populations;

2. REQUESTS that these management strategies be accompanied by necessary resources for outreach, compliance and enforcement, and by the development of alternative livelihoods for fishers affected by catch restrictions;

3. ENCOURAGES coastal states to work cooperatively, including through relevant regional fisheries forums to address the problem of unsustainable fishing of herbivorous fishes on coral reefs;

4. REQUESTS the assessment of relevant species for inclusion in the Appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); and

5. REQUESTS, for the Caribbean region, the assessment of the parrotfish species Scarus coeruleus, S. coelestis and S. guacamaia for inclusion in Appendix 2 of the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol to the Cartagena Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region, and of all other herbivorous Scaridae and Acanthuridae fish species in Appendix 3 of the Protocol.
CONCERNED that increasing human activity in the ocean causes underwater noise;

RECOGNISING that anthropogenic underwater noise can disrupt vital life functions of many marine species, with implications for global food security;

REAFFIRMING Resolutions 3.068 Undersea noise pollution (Bangkok, 2004) and 5.81 Addressing ocean noise pollution in Africa (Jeju, 2012);

RECALLING that the Species Survival Commission (SSC) Cetacean Specialist Group has identified that rising ocean noise threatens cetaceans;

NOTING that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) sets out the obligation on states to protect and preserve the marine environment and to assess the potential effects of activities that may cause substantial pollution or significant and harmful changes in the marine environment and that Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 urges states to reduce marine pollution by 2025;

WELCOMING actions taken at all levels to manage and mitigate the effects of anthropogenic underwater noise, including those taken by the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and its development of CMS Family Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessments for Marine Noise-generating Activities, by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) through the adoption of Guidelines for the Reduction of Underwater Noise from Commercial Shipping to Address Adverse Impacts on Marine Life (2014), and by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) through Resolution 71/312 Our ocean, our future: call for action (2017), calling on UN Member States to continue actions to address marine pollution, including underwater noise;

APPLAUDING the work by the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas (ASCOBANS) and the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS) on regulation of anthropogenic underwater noise;

RECOGNISING that the Pacific Islands Year of the Whale Declaration (Tonga, 2017) states that whale populations are vulnerable from emerging threats such as noise, and that UNGA Resolution 73/124 Oceans and the law of the sea (2018) called for international cooperation on studying the effects of underwater noise on marine life;

ACKNOWLEDGING new work by the Arctic Council that shows substantial recent increases in underwater noise from shipping in the Arctic Ocean;

DISTRESSED that the sixth Global Environment Outlook (GE-O-6) articulates how much remains to be done to mitigate ocean noise impacts; and

URGING immediate action to better understand, regulate and reduce the immediate, long-term and cumulative effects of anthropogenic noise on marine life;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS Council to establish an Inter-Commission Panel of Experts, comprising of Species Survival Commission (including specialists of cetaceans, mysticetes and odontocetes from SSC), World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) members and representatives of the underwater noise-generating sectors, to seek an integrated approach to abating anthropogenic underwater noise pollution, in cooperation with entities such as the Global Alliance for Managing Ocean Noise (GAMeON) initiative and the Maritime Environment Protection Committee under the International Maritime Organization;

2. REQUESTS WCPA to make recommendations promoting a precautionary approach on ways to reduce and limit anthropogenic underwater noise in Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs) and Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) that may be adversely affected by underwater noise, by implementation of measures, based on scientific evidence, to manage certain human activities within and adjacent to MPAs, PSSAs and IMMAs, e.g. voluntary actions, speed limits, use of best-available technologies and redesign of shipping routes;

3. CALLS ON Members to apply the CMS Family Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessments for Marine Noise-generating Activities (2017);

4. ALSO CALLS ON Members to collaborate with the international community to encourage noise-producing entities to employ best-available noise-reduction and fuel-reduction technologies, especially in regard to commercial shipping, and to encourage the implementation of the IMO guidelines for the reduction of underwater noise from commercial shipping to address adverse impacts on marine life (Circular MEPC.1/Circ.831), and to support and contribute to the planned revision of the guidelines (MEPC 76/15 Para12.3);

5. ENCOURAGES UN Members to consider anthropogenic underwater noise pollution within the negotiations for a new international legally binding instrument under UNCLOS on biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction and State Members that are Party to UNCLOS to consider such pollution within the Exploitation Regulations under Part XI of UNCLOS; and

6. REQUESTS the Director General, with the assistance of the Inter-Commission Panel of Experts established under paragraph 1 of this Resolution, to provide a progress report at the next session of Congress on the implementation of this Resolution.
WCC-2020-Rec-021-EN
Halting biodiversity loss in the insular Caribbean

WELCOMING recent reports concerning the biodiversity crisis, such as the:

- Fourth Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4, 2014);
- WWF Living Planet Report (2018);
- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (2019);
- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C (2018);
- Caribbean Regional Dialogue on Pollinators, Food Security and Climate Resilience (2018); and
- The paper Haiti’s biodiversity threatened by nearly complete loss of primary forest published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) of the United States of America (2018);

RECOGNISING that islands of the Caribbean harbour an important part of the unique biodiversity of the planet;

RECALLING that the insular Caribbean is considered among the five most important biodiversity hotspots, globally;

FURTHER RECALLING that a significant number of Key Biodiversity Areas (414) are in the insular Caribbean;

CONCERNED about the high and increasing number of threatened species included in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and national red lists;

RECOGNISING that the main driver of threats to biodiversity in the region is the destruction and/or fragmentation of habitats;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that invasive species in the region are increasing and expanding;

ALSO RECOGNISING that the impacts of the global climate crisis are added to existing pressures on biodiversity;

AWARE that the components of biodiversity are essential for the proper functioning of ecosystems and their provision of environmental services;

NOTING that well-managed protected areas represent the most cost-effective way of adapting to climate change;

ALSO NOTING that the economy of the Caribbean, as well as its freshwater and food security, depend on the basis of its biodiversity resources;

RECALLING that Caribbean countries and territories are signatories to the Convention on Biological Diversity and other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), in particular the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol of the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region and its protocols;

RECALLING that the insular Caribbean is considered among the five most important biodiversity hotspots, globally;

FURTHER RECALLING the commitment of the region to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS states, as well as regional and international organisations responsible for environmental and economic sustainability issues, to strengthen actions to halt biodiversity loss in the insular Caribbean by:

   a. strictly enforcing the application of national regulations and MEAs especially the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region and its protocols;
   
   b. mainstreaming biodiversity conservation in planning mechanisms at local, regional and national levels;

   c. recognising the importance of the well-being of ecosystems in natural protected areas, and their importance for ecosystems services and adaptation to climate change;

   d. strengthening environmental impact assessment mechanisms;

   e. incorporating conservation mechanisms into working lands and urban areas to increase protection at landscape scale; and

   f. increasing national commitments and budgets for biodiversity management;

2. ENCOURAGES:

   a. countries to ratify the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment in the Wider Caribbean Region and its Protocol, in particular the Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPAW) Protocol, if they haven’t already done so;

   b. the strengthening of the various ongoing efforts of the Cartagena Convention and its SPAW Protocol; and

   c. stakeholders, including institutions, NGOs, and companies, to engage with and support the various SPAW programmes and working groups; and

3. ENCOURAGES all stakeholders, including governments, national and local institutions, to:

   a. form a Caribbean Coalition for Biodiversity, which will focus on fields not under the jurisdiction of the Cartagena Convention and in close cooperation with it, with support from any organisation that adheres to the mission and goals of the Coalition;

   b. strengthen and promote the development of young scientists within the Caribbean islands, inter-island cooperation, and the development of awareness-raising actions, particularly participatory science approaches; and

   c. support the IUCN Caribbean Regional Committee and the implementation of the IUCN Programme 2021–2024 at regional, national and local levels.
Establishment of a mid-frequency active (MFA – 1 to 10 KHz) sonar moratorium for maritime military exercises conducted in Macaronesia

EMPHASISING that healthy whale populations help to maintain necessary ocean balance by providing ecological services such as keeping fish stocks healthy, cycling nutrients and minimising the effects of climate change;

RECOGNISING that Macaronesia is a cetacean biodiversity hot spot, which hosts 85% of the whale and dolphin species described in the North Atlantic Ocean;

RECALLING its strategic geographical location, crossed by the migratory paths of the great whales, travelling between the tropical waters of the Central-Western Atlantic and feeding grounds in the North Sea, Norwegian Sea and Arctic Ocean;

RECALLING that, pursuant to Article 65 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), coastal states have the right and the duty to ensure the protection of their cetacean species;

NOTING that the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission (IWC), in its report to the 56th meeting of the IWC (Sorrento, 2004), concluded that military sonar, seismic exploration, and other noise sources such as shipping, pose a significant and increasing threat to cetaceans, both acute and chronic;

CONCERNED about the substantive and growing body of corroborating scientific evidence suggesting that a wide range of whale, dolphin and porpoise species can be impacted by the sound produced during military activities;

RECALLING that Resolution 3.068 Undersea noise pollution (Bangkok, 2004) requested the Director General “to identify and implement measures to promote among world governments the reduction of anthropogenic ocean noise”;

NOTING ALSO that non-binding resolution BS-0089/2004 of the European Parliament recommended European Union Member States to immediately restrict the use of active naval sonars in their jurisdictional waters, and that in 2016, the IWC Scientific Committee recognised that mitigating impact of noise on cetaceans is a way to increase populations’ resilience and improve their future prospects in the face of less tractable stressors, such as climate change;

MINDFUL that scientific evidence supports the effectiveness of the moratorium on the use of mid-frequency active (MFA – which for the purposes of this motion is defined as 1 to 10 KHz) sonar in maritime military exercises around the Canary Islands for avoiding atypical mass strandings of beaked whales; and

NOTING ALSO that maritime military exercises refer to those involving naval ships and military aircraft capable of employing MFA sonobuoys or dipping sonars, and do not include security operations;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON all states with Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) in the Macaronesian region to:

   a. support the establishment of an MFA sonar moratorium during maritime military exercises, involving naval ships and military aircraft capable of employing MFA sonobuoys or dipping sonars, conducted within their EEZs; and

   b. ban the use of this high-energy sonar in maritime military exercises within the limits of their EEZs; and

2. REQUESTS the Director General to convey this Resolution to all states with EEZs in the region, as well as to the European Parliament.
WCC-2020-Res-023-EN

Reducing impacts of incidental capture on threatened marine species

AWARE that an increasing number of marine species are being recognised as Endangered or Threatened and are Protected (ETP) – which in the context of this motion refers to all species within marine taxa categorised as ‘Vulnerable’, ‘Endangered’, or ‘Critically Endangered’ by IUCN; and, therefore, require protection from fishing interactions and activities;

RECALLING that the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species repeatedly refers to incidental capture (hereafter called bycatch) from fisheries operations as a major threat to an increasing number of marine species;

CONCERNED that even small-scale fisheries that incur low levels of bycatch per vessel or per day are, because of the number of vessels and fishing days, cumulatively adding substantial pressure to marine ETP populations;

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the near extinction of the vaquita, driven almost exclusively by bycatch in both legal and illegal fisheries, despite Resolution 6.017 Actions to avert the extinction of the vaquita porpoise (Phocoena sinus) (Hawaii, 2016) and its recommendations intended to avoid this fate, and other species or populations, such as the Antipodean albatross (Diomedea antipodensis) or the Critically Endangered Maui dolphin (Cephalorhynchus hectori maui), where bycatch is driving rapid and precipitous population declines;

RECOGNISING that many conservation measures to limit capture or sale of ETP species are undermined by continued bycatch and gaps in bycatch monitoring or reporting data of these species and are thus insufficient to conserve ETP species;

MINDFUL that most elements of Recommendation 19.61 By-Catch of Non-Target Species (Buenos Aires, 1994) and Resolution 1.16 Fisheries By-catch (Montreal, 1996) have not been implemented in the intervening two decades;

WELCOMING the work on bycatch mitigation being undertaken by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs), the International Whaling Commission (IWC), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), and a wide range of IUCN Members; and

RECOGNISING that IUCN has a leading role in the formation of global conservation policy and guidance that can strengthen work undertaken by State and Government Agency Members, as well as by other Members;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its Session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and the Species Survival Commission (SSC) to:

   a. by 2022 produce a comprehensive analysis of the impacts of non-selective fisheries on ETP species, involving all Commissions and addressing small-scale artisanal to industrial fleets, as well as a full range of marine taxa (e.g. invertebrates, fishes, reptiles, mammals, seabirds); and

   b. by 2023 support the implementation of effective policies involving all stakeholders, including governments, civil society, local communities, and the private sector; and development of a ‘toolbox’ of potential solutions adaptable to individual situations, to reduce and, wherever possible eliminate, bycatch of marine taxa, particularly of threatened and depleted species;

2. URGES all IUCN Members and non-Members to act to reduce the pressure on ETP species from non-selective gear and methods; and

3. CALLS ON State and Government Agency Members to:

   a. enhance deployment of selective gear and practices that reduce or eliminate bycatch, as well as to continue scientific studies and analyses of new mitigation measures for ETP species;

   b. work with national agencies, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and its Agreement on the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels (ACAP), and NGOs, to assess bycatch reliably by collecting data on bycatch and generating robust estimates from these data, including through comprehensive and representative observer coverage and/or electronic monitoring systems, with particular urgency for gears that have high incidence of bycatch;

   c. enhance effective archiving and exchange of bycatch data to improve assessments of impacts on ETP populations;

   d. collaborate with and support national agencies, FAO, RFMOs, CMS, ACAP and NGOs, to minimise and eliminate bycatch, including through greater efforts to reduce abandoned, lost and discarded gear;

   e. ensure protection of species taken in non-selective fisheries that are, or may become, threatened – as outlined in Resolution 6.021 Monitoring and management of unselective, unsustainable and unmonitored (IUU) fisheries (Hawaii, 2016); and

   f. work to address the needs of stakeholders and dependent communities where non-selective fisheries practices are problematic for ETP species.
For an improved management of drifting fish aggregating devices (FADs) in purse seine fisheries

RECALLING Resolution 5.031 Precautionary tuna management through target and limit reference points and improved drifting Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) management (Jeju, 2012), which already highlighted concerns regarding drifting fish aggregating devices (FADs);

ALARMED by the state of life in the ocean, including the over-exploitation of fish stocks, in particular tuna, for which an increasing number of stocks are over-exploited, in part due to illegal, unreported, unregulated and unmanaged fishing;

NOTING that the use of FADs has increased substantially worldwide since 2012, both in high seas and within Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs);

NOTING WITH CONCERN that FADs are known to lead to high levels of the juvenile take of bigeye tuna (Thunnus obesus) and yellowfin tuna (T. albacares) which can affect stock viability;

CONCERNED by the other adverse impacts of FADs on marine life, including the significant amount of bycatch and pollution caused by lost or abandoned FADs, which then become marine debris that can cause significant mortality of marine wildlife; and

FURTHER CONCERNED by the need for improved management measures for FADs and the lack of transparency in monitoring of the conservation measures already adopted by Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) for FADs, both within EEZs and in high seas;

RECOGNISING THAT transparency in monitoring of the conservation measures adopted by RFMOs for FADs, both within EEZs and in high seas, can be improved; and

ALSO RECOGNISING government and sectoral efforts to collaborate with scientific institutions to advance the composition and design of FADs, as well as their operation and deployment, to minimise the aforementioned impacts;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ENCOURAGES governments to:
   a. strictly manage and monitor the use of drifting FADs; and
   b. drastically reduce the number of FADs used by their fleets in order to assist the recovery and rebuilding of tuna populations;

2. URGES all RFMOs to:
   a. establish a record of FADs with unique identifiers and require constant real-time satellite tracking of all deployed FADs from setting to recovery;
   b. collaborate to immediately establish a science-based FAD deployment limit per vessel;
   c. request FAD owners to remove them from the water once they reach the end of their life and approach sensitive habitats (in partnership with coastal communities or authorities) and to avoid the use of materials such as plastics that are harmful to the marine environment; and
   d. impose the use of methods to prevent entanglements of non-commercial species (non-entangling FADs, purse seine mesh size, geographical restriction of installation sites, etc.) and take necessary steps to minimise catch of non-target species;

3. CALLS ON states, industry and the NGO community to work with existing labelling and certification programmes, or as needed, consider establishing new programmes or labels for canned tuna that reflect best practices; and

4. ENCOURAGES all relevant actors to continue advancing scientific knowledge to improve construction, management, operation and deployment of FADs.
REALISING that healthy marine ecosystems provide vital services that include biodiversity support, food and other resources, transport, and carbon regulation and sequestration;

RECOGNISING that the growing number and extent of anthropogenic activities in the marine environment are degrading and destroying marine habitats, and that the decline of marine habitats and ecosystems has devastating impacts on people and livelihoods;

NOTING that marine ecosystems differ from terrestrial ecosystems in being strongly connected in three dimensions, functioning on a larger spatial scale and longer time scale, and largely based on small (often mobile) primary producers;

AWARE that conservation, restoration and remediation of the oceans is made more difficult by a dearth of mapping and knowledge, and a vast area without clear governance;

FURTHER NOTING that ecosystem and habitat restoration are still in their infancy in marine environments, with a dearth of experience and expertise;

ALSO NOTING that restoration and remediation of degraded marine environments have generally been uncoordinated, costly and often unsuccessful;

CONCERNED that there are no globally-accepted mechanisms or frameworks to assess the impacts of anthropogenic or restoration activities on sensitive marine habitats and ecosystems in a multidisciplinary and systematic manner;

ACKNOWLEDGING that Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14.2 is, by 2020, to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that the forthcoming UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030 aims to accelerate existing global restoration goals through political support, scientific research and increased financing; and

APPRECIATING that IUCN is developing a new tool – the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems – to assess the status of marine ecosystems and habitats;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and the whole of IUCN to:
   a. promote ecosystem conservation, restoration and remediation for all marine environments, including those beyond the coastal zone and below the photic zone; and
   b. provide extensive support for the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems;

2. ASKS the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) to:
   a. encourage the productions of maps of all marine ecosystems and their status;
   b. develop, where possible in conjunction with existing regional seas conventions, a framework for marine ecosystem restoration that (i) includes ecological, economic, social and cultural considerations, (ii) uses best available scientific and technical practices, (iii) includes clear objectives, metrics and indicators, and (iv) considers short- and long-term prospects; and
   c. catalyse creation of a global database on restoration projects, their progress and long-term success;

3. ENTREATS all Members to:
   a. embark on any ecosystem remediation or restoration in a transparent, technically sound manner;
   b. consult meaningfully with stakeholders and experts (including holders of local/traditional knowledge);
   c. develop long-term objectives, avoiding quick fixes that harm biodiversity, ecosystem function or society;
   d. be transparent and precautionary, and analyse risk effectively;
   e. include clear metrics and evaluation; and
   f. guard against allowing restoration to excuse destruction of natural ecosystems; and

4. URGES State and Government Agency Members to include underrepresented marine habitats in implementing Resolution 6.050 Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation (Hawaii, 2018), which called for at least 30% of marine habitats to be included in Marine Protected Areas by 2030.
WCC-2020-Res-026-EN
International cooperation on marine pollution from sunken vessels

RECOGNISING that the pollution of our oceans is a global problem, which threatens marine species and their ecosystems;

NOTING that there are more than 8,500 potentially polluting sunken vessels around the world, with more than 22 billion gallons of fuel on board, most of which date from World War II, and that because of erosion the issue of fuel leakage is no longer ‘if’ but instead ‘when’ it will happen;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that pollution from wrecks is a lesser-known but important issue that threatens the stability and livelihood of our oceans and marine ecosystems;

UNSETTLED about the immediate environmental threat that, as sunken vessels continue to deteriorate, fuel and other dangerous chemicals will begin and continue to spill into our oceans;

CONCERNED that a majority of the efforts for removing fuel have been reactive once a leak is reported, whereas the oceans and the environment deserve and require a proactive approach to this threat; and

ACKNOWLEDGING that several countries have made efforts to document and maintain databases to track these wrecks, including Estonia, Finland and Sweden, with the wreck registers and risk assessment work done in the Sunken Wreck Environmental Risk Assessment (SWERA) project;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ENCOURAGES the Director General to explore a collaboration with Members with a view to producing a toolkit to evaluate the threat of oil pollution from shipwrecks and to identify possible solutions; and

2. CALLS ON State and Government Agency Members to continue to develop and share innovative tools and best practices for pollutant removal from sunken ships having oil or packaged dangerous goods on board.
RECOGNISING that oceans harbour substantial biodiversity that is threatened by pollution and other anthropogenic impacts, such as climate change and unsustainable fishing practices;

NOTING that waters outside protected areas represent substantial biodiversity conservation potential in their own right, interact ecologically with protected areas, and therefore are equally important for conservation, hence emphasis on “mainstreaming biodiversity” in the 2016 UN Biodiversity Conference in Cancun;

CONCERNED that failure to address socio-economic needs in management will compromise food security and livelihoods, exacerbate resistance to conservation, and perpetuate ecological degradation;

ALSO CONCERNED that climate change creates new challenges for oceans, raising the imperative for immediate, decisive and comprehensive responses;

AWARE that fishing is reliant on ocean productivity to support livelihoods, food security, nutrition and heritage, but can have significant ecological impacts and is especially vulnerable to climate change;

MINDFUL that many fisheries lack sufficient management attention or management capacity, making it harder to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing;

NOTING that small-scale fisheries (SSF) have special socio-economic importance and need community-based approaches;

ALSO MINDFUL that management of many fisheries, other uses of the marine environment, and protected areas are not well coordinated for supporting a holistic and integrated management approach accounting for all impacts on biodiversity and human needs;

EQUALLY MINDFUL that well-managed sustainable fishing practices, with regulations adapted to the possibilities of each area and with the necessary scientific knowledge and control, allow, as has been demonstrated, the sustainability of fishery resources and the environment in which they develop, while simultaneously benefiting coastal communities;

WELCOMING the highlighting of sustainable use in development of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and the recognition that other effective area-based conservation measures (OECM) can promote biodiversity conservation;

ALSO WELCOMING the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021–2030 as a response to the need for knowledge and scientific capacity for biodiversity conservation; and

NOTING that Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 recognises the importance of ocean ecosystems, and that other SDGs highlight the socio-economic needs to be met through ocean conservation;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ENCOURAGES the establishment of a Working Seascapes Initiative under the auspices of the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) Fisheries Expert Group to support technical analysis, stakeholder engagement, convening of practitioners, capacity building and information sharing to achieve the objectives set out below;

2. SUPPORTS collaboration among IUCN Members and components, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and other stakeholders and governance bodies in development and implementation of the recommendations of the Working Seascapes Initiative; and

3. ENCOURAGES States to support targets and strategies for ocean conservation in the CBD post-2020 global biodiversity framework that:

   a. recognise fishing as a substantial impact on marine biodiversity, affecting large numbers of people and facing important governance challenges, while also emphasising its contribution to supporting livelihoods, food security, nutrition and heritage;

   b. seek innovative scientific, technological and governance approaches to balance trade-offs among fishing and other uses of the marine environment, and to benefit biodiversity conservation;

   c. recognise sustainable use as a key element in biodiversity conservation, such that human use supports both environmental and socio-economic needs;

   d. strengthen capacity for implementation, enforcement, monitoring and reporting on targets;

   e. define clear principles for achieving climate resilience in marine ecosystems and human communities; and

   f. result in comprehensive biodiversity conservation plans that are consistent with the SDGs, aligned with relevant policy instruments, and cover all of the world ocean by 2030.
WCC-2020-Res-028-EN

Updating of the legislation to stop the pollution of oceans caused by the discharging of wastewater by ships

OBSERVING that one of the greatest problems facing humanity is ocean pollution, and that the cause of this pollution is not just marine litter, thousands of kilos of which are removed each year, but also pollution that leads to the biodiversity loss of both marine organisms and the ecosystem services they provide; and that in particular, the input of fertilizers and organic pollution has an increasing effect on the phenomena of eutrophication and the occurrence of red tides along our coasts;

CONSIDERING that the ships that sail around our oceans include an increasingly large number of tourist cruise ships, authentic floating cities, which sail around the coasts of the world; that two types of wastewater are discharged into the ocean by these cruise ships: black water and grey water; that the black water coming mainly from toilets and medical facilities on board contains harmful bacteria, pathogenic organisms, viruses, intestinal parasites and detrimental nutrients, which, if not treated properly, can cause viral or bacterial pollution in marine organisms and eventually affect human health; that the grey water, which comes from kitchens, sinks, showers, baths, washing machines and swimming pools contains fats, oils, chemicals and bleach and therefore it is necessary to carry out a quantitative assessment of the effects of grey water discharged by ships into the marine environment; and

INDICATING that the legislation that establishes rules to prevent ocean pollution being caused by sewage being discharged by ships is contained in Annex IV of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), which was drawn up in 1973, at a time when maritime transport was carried out by merchant vessels, and when there were only a few transatlantic ships that sailed between Europe and America, when the cruise ship tourist industry did not exist, and thus the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) agreed to add the amendment to Annex IV of MARPOL and the corresponding guidelines in order to introduce provisions on the keeping of records and measures aimed at confirming the proper functioning of wastewater treatment plants across their entire life cycle, as an item in the 2020-2021 agenda;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES the Member States to take initiatives to take part in the IMO discussions to ensure the effective protection of the oceans through:

   a. the consideration of the need for a change in the current legislation on ocean pollution (Annex IV of the MARPOL Convention), which includes the updating of Annex IV of the MARPOL Convention and its guidelines to introduce provisions on the keeping of records and measures aimed at confirming the proper functioning of wastewater treatment plants across their entire life cycle; and

   b. awareness-raising campaigns on the need to protect our seas from the enormous environmental impact caused by the wastewater from ships and to preserve the marine environment;

2. ENCOURAGES all IUCN Members, regional, national and European administrations with competences in the conservation of the marine environment and international legislation to cooperate and increase their efforts to launch this process, and also to collaborate in the transfer of the information on the objectives to be fulfilled to the land managers and the scientific community; and

3. ASKS the Director General and all Members and Commissions, and in particular the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL), to strive to achieve the objectives contained in this motion.
For the urgent global management of marine and coastal sand resources

CONSIDERING that sand is an essential element of coastal and marine ecosystems (turtle spawning grounds, habitat for benthic species, and mitigation against extreme marine weather hazards) and shelters microorganisms and cyanobacteria that are the basis of marine food webs;

RECALLING that sand is the second-most used resource in the world due to its many uses, including non-residential construction, roads, glass, agriculture, cosmetics, etc.;

NOTING that sediments are essential for coastal dynamics, and their entry into coastal waters has been decreased considerably due to river regulation, dams, and sand extraction from riverbeds;

NOTING that the excessive extraction of sand prevents the reconstitution of stocks in rivers and streams, which are often already modified by humans; and that sand mining exacerbates shoreline erosion phenomena, which increases vulnerability to natural disasters and can affect the integrity of lagoon substrates particularly around coral islets;

NOTING that 75% of the world's beaches have already been depleted as a result of marine sand overexploitation, that beach modifications through sand depletion also alter coastal habitats, and that this trend will increase due to the diversification of extraction areas;

ALARMED that the easy extraction, combined with the profitability in exploiting this scarce resource, fuels the rise of illegal extraction by organised groups, particularly in India, Morocco, Cambodia and the Caribbean, thus posing threats to people and damaging beaches;

EMPHASISING that increasing demand and uncontrolled extraction are the basis for a foreseen global shortage of sand resources;

UNDERLINING that the adverse consequences of sand extraction principally affect the poorest regions in the world, e.g., Indonesia, where several islands have already disappeared due to sand mining; and

WELCOMING positive initiatives such as the recycling of building materials or aggregates for road construction in countries such as France and the United Kingdom;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. RECOMMENDS that states and other relevant authorities should:
   a. support the implementation of strategic plans for the management of terrestrial and marine sand at a regional, island or geomorphological unit level, based on the study of sediment flows upstream to downstream, and taking the effects of climate change (sea-level rise, intensification of cyclones, etc.) into account, so as to ensure sustainable use of sand; and
   b. ensure that the management and regulation of sand extraction activities is carried out in a sustainable way, making use, for example, of the framework of Regional Seas Conventions and their protocols;

2. URGES the private sector and other stakeholders to voluntarily start using alternative solutions to sand where possible;

3. INVITES public research to contribute to the identification of sand alternatives to facilitate their widespread uptake; and

4. CALLS ON communities, civil society organisations and government agencies to report and take drastic measures to stop all illegal sand-mining activities, and take appropriate measures for restoration of this resource and to systematically request impact assessments for legal sand-mining projects which address not only biodiversity impacts but also erosion impacts.
WCC-2020-Res-114-EN
Integrated solutions to the climate change and biodiversity crises

WELCOMING the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land, the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate, as well as the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services that document: (i) the role of climate change as a direct driver of biodiversity loss that also exacerbates other existing pressures on biodiversity, (ii) the role of ecosystem loss and degradation as a significant source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and driver of climate change and reduced resilience, (iii) the need to prioritise the protection and restoration of ecosystems as an essential mitigation and adaptation action, and (iv) the irreplaceability in relevant time frames (2030–2050) of primary ecosystems for addressing the climate change and biodiversity crisis;

WELCOMING the growing recognition of the critical contribution of healthy ecosystems in providing effective nature-based solutions to climate change;

ALSO WELCOMING the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) decision 1/CP.25 (para 15) which underlines the essential contribution of nature to addressing climate change and its impacts and the need to address biodiversity loss and climate change in an integrated manner;

RECOGNISING the definition and framework of Nature-based Solutions adopted at the World Conservation Congress 2016, in Hawaii, through Resolution 6.069 Defining Nature-based Solutions;

STRESSING the importance of appropriately implementing these Nature-based Solutions, with the appropriate environmental and social safeguards and any recognised rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPILC), including, as appropriate, rights set out in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP); in order to maximise benefits for both biodiversity and human well-being, enhance the integrity, stability and adaptive capacity of ecosystems, and avoid adverse outcomes;

RECALLING Resolution 5.091 Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which calls for ensuring that the principles of UNDRIP are observed in the work of the Union;

NOTING the important functional role of biodiversity in underpinning ecosystem integrity, stability and adaptive capacity and the importance of protecting and restoring ecosystem condition as a matter of urgency to address both the biodiversity and climate crises and improve the outlook for sustainable development;

RECALLING that IUCN Members have adopted several Resolutions expressly referring to the role of ecosystem-based approaches in delivering climate change mitigation and adaptation;

RECALLING in particular Resolutions 5.086 Integrating protected areas into climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies (Jeju, 2012) and 4.076 Biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation in national policies and strategies (Barcelona, 2008);

FURTHER RECALLING the objectives of the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

ALSO RECALLING that CBD Technical Series numbers 41 Forest resilience, biodiversity, and climate change and 43 Connecting biodiversity and climate change mitigation and adaptation noted the feedbacks and interconnections between biodiversity, ecosystem integrity and climate change;

NOTING the significance of climate change to marine biodiversity and ocean acidification, and mindful of the ongoing discussions on an international legally-binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdictions;

ACKNOWLEDGING the work of IUCN Members in advancing Nature-based Solutions to climate change;

RECOGNISING the work of the Climate Change Task Force in furthering IUCN’s ambitions on the climate and biodiversity crisis;

ALSO RECOGNISING the role of science and indigenous and traditional knowledge in understanding the links between climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation, as well as in informing climate change and biodiversity strategies, public policies and actions;

STRESSING the importance of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement, the UN Decades on Ecosystem Restoration and on Ocean Science 2021–2030 and the UN Strategic Plan on Forests 2017–2030 for the implementation of the IUCN Programme 2021–2024;

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the findings of the IPCC and IPBES Reports mentioned above and their projected impacts on biodiversity and human well-being;

RECOGNISING their scientific conclusions, including that in model pathways with no or limited overshoot of 1.5°C, global net anthropogenic CO2 emissions decline by about 45% from 2010 levels by 2050, reaching net zero around 2050. For limiting global warming to below 2°C CO2 emissions are projected to decline by about 25% by 2030 in most pathways and reach net zero around 2070; and

WELCOMING the inclusion of climate change as a prioritised programme area in the proposed IUCN Programme 2021–2024;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS as a matter of urgency, the Director General and Commissions, in line with the IUCN Programme 2021–2024, to:
   a. intensify efforts to pursue, monitor and adaptively review integrated approaches to solving the biodiversity and climate crises;
   b. ensure that enhanced climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives promote biodiversity conservation, sustainable management, and the sustained protection of ecosystem integrity and promote improved synergies between climate and biodiversity initiatives;
   c. prioritise the urgent protection, conservation, sustainable management and restoration of carbon-dense ecosystems while considering the benefit of sequestered carbon in long-lived products of those ecosystems;
   d. focus restoration action on regeneration and rehabilitation of natural ecosystems, especially those with high biodiversity value and carbon intensity value, and buffering and reconnecting primary ecosystems;
   e. support Indigenous peoples and local communities to conserve natural ecosystems, in order to maintain their heritage and livelihoods; and
   f. emphasise conservation of threatened, endemic and evolutionary and functionally distinct species;

2. ENCOURAGES Council and all relevant components of the IUCN, avoiding any duplication of work, to:
   a. create a comprehensive and integrated climate change and biodiversity policy framework to help guide and coordinate work in these areas across all IUCN components that is coherent with the findings of the UNFCCC and the CBD and commensurate with the urgency and scale of the climate and biodiversity crises, in order to represent an accelerated and ambitious IUCN response;
b. in cooperation with the other relevant organisations, take the initiative to contribute to 'learning platforms' to share latest knowledge on climate change and biodiversity, in coordination, and avoiding duplication, with other similar platforms;

c. to propose options to develop a global partnership on climate change and biodiversity conservation to mobilise IUCN's membership and youth towards greater ambition and action; and

d. call on the Members of IUCN and the experts to urge their governments at all levels and their private sector organisations to speed up an equitable transition to sustainable energy mix, to phase out their dependence on fossil fuels, and to end their subsidies for fossil fuels;

3. CALLS ON Commissions, Members and partners to:

a. recognise that the world community faces global climate and biodiversity crises that are inexorably interlinked, both in their causes and solutions;

b. be informed in their work by IUCN's integrated climate change and biodiversity policy framework, with the aim of implementing it effectively, and

c. take ambitious action to combat climate change and biodiversity loss and, appropriate to their mandate, support IUCN's climate and biodiversity work;

4. INVITES governments and donors to support research on the interactions between climate and biodiversity, particularly on the necessary synergies and possible trade-offs, in order to propose appropriate responses to enhance ecological ambition;

5. ALSO STRONGLY ENCOURAGES governments to, as appropriate:

a. reinforce synergies between UNFCCC, CBD, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat and other relevant conventions, as well as between the IPCC and IPBES;

b. support the deployment of Nature-based Solutions (NbS) that promote biodiversity conservation while contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation, appropriately involving the actors concerned at the relevant scales, and that deliver significant multiple benefits for climate mitigation, adaptation, biodiversity and people, thereby contributing to the achievement of various Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and

c. raise the ambition of their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement and integrate NbS into the implementation of their NDCs, National Adaptation Plans and long-term strategies, as well as other national, local and sectoral plans; and

6. ENCOURAGES IUCN Members and other states, government agencies, and non-state actors to promote the implementation of commitments within the climate and biodiversity action agendas in a transparent and accountable manner, using appropriate indicators for monitoring the efforts.
WCC-2020-Res-030-EN
Enhancing the resilience of coastal areas in the face of climate change, biodiversity crisis and rapid coastal development

TAKING NOTE of the findings of the Special Reports on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C and related emission paths (Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C) and on the Oceans and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC);

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of coastal marine biodiversity and ecosystems and their role for Climate Change resilience from the Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES);

CONSIDERING the rapid littoralisation observed worldwide, as an effect of drivers such as demographic growth, urban sprawl, maritime trade, port installations, and industrialisation, generating pressures that affect coastal ecosystems;

NOTING the changes in risk and vulnerability resulting from factors including climate change, environmental degradation and the concentration of human population and infrastructure in some areas exposed to marine hazards;

RECALLING the irreversible loss of natural infrastructure (sand dunes, beaches, coral reefs, coastal forests and mangroves, tidal and salt marshes, etc.) may be caused by land use transformation and exacerbated by the adverse effects of climate change;

RECOGNISING the contribution of natural green infrastructure to risk reduction, climate change adaptation and resilience building;

ALSO NOTING the disparity between funds invested in post-storm coastal defences between traditional grey infrastructure and natural green infrastructure;

ALSO RECOGNISING the proven efficiency, in most cases, reversibility and limited costs of nature-based solutions, ecological engineering and restoration, and the value of hybrid solutions associating green to grey;

NOTING recent orientations towards hybrid solutions and infrastructures integrating ecological services;

FURTHER NOTING that coastal infrastructure projects developed worldwide are not consistently framed by environmental and social safeguards, impact assessments and eligibility criteria;

RECALLING the necessity to increase effective coastal protected area networks to reduce the impacts of rapid development on coastal ecosystems;

WELCOMING the implementation of Resolution 5.028 Conservation of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway and its threatened waterbirds, with particular reference to the Yellow Sea (Jeju), 2012, including the call for establishment of a global coastal forum by the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS – Resolution 12.25, 2017), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Resolution XIII.20, 2018) and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD – Decision 14/30, 2018) facilitating establishment of coastal wetland site networks, development of guidance on conservation management of working coastal wetlands and restoration of coastal wetlands; and

APPRECIATING the contributions of the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) Coastal Specialist Group;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. RECOMMENDS that the Director General and Commissions:
   a. increase their efforts to promote coastal resilience by providing tools for anticipatory coastal planning and nature-based adaptation, risk reduction and resilience building;
   b. collaborate with interested donors and governments to strengthen the impact assessments and safeguards applied to coastal projects; and
   c. support the establishment of a global coastal forum to facilitate establishment of coastal site networks, including World Heritage and Ramsar sites, and development of guidance on conservation management of working coastal wetlands and on restoration of coastal ecosystems;

2. RECOMMENDS that coastal planners and managers, as appropriate:
   a. conduct prospective studies to support adaptive planning to climate change and early decision-making, taking into account the precautionary approach, and ensure long-term monitoring of the footprint of maritime activities and coastal dynamics, for example by developing dedicated observation structures on the marine environment available to local players;
   b. adopt no-regret climate change adaptation as a basic principle of coastal resilience, recognising the effectiveness and efficiency of anticipated decisions to reducing community vulnerability to hazards;
   c. implement set-back strategies by promoting, for example, the use of land intervention on the coast, to reduce risks and enable ecosystem restoration and nature-based adaptation;
   d. develop approaches to ascribe value to protected areas and natural infrastructure as key assets in land-use and climate change adaptation policies; and
   e. preserve the resilience of coastal zones by relying on planning strategies and urban planning documents;

3. RECOMMENDS that development banks, donors and other financial institutions:
   a. identify and apply appropriate safeguards to projects considering the specificity of coastal areas;
   b. where appropriate and applicable, apply specific evaluation criteria to coastal projects in order to promote nature-based, reversible and hybrid solutions while taking into account the precautionary approach;
   c. where appropriate, undertake impact evaluations on all projects, especially in the case of grey infrastructure projects, regardless of scale, comparing potential green or hybrid alternatives; and
   d. where appropriate, for insurance organisations to adapt their grid of criteria and scales to better take into account the benefits of nature-based solutions; and

4. RECOMMENDS that Marine Protected Area (MPA) managers:
   a. incorporate resilience into management plans and management effectiveness evaluation processes; and
   b. participate in increasing the extent of MPA networks in fast-changing coastal areas in order to maintain green areas and enhance the long-term resilience of coastal ecosystems.
RECOGNISING the definition framework of nature-based solutions (NbS) adopted at the World Conservation Congress in 2016, in Hawaii, through Resolution 6.049 Defining Nature-based Solutions;

NOTING that the concept of NbS was identified by the European Commission as a strategic solution for the development of more sustainable cities;

NOTING the recommendations of the Mediterranean workshop on the “Implementation of nature-based solutions to tackle climate change” held in Marseille in January 2019;

CONSIDERING that the Mediterranean Basin is characterised by great natural diversity, and that with its high geodiversity and rich geological heritage, it is one of the planet’s 34 most sensitive areas in terms of global biodiversity and one of the most vulnerable regions in the world to the impacts of climate change, which has effects on ecosystems, the economy and human well-being that are clearly higher than the global average;

CONSIDERING that the social challenges that NbS intend to address (food security, climate change, water security, human health, disaster risks, economic and social development) are particularly acute in the Mediterranean Basin, because of the historic relationship between Humans and Nature, but also due to the recent significant population growth, the colossal pressure on scant water resources, the concentration of economic activities and the urban development of coastal regions, and the dependence on climate-sensitive agriculture;

RECOGNISING the key role played by Mediterranean ecosystems to address social challenges, but also the extreme pressures they are under, affecting their resilience and their potential NbS role, and aware of the need to protect and restore these ecosystems; and

FURTHER RECOGNISING that NbS are effective and profitable and that they offer an unprecedented opportunity to increase the resilience of Mediterranean society faced with climate change, and they help to accelerate the transition to a green and blue sustainable and uniform economy;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES governments and civil society in the Mediterranean Basin to implement NbS actively whenever appropriate, and to promote their effects by the creation of networks and green infrastructures, on a basin level in particular;

2. CALLS ON the governments in the Mediterranean Basin to take NbS into account within the framework of the Barcelona Convention and the Mediterranean Sustainable Development Strategy, the Ramsar Convention and its Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet), to include them in their contributions determined at a national level by the Paris Agreement, but also in all the relevant sectoral policies;

3. URGES local authorities in the Mediterranean Basin to prioritise NbS within the framework of the strategies they adopt for the management of natural areas and urban zones, as well as in their green infrastructure strategies, and to give them priority in their land and urban policies;

4. CALLS ON governments, financial institutions and private donors in the Mediterranean region to mobilise funding towards NbS and to envisage them systematically as an alternative or complement to the “grey” infrastructure projects that they finance; and

5. ASKS the Director General of IUCN and the Regional Offices involved in promoting NbS in the Mediterranean Basin, to ensure the sharing of experiences in this area and the networking of the stakeholders involved.
WCC-2020-Res-032-EN
Ocean impacts of climate change

NOTING with alarm the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C (2018), the Report of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES, 2019), and the IPCC Special Report on the Ocean and the Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (2019), all of which forecast major negative global impacts of climate change on the ocean, including the loss of up to 70–99% of the world’s coral reefs and 3–25% of marine fish biomass;

GRAVELY CONCERNED about the implications of ocean warming, ocean acidification resulting from carbon dioxide emissions, sea level rise and other impacts of climate change for the billions of people reliant on the ocean for food and livelihoods;

FURTHER NOTING with concern, that the accelerating melting of polar ice will increase the rate of sea level rise and other ocean impacts; and

RECALLING 2016 Congress Resolutions emphasising the importance of protected areas in promoting the ocean’s climate resilience by reducing other human stressors such as overfishing, pollution and habitat loss, in particular Resolutions 6.057 Take greater account of the ocean in the climate regime, calling for support for marine and coastal mitigation and adaptation efforts, including promoting the establishment of networks of marine protected areas; 6.039 Protected areas as natural solutions to climate change, affirming the role of protected areas to address the effects of climate change and calling on State Members and other players to integrate protected area networks into climate change adaptation strategies; and 6.050 Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation, recognising that “scientific evidence supports full protection of at least 30% of the ocean… to increase resilience to climate change” (all adopted in Hawai’i, 2016);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General and all components of IUCN to include ocean mitigation and adaptation in all relevant climate change-related programmes and to support the actions listed below; and

2. CALLS ON State and Government Agency Members to:

a. commit to ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement to keep warming below 2.0°C and desirably below 1.5°C, recognising the impact of carbon dioxide on ocean acidification, and to continue to include oceans as a priority topic in the global climate change dialogue and the Global Climate Action Agenda;

b. promote nature-based solutions to climate change through protected areas and conserving and restoring marine ecosystems, including coral reefs and blue carbon ecosystems such as mangroves, salt marshes and seagrass beds, recognising their multiple benefits for climate adaptation, mitigation, habitat provision and disaster risk reduction;

c. commit to protect at least 30% of the ocean as recommended by scientists and endorsed at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawai’i (2016), without prejudice to Resolution 6.056, to inter alia increase resilience to climate change;

d. incorporate climate change considerations into the management of fisheries, shipping, mining and other activities in the ocean, as well as in the establishment, management, monitoring and evaluation of marine protected areas; and

e. avoid adverse impacts on marine biodiversity when undertaking climate-change mitigation and adaptation actions such as desalination, storm defences and offshore renewable energy.
WCC-2020-Res-033-EN
Promoting biodiversity preservation through environmentally friendly energy transformation measures

ALARME D by the conclusions of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Reports on Global Warming of 1.5°C (2018) Climate Change and Land (2019), and The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate (2019) that the damaging effects of climate change are more serious and more imminent than previously contemplated, that greenhouse gas emissions have been increasing rather than decreasing since conclusion of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and that its signatories are falling to meet their registered Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (INDC) goals;

MINDFUL of the "energy-for-all" mandates of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 7 and 13, and that the 2017 United States Environmental Protection Agency Climate Assessment determined that the burning of fossil fuels accounts for 77% of US GHGs;

HIGHLIGHTING that the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) concluded that "Climate change is a direct driver that has contributed to widespread impacts in many aspects of biodiversity,..."; and

CELEBRATING that a number of state and political subdivisions have committed to the phasing down of fossil fuels, among them Costa Rica by 2021, New Zealand by 2050, the United Kingdom by 2050, California by 2045, New York 100% carbon-free electricity by 2040 and net zero emissions by 2050, while the G7 nations have pledged to end inefficient fossil subsidies by 2025;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to cooperate with Commissions, Members, Committees and affiliates in providing guidance and technical cooperation;

2. URGES Commissions, Members and experts to assist governments, municipalities and industries:

   a. to design and implement plans proposing to achieve 100% clean energy by 2050, using mechanisms such as: (i) eliminating all fossil fuel subsidies; (ii) eliminating use of coal for energy; (iii) reducing other fossil fuel consumption; while (iv) compensating low-income families for their transition costs;

   b. to design and adopt extensive but, environmentally friendly renewable energy measures and energy efficiency programmes for all residential, business and industry buildings and operations; and

   c. to repeal laws and policies that obstruct energy efficiency and renewable energy use while working to ensure that environmental and social impacts of such measures are effectively and equitably managed; and

3. REQUESTS Members to share successes and lessons learned in developing national and sub-national targets and plans, so as to assist others in the creation and implementation of successful strategies.
RECOGNISING that loss of global biodiversity is linked with increasing violence toward people who put their lives at risk to defend nature and related human rights;

NOTING that environmental human and peoples’ rights defenders and whistleblowers are any individual or group working to protect or promote human rights in the context of the environment, such as the defence of land rights, access to natural resources and the evolving discussions on the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and that they are often members of indigenous and traditional communities who can play a key role in combating environmental crime and should be legally recognised and protected; in accordance with national and/or international laws.

ACKNOWLEDGING increasing human rights abuses against environmental defenders, especially women, their families and associates, including killings, threats, intimidation, harassment, gender-based violence, smear campaigns, criminalisation, and forced displacement, such that in 2020 alone, at least 331 environmental and human rights defenders were killed for defending their homes, lands and natural resources, with more than half of the cases occurring in Latin America (from Front Line Defenders Global Analysis 2020); and ALSO ACKNOWLEDGING that mining, forestry or agro-industrial projects, and in some places, even conservation, have led to abuses;

NOTING resolution 8/12 of the Conference of States Parties (COP) under the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) which encourages States Parties, and in conformity with national legislation, to consider establishing and developing, where appropriate, confidential complaint systems, whistleblower protection programmes, including protected reporting systems, and effective witness protection measures, and to increase awareness of such measures;

CONSIDERING that the protection of environmental defenders, their territories and rights is at the heart of IUCN’s rights-based approach to conservation as recognised in Resolutions 4.052 Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 4.119 Protection of rangers within and in areas adjacent to protected areas, and 4.056 Rights-based approaches to conservation (all adopted in Barcelona, 2008) and Resolution 5.97 Implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Jeju, 2012);

APPLAUDING the efforts undertaken by environmental defenders as an essential contribution to conservation for present and future generations and welcoming national, regional and global developments to address the needs and rights of defenders, such as the Aarhus Convention, Escaré Agreement and the cooperation agreement signed by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote and protect environmental and human rights;

RECOGNISING that environmental defenders under threat are found across the full range of IUCN fields of action and regions and a more comprehensive approach is needed to support their protection especially in regions and areas of activity with high degrees of vulnerability; and

STRESSING that it is crucial to secure the safety of environmental defenders, within and outside their territories, and that all forms of arbitrary violence and criminalisation against defenders must be stopped and recurrence prevented;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ENCOURAGES the Director General to work with State and non-State Members, including Indigenous Peoples Organisations, women organisations and national NGOs, Commissions, Regional Offices, National Committees, the Secretariat and International Organizations, including International Financial Institutions, to:
   a. enhance knowledge, collection of disaggregated data and awareness concerning environmental defenders and whistleblowers, and protection mechanisms linked to other current efforts, such as civil society organisations and networks, the UNEP policy on promoting greater protection for environmental defenders, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and national governments;
   b. review the IUCN Programme 2021-2024 in terms of intersections with environmental defender issues including in its programme on business and biodiversity engagement;
   c. develop an IUCN policy and action plan on environmental human rights defenders and whistleblowers, in collaboration with defenders and whistleblowers and their organisations;
   d. as part of the IUCN Annual Report, report on the development and implementation of the activities related to the policy and action plan on environmental defenders and whistleblowers;
   e. engage in direct dialogue with individual State Members to conduct independent fact finding, when relevant, and to improve systematic protection of defenders; and
   f. mobilise resources with interested donor countries to finance activities in support of environmental defenders and whistleblowers;

2. REQUESTS the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC), the Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) and the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), in collaboration with defenders and whistleblowers and their organisations, to initiate a campaign to promote and support the work of environmental human rights defenders and whistleblowers as a way of protecting them from threats and attacks and showing the importance of their work;

3. REQUESTS National Committees to engage Members, raise awareness and build capacity concerning protection needs of environmental human rights defenders, and opportunities to meet those needs in their respective countries;

4. URGES states to adopt and uphold laws aimed at the protection of defenders and whistleblowers, and to put in place holistic protection measures for, and in consultation with, defenders and whistleblowers, thereby seeking to ensure accountability and prosecution for threats and attacks against environmental human rights defenders;

5. CALLS on financial institutions and businesses to implement human rights due diligence including with the use of free, prior and informed consent for indigenous peoples, and further establish and strengthen grievance and redress mechanisms, and hold meaningful and inclusive consultations with defenders, potentially affected groups and other relevant stakeholders as part of a zero tolerance approach to violence within supply chains; and

6. CALLS on NGOs and others within the IUCN community to respect, defend and uphold human rights, and to undertake human rights due diligence and commit to the use of free, prior and informed consent for indigenous peoples.
RECOGNISING that the world’s ecosystems and biodiversity provide us with food, clean water, the air we breathe, jobs, livelihoods, general welfare and happiness, and help us prevent and be resilient to natural disasters;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history, that the rate of species extinctions is accelerating and the health of ecosystems is deteriorating more rapidly than ever;

STRESSING that the current rapid and dramatic decline in nature and nature’s contributions to people represents a human health and well-being, development, economic and existential threat and that we are facing a planetary emergency;

ALSO STRESSING that nature loss, climate change, desertification and land degradation, and unsustainable development are all different sides of the same problem and that need to be addressed in an integrated and coherent way by all relevant legal, policy and financial instruments;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that impacts of nature loss are hitting the poorest hardest, causing food and water insecurity and conflict, and costing the global economy billions each year, and contributing to climate change;

AWARE that the Global Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) concluded that goals for conserving and sustainably using nature and achieving sustainability cannot be met by current trajectories, and that goals for 2030 and beyond may only be achieved through transformative changes across economic, social, political and technological factors;

CONCERNED that the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture concluded that biodiversity for food and agriculture is declining, and that enabling frameworks for the sustainable use, conservation and restoration of biodiversity for food and agriculture remain insufficient;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that climate change is already affecting nature, people and livelihoods with impacts expected to increase over coming decades;

RECOGNISING that ramping-up the conservation of nature will be critical for solving the climate emergency;

NOTING the call from IUCN Members for an equitable, nature-positive and net zero world to ensure there is more nature globally in 2030 than there was in 2020, by halting and reversing the loss of nature to put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of all people and the planet by 2030, as well as tackle climate change, achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and enable people and communities to thrive in a healthy and stable future;

NOTING that political leaders participating in the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity in September 2020, representing 88 countries from all regions, and the European Union, have committed to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030 and endorsed the Leaders’ Pledge for Nature;

MINDFUL that many youth, religious and traditional leaders, scientists, indigenous peoples, business leaders, civil society organisations and the public are calling for bold and ambitious action to address the climate and ecological crises;

AWARE OF the comprehensive and participatory process for the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in accordance with Decision 14/34 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), to be concluded at the second part of the 15th Conference of Parties in Kunming, China in 2022;

WELCOMING the establishment and ongoing activities of the CBD’s Open-ended Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework while recognising that this work is ongoing and this Resolution does not prejudge the outcome;

LAUDING the multiple other calls to action that have been endorsed by different groups of countries launched since 1995, including Nature Champions: Call to Action at the Nature Champions Summit, the G7 Nature Compact at the Heads of States Meeting, the Co-Chairs’ report at the 9th Trondheim Biodiversity Conference and the G20 Environment Ministers’ Communiqué;

RECALLING Resolution 6.99 Safeguarding space for nature and securing our future: developing a post-2020 strategy (Hawaii, 2016), which called on the Director General and all components of IUCN to promote and support the development of the post-2020 strategy;

WELCOMING the inputs of Council’s Post-2020 Task Force and of Commissions to IUCN’s evolving position on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework; and

NOTING the increasing calls to both recognise a right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment in the UN Human Rights Council and to reflect this in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General and all of IUCN to continue to contribute to the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, by actively promoting the recommendations included in this Resolution, and to fully support the global biodiversity framework once adopted through the implementation of the IUCN Programme 2021–2024 Nature 2030 and the Addendum;

2. CALLS ON IUCN Members and INVITES CBD Parties, other governments, intergovernmental organisations, all stakeholders and indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) to work, as appropriate, with national-level and other counterparts engaged in the CBD to encourage them to join forces to develop, adopt and implement a post-2020 global biodiversity framework that:
   a. reflects the urgent transformative change necessary to promote a whole-of-society transition to address direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss and secure the planet’s life support system;
   b. fully implements the three objectives of the Convention including the conservation of biological diversity, its sustainable use of the components of the biological diversity, and fair and equitable access to, and sharing of, benefits from the utilisation of genetic resources in a balanced manner;
   c. contains a Vision for 2050 of living in harmony with nature and an inspirational, and easy to communicate 2030 Mission, thereby aiming to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to achieve a nature-positive world by 2030;
   d. contains specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound targets and milestones for 2030 to halt and reverse the unprecedented loss of biodiversity and take urgent and transformational action to restore and conserve biodiversity for the survival and benefit of nature, people and planet;
   e. clearly addresses both direct and indirect drivers of the loss of biodiversity that were identified by the IPBES Global Assessment report, includes ambitious nature-positive sectoral targets to ensure effective sectoral engagement and action, notably by supporting the establishment of national, regional and global sectoral plans of action (for food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry, infrastructure, and any other relevant sectors) as well as national and regional multi-stakeholders and multi-sectoral platforms;
   f. includes the following critical elements in the 2030 Milestones:
i. increase in the area, connectivity and integrity of ecosystems and zero human-induced extinctions of species, and recovery of the population abundance of species and safeguard genetic diversity of wild and domesticated species;

ii. halving of the footprint of production and consumption and ensuring that all relevant public and private decisions support the achievement of a nature-positive and equitable world and safeguard human rights;

iii. fair access to and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge are secured to ensure the conservation of biodiversity and that any use be sustainable, and

iv. adequate financial and other resources to implement the framework are available and deployed, progressively closing the financing and other gaps, including by significantly increasing finance from all sources for the implementation of the framework and minimizing public and private financial flows that are harmful to biodiversity by 2030;

g. can be translated into ambitious local, national, regional, multilateral and sectoral targets, commitments and actions;

h. mainstream biodiversity across all sectors to achieve biodiversity positive impacts, including by integrating the value of nature into decision making across all sectors or making positive impact commitments, including by:

i. transforming food and agricultural systems, including by applying ecosystem approaches, ensuring food loss and waste are significantly reduced, and making a shift toward sustainable and healthy diets, and recovering and preserving indigenous technologies for food system resilience to align human and planetary health;

ii. ensuring that infrastructure development minimises negative impacts on biodiversity, and compensates for any residual impacts by restoring priority ecosystems to achieve biodiversity positive outcomes; and

iii. conserving and sustainably using biodiversity in productive, extractive and urban ecosystems;

i. focuses on the integrity, including the functioning, of natural ecosystems, maintenance and restoration of key biodiversity elements in areas of global and national significance for biodiversity, in particular Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs), where recognised, and the ecological restoration of degraded places and also restores the relationship of humans with nature;

j. safeguards human rights;

k. forms a guiding framework that integrates and achieves the objectives of the CBD, as well as the other Rio Conventions and biodiversity-related conventions and processes, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

l. sets up a strong implementation mechanism that promotes responsibility and transparency that includes national planning, reporting, periodic review, and where consistent with national legislation, ratchet and compliance, as well as a global stocktake to assess collective progress toward meeting the goals, milestones, and targets of the framework;

m. recognises the intrinsic and existential importance of biodiversity, worthy of protection in its own right;

n. calls on all components of IUCN to support the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and work towards the implementation of all protection, conservation and restoration activities with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples, and with appropriate recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources, as set out under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and full respect for their diverse knowledge systems;

o. includes global targets to ensure that, without prejudice to Resolution 6.050 Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation (Hawaii, 2016):

i. at least 30% of terrestrial areas and inland waters (Note: ‘Inland waters’ – as defined by the Convention on Biological Diversity and Ramsar Convention) and of coastal and marine areas, respectively, are effectively and equitably governed, protected and conserved with a focus on sites of particular importance for biodiversity, in well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECSs) by 2030, with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples, and with appropriate recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources, as set out under UNDRIP, and support for the full and effective participation of local communities in the protection and conservation activities, with the recognition of customary and local governance practices as appropriate, along with their diverse knowledge systems;

ii. all managed areas, including for agriculture, fisheries, aquaculture and forestry, are under biodiversity-inclusive sustainable management, in particular through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, including natural, semi-natural, managed, extractive and urban ecosystems; and

iii. all of the land and waters, traditionally governed and conserved by IPLCs, are appropriately recognised and collectively secured;

p. ensures that social and economic assessments are conducted in accordance with universally accepted environmental, social and governance (ESG) standards, or national laws and due procedures with the effect of affording full social safeguards to those affected, in particular those rights holders and disadvantaged groups in achieving the targets specified in paragraph (o);

q. includes adequate means of implementation – including through a comprehensive resource mobilisation strategy, through a substantial increase in resources from all sources and the development of funding streams to facilitate all countries in meeting the targets and also the repurposing of all incentives harmful to biodiversity and alignment of financial flows – towards a pathway to halt and reverse biodiversity loss;

r. ensures the full and effective participation and recognition of the role of all relevant stakeholders and right holders, including civil society and IPLCs, as an essential prerequisite to facilitate the successful implementation of the framework; and

s. is complemented by a robust and comprehensive monitoring framework that ensures that key dimensions of biodiversity, including trends of species populations at global level, and key commitments and actions necessary to reverse biodiversity loss are adequately monitored;

3. USGs all governments to:

a. elevate the need to urgently tackle nature degradation and biodiversity loss to the highest political level, including through forthcoming high-level UN meetings;

b. through a whole-government approach, fully integrate nature in all key political, economic, cultural and social decisions and throughout all relevant sectors, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders and right holders, including civil society and the private sector, at all levels and stages of decision making;

c. secure as soon as possible an ambitious legally-binding agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);
d. take necessary actions to eliminate, redirect, repurpose, or reform subsidies and other incentives identified as potentially harmful to the environment by 2030, as well as those linked to human rights violations, and especially to biodiversity and climate;

e. ensure a successful CBD COP 15, and its high-level segment, in Kunming and towards the adoption of a transformative post-2020 global biodiversity framework, by using the time between today and the planned January meetings effectively to move the process closer to consensus and desired levels of ambition, in particular on the structure of the framework, the resource mobilisation strategy, the implementation mechanism and specific wording of key goals, milestones, targets and concepts such as Nature-based Solutions (NbS); and

f. pursue efforts to limit global warming to 1.5°C for biodiversity and people, including by, inter alia, rapidly and significantly scaling up the implementation of NbS that maintain and support biodiversity while contributing to mitigation and adaptation to climate change.
RECOGNISING that ecosystems are declining at an unprecedented rate globally;

RECALLING that ecological integrity or its converse, degradation of ecosystems, is included within soft law (e.g. 1992 Rio Declaration) and international agreements (e.g. the Paris Agreement on Climate Change);

RECALLING that Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) have agreed on the value of ecosystem integrity to climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction, including adoption of relevant guidance on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction at the 14th Meeting of Parties to CBD (COP14, Egypt, 2018);

FURTHER RECALLING that ‘ecosystem integrity’ is mentioned in CBD Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 on climate-vulnerable ecosystems and recognised as a criterion of the Key Biodiversity Areas Standard, endorsed by the last IUCN Congress (Hawaii, 2016);

NOTING that the Red List of Ecosystems provides an approach to evaluating the ecological integrity of the most vulnerable biomes and ecosystems;

FURTHER NOTING that the Parties to the CBD will adopt a new post-2020 global biodiversity framework, which will drive action for the conservation of biodiversity for at least the next decade;

ALSO NOTING that ecosystem integrity refers to the presence of viable and ecologically functional species populations within sufficient quality and extent of habitat, and that this concept underpins biodiversity conservation as well as other environmental values including carbon storage and sequestration, and fisheries replenishment;

RECOGNISING that ecosystem integrity is critical for the livelihoods and cultural expression of many indigenous peoples, many of whom depend on intact ecosystems;

FURTHER RECOGNISING the important role that livelihoods and local communities may play in maintaining or restoring ecological integrity;

AWARE of clear evidence that highly intact ecosystems are Earth’s remaining strongholds for species with declining populations in parts of their range where development and resource extraction pressures are high, and are increasingly valuable in a time of climate change due to their higher levels of resilience, and provide enhanced services for human well-being; and

FURTHER AWARE that Earth’s ecological integrity depends on intact ecosystems and connectivity between them, and therefore intactness, connectivity and species migration require increased international cooperation and must be addressed through any new global biodiversity framework;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS UPON IUCN Members, Governments, NGOs, indigenous peoples and intergovernmental organisations, to work with CBD Party governments and other stakeholders to ensure that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework be adopted at the 15th Meeting of Conference of Parties to CBD (COP15, China):

   a. recognises that maintaining and restoring ecological integrity is critically important and on a par with preventing the conversion of ecosystems, as a measure to address the biodiversity and climate crises, ensure resilience, and maintain other values critical to sustainable development;

   b. includes an explicit, measurable target to maintain the current levels of, and where possible enhance, ecological integrity in ecosystems of all types (marine, freshwater, terrestrial), especially those of high biodiversity, by ensuring they are effectively managed, at relevant scales, potentially with biome-specific goals on integrity;

   c. prioritises the critical need to secure the integrity of the last remaining highly intact ecosystems on the planet; and

   d. recognises that, where levels of ecological integrity are already reduced, they should be protected from further loss, and where possible increased via restoration; and

2. CALLS UPON the Director General of IUCN, and thereby the IUCN Secretariat, to promote the elements of paragraphs 1 a to 1 d, above, in discussions, advocacy, and advice relevant to the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework through the CBD.
WCC-2020-Res-035-EN
Promoting IUCN leadership in the implementation of the UN Decade on Restoration 2021–2030

APPLAUDING the recent adoption of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030 through UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/73/294, which is aimed at “supporting and scaling up efforts to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide and raise awareness of the importance of successful ecosystem restoration”;

AFFIRMING that the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030 presents a major opportunity to restore ecosystems and to implement Nature-based Solutions as a key global strategy for addressing critical societal challenges such as human health, disaster risk reduction, climate-change adaptation and mitigation, biodiversity conservation, food and water security;

WELCOMING the commitment of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to lead implementation of the Decade;

MINDFUL of the need to significantly increase conservation and protection of biodiversity and ecosystem services, while recognising at the same time many lands and waters are increasingly degraded, and noting the opportunity that restoration of currently degraded ecosystems provides for meeting that need;

RECOGNISING the key role and value of international voluntary initiatives such as the Bonn Challenge, Global Mangrove Alliance, and Global Peatland Initiative in facilitating tangible bottom-up action for delivering the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

HIGHLIGHTING that many ecosystem types do not receive sufficient attention and prioritisation, lack a target-setting framework and do not have coordinated communities of action to support implementation, capacity building and resource mobilisation;

NOTING Resolutions 6.046 Protection of primary forests including intact forest landscapes and 6.075 Affirmation of the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts (Hawaii, 2016); and

EMPHASISING that in order to optimise the conservation and societal benefits that can accrue from the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030 there is a need to promote the use of credible and proven ecosystem restoration approaches;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:
1. DECLARES its support and commitment for the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030 aiming at supporting and scaling up efforts to prevent, bring to a halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems worldwide;

2. REQUESTS the Director General to promote implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030, in the context of the IUCN Programme 2021–2024, by:
   a. championing the raising of ambition on ‘ecosystem restoration’ across a full range of ecosystem types, in line with the CBD post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and ensuring that ecosystem services are also restored;
   b. advising and assisting governments and stakeholders in the development of effective and efficient ecosystem management strategies, plans and policies;
   c. facilitating engagement, integration, cooperation and synergies among bottom-up communities of action working on restoration of specific ecosystem types;
   d. providing assistance to governments and other stakeholders in effectively tracking, monitoring and adaptively managing ecosystem restoration using IUCN and partner tools and knowledge, while championing and supporting the leadership, knowledge and good practices of indigenous peoples and local communities in conserving and restoring land, freshwater, coastal, and marine ecosystems; and
   e. developing an open knowledge platform, building on best practices, to share lessons learned about sustainable management and restoration by ecosystem type, to track progress and to facilitate quantitative meta-analysis of sustainable management and restoration effectiveness and effects;

3. ENCOURAGES all Members to take bold action within their mandates and in their work to scale up efforts to prevent, bring to a halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems at all scales, contributing to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030;

4. INVITES all Members to identify and develop activities for the implementation of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030; and

5. INVITES governments and all stakeholders to meaningfully address the drivers of ecosystem degradation while engaging in efforts to restore what has been degraded already.
WCC-2020-Res-036-EN
Declaration of global priority for conservation in the Amazon Biome

CONSIDERING reports by the Monitoring of the Andean Amazon Project (MAAP), over a period of 17 years (2001–2017) that around 4.2 million hectares of Amazon forest were lost; that of this total, 50% were in Peru (2.1 million ha), 41% in Colombia (1.7 million ha) and 9% in Ecuador (359,000 ha); that according to the Institute of People and the Environment of the Amazon (inamazon), the deforestation of the Amazon in Brazil increased by 15% between August 2018 and July 2019, with 5,042 km² of deforestation being recorded during this period; that the main causes are agriculture, livestock farming, mining, dams, roads infrastructure, etc.; and that it is estimated that 59 million metric tonnes of carbon were lost in the Peruvian Amazon alone during the period 2013–2017;

FURTHER CONSIDERING that it is important to update the data to represent the hectares of rainforest lost after July 2019 due to deforestation and forest fires in the Brazilian and Bolivian Amazon, demonstrating colonisation and urbanisation as additional causes;

BEARING IN MIND that, according to information from the Brazilian National Institute for Space Research (INPE), a total of 72,843 fires were detected in the Brazilian Amazon up to August 2019, representing a rise of 83% compared with 2018, creating devastating conditions in one of the world's most emblematic ecosystems;

AWARE that the Amazon is home to 10% of the world's biodiversity and stores 86 billion tons of carbon, which, if released to the atmosphere would represent 315 pentagrams (Pg) of CO2, or equivalent to 10 years of current global emissions;

AWARE that this mosaic of rich and diversified landscapes is also home to over 30 million people, including 2.7 million indigenous people representing approximately 400 different indigenous ethnicities, with about 60 known groups living in voluntary isolation; and

OBSERVING that some policies encouraging agriculture, cattle and mining that are being implemented in some countries threaten the safeguarding of natural and cultural heritage, that they accelerate the direct and indirect drivers of deforestation, increase poverty and socio-environmental conflicts over access to resources, and lead to the disappearance of habitat and biodiversity; and

RECOGNISING that the vast majority (close to 50%) of murders of environmentalists take place in the Amazon Basin, requiring the necessary actions for the effective protection of life and honouring of people working for the defence of the Amazon and its native people;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. RECOMMENDS that the Director General and Members recognise the Amazon Biome as the largest continuous tropical forest and freshwater ecosystem representing a fifth of the world's forests playing an important role in supporting global and continental climate stability and safeguarding 10% of the world's biodiversity;

2. ASKS the Director General to declare the Amazon Biome as threatened and therefore as a priority region for conservation and fire prevention, due to the global and local benefits it provides in tackling climate change, protecting biodiversity, and ensuring sustainable development;

3. REQUESTS the Director General and state governments to recognise the crucial role of indigenous territories for the conservation of the Amazon and the rights of indigenous people as stipulated in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) including the right to respect International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169, supporting the implementation of a Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) process with local, traditional and indigenous communities in matters that affect them;

4. URGES Members and Commission members in the Amazon to address any threats or conflicts that might arise in relation to the FPIC process;

5. CALLS on the countries that share the Amazon Basin to take the necessary steps and to create shared public policies, aligned with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) agendas, so that the forests and aquatic ecosystems in the Amazon Biome and the goods and services they provide are safeguarded beyond the borders of the countries encompassed by the Amazon Basin, including policies that incorporate specific, urgent actions for fire prevention, as well as for the effective conservation and sustainable use of the resources in the Amazon Biome, comprehensively and with a territorial approach, including traditional knowledge of indigenous people;

6. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to consider the provision of compensation, incentives and rewards to the indigenous people of the Amazon Biome involved in protecting, conserving and preserving the biodiversity and ecosystem of the region to halt further deterioration and damage to the Biome; and

7. REQUESTS countries to continue strengthening their systems of protected areas within the Biome, including territories and areas conserved by indigenous people and local communities.
WCC-2020-Res-117-EN

Actions to strengthen food sovereignty and security of indigenous peoples and peasant communities

AWARE that indigenous peoples, peasants, and small farming communities, and other local, small-scale forms of organisation around the world have played and continue to play a key role in providing almost 80% of food for humanity and overseeing 80% of global biodiversity;

RECOGNISING, in this respect, the necessity to incorporate these communities as key players in the work to guarantee global food security and, at the same time, to recognise their issues with food insecurity expressed, mainly, in malnutrition, health problems and a growing impact on their environment, including agroecosystems, due to the effects of major changes in climate patterns and industrial agricultural activities;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that Aichi Biodiversity Target 3, which was supposed to be met in 2020, acknowledges the adverse effects of global agricultural and fishing subsidies on biodiversity and the environment, and that this threatens the ability of indigenous cultures and peasant communities to maintain their livelihoods and achieve food security;

FURTHER RECOGNISING the importance of Sustainable Development Goals 2 (zero hunger), 6 (clean water and sanitation), 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), 12 (responsible consumption and production), 14 (life below water), 15 (life on land), 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), and 17 (partnerships for the Goals) to strengthen food sovereignty and security of indigenous peoples and peasant communities;

RECOGNISING that agrobiodiversity is a component that differentiates practices of indigenous peoples, peasants, and small farming communities, as a priority for conservation and the construction of sustainability, while providing them with resources to support their livelihoods;

OBSERVING that indigenous peoples and local communities are recognised as the central social subjects for conservation and sustainable development in Article 8, sub-paragraph (c) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

WELCOMING the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas (UNDROP) by the UN General Assembly in December 2018;

NOTING that UNDROP calls on states to take measures aimed at the conservation and sustainable use of land and other natural resources, including through agroecology, and ensure the conditions for the regeneration of biological and other natural capacities and cycles;

NOTING that UNDROP recognises the right of peasants and other people working in rural areas to determine their own food and agriculture systems, recognised as food sovereignty by many states and regions;

RECALLING that Congress has formerly recognised the link between promoting food sovereignty and conserving biodiversity (Resolution 3.017 Promoting food sovereignty to conserve biodiversity and end hunger (Bangkok, 2004)), and has acknowledged the need for IUCN to integrate human rights issues into its work (Resolution 5.059 IUCN Policy on Conservation and Human Rights for Sustainable Development (Jeju, 2012)); and

FURTHER HIGHLIGHTING the fact that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 25) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR, Article 11) recognise the human right to adequate food as part of the right to an adequate standard of living;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ASKS the Director General to:
   a. promote more discussions in the relevant Commissions on the relationship between food security, food sovereignty and indigenous peoples, peasants, and small farming and rural communities, taking into account the role of traditional and local knowledge, of protected and conserved areas, and of peasants’ rights to land and other natural resources as set out in UNDROP, based on the universality, indivisibility and interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights; and
   b. disseminate UNDROP to all Members, and remind State Members of the importance of disseminating and implementing UNDROP, based on the universality, indivisibility and interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights;

2. REQUESTS the relevant Commissions to study options to strengthen food sovereignty and security of indigenous peoples, peasants, and small farming communities, including the role of agrobiodiversity, the adverse effects of fishing and agricultural subsidies on food security and biodiversity and ways to mitigate these, and traditional and local knowledge, among others;

3. CALLS ON Members, along with other international bodies, to promote the enactment of a decree to establish mechanisms for the recognition and protection of biocultural heritage in collective and rural territories in order to ensure the protection and autonomous conservation of agrobiodiversity, including the application of UNDROP and the rights provided therein, based on the universality, indivisibility and interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights; and

4. CALLS ON states and other stakeholders active in agrobiodiversity issues to:
   a. ensure that indigenous peoples can exercise their right to free, prior and informed consent with regard to matters affecting their territories, as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDIP), in order to strengthen local governance, autonomy in agrobiodiversity issues, and the protection of traditional knowledge;
   b. support indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ rights to priority and origin for the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits derived from the use of their knowledge and the agrobiodiversity resources in and from their territories as set out in UNDROP and UNDROP; and
   c. recognise indigenous peoples’ traditional and ancestral knowledge related to the integrated management of biodiversity, as well as the sociocognitive construction and articulation, and the protection of biocultural heritage.
NOTING that functioning ecosystems are essential for maintaining life on Earth;

RECOGNISING that lands and waters conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities are some of the most diverse on earth, holding an estimated 80% of the planet’s biodiversity; and that per The State of Indigenous Peoples’ and Local Communities’ Lands and Territories report (2021), indigenous peoples and local communities own or govern at least 32% of global land and related inland waters;

RECOGNISING that, as per the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Ecosystem Services Panel (IPBES) report and other scientific sources, Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 was insufficient to protect biodiversity globally or to secure ecosystem services essential for humans and other forms of life; and that a more ambitious target, including promoting diverse and effective governance types, involving those from indigenous people and local communities needs to be set in the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;

RECALLING Resolution 5.097 Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Jeju, 2012), which calls for ensuring that the principles of UNDRIP are observed in the work of the Union;

RECALLING Resolution 4.048 Indigenous peoples, protected areas and implementation of the Durban Accord (Barcelona, 2008), which calls for recognition of indigenous peoples’ rights and collaboration to ensure free, prior and informed consent in the establishment of protected areas, as per the Durban Accord (2003);

REITERATING the importance of appropriate recognition of, and support for, territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCs – territories of life) in collective governance, management and conservation of biologically diverse landscapes expressed in previous IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations, including inter alia:

a. Resolution 5.094 Respecting, recognizing and supporting Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (Jeju, 2012); and

b. Resolution 6.030 Recognising and respecting the territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCs) overlapped by protected areas (Hawaii, 2016); and

WELCOMING the work to develop the ‘Land Rights Standard’ for best practice for recognising and respecting indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ land and resource rights in landscapes (Global Landscape Forum, 2019);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to assemble a task force coordinated by the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), with the participation of the IPPO Members of IUCN, to develop guidance and strategies for all Members to support indigenous and local community-led conservation efforts with reference to material already available, considering the diverse and unique knowledge systems of indigenous peoples and local communities, including the diversity of systems of knowledge with and about the environment;

2. ENCOURAGES State and Government Agency Members to ensure that existing and new protected and conserved areas are governed and managed by indigenous peoples and local communities, or – at the very least – to ensure full, equitable and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in decision making, the free, prior and informed consent, as called for by UNDRIP, and the appropriate recognition of customary and local government authorities of indigenous peoples and local communities in the establishment, expansion, governance and management of protected and conserved areas;

3. REQUESTS IUCN and its Members to ensure decision-making processes concerning protected and conserved areas are inclusive and equitable, with effective representation and participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, including in the establishment, amendment, or expansion of protected and conserved areas that may affect them; and

4. REQUESTS IUCN and its Members to support indigenous and local communities for developing and implementing sustainable development initiatives that empower and help them generate income and other benefits for supporting their livelihoods while sustainably using and protecting their natural resources.
WCC-2020-Res-037-EN
Strengthening the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment and the Global Institute of Prosecutors for the Environment

APPR ECIATING the quadrennial mandate (2012–2016) of the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) to build capacity to effectively adjudicate environmental issues and to develop environmental law expertise and networks worldwide;

NOTING the need for accountable, independent, effective and transparent institutions that facilitate access to justice for all, to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, pursuant to Sustainable Development Goal 16;

FURTHER NOTING that the Johannesburg Principles on the Rule of Law and Sustainable Development (2002) called for the “improvement of the capacity of those involved in the process of promoting, implementing, developing and enforcing environmental law,” including prosecutors, to carry out their functions on a well-informed basis;

FURTHER NOTING that the Rio+20 Declaration on Justice, Governance and Law for Environmental Sustainability (2012) calls on states to support the capacity of prosecutors to implement environmental law;

RECOGNISING IUCN’s commitment to enforcing environmental laws as they are critical to the conservation of nature;

RECALLING that Resolution 5.1.129 Courts and access to justice (Jeju, 2012) calls for “an autonomous international judicial institute on the environment” and ACKNOWLEDGING that the Global Institute of Prosecutors for the Environment (GIPE) was established at the World Water Forum in Brasilia, Brazil on 18 March 2018 through the dedicated efforts of WCEL;

RECALLING Resolution 6.071 Global Judicial Institute for the Environment (Hawaii, 2016) requested the Director General and WCEL to assist the Global Judicial Institute for the Environment (GJIE) with meeting its objectives;

RECOGNISING that the Charter of GJIE formally established the GJIE at the 1st IUCN World Environmental Law Congress held at the Supreme Court of the State of Rio de Janeiro on 26 April 2016;

RECALLING that the mission of GJIE is “to support the role of courts and tribunals in applying and enforcing environmental laws and in promoting the environmental rule of law and the fair distribution of environmental benefits and burdens”;

RECOGNISING the importance of adding prosecutors who are focused on protection of biodiversity, natural resources and human rights to the IUCN network as part of the growing IUCN Environmental Law Programme;

RECOGNISING the mission of GIPE to support the role of prosecutors in applying and enforcing environmental law and in promoting the rule of law regarding the environment and the equitable distribution of environmental benefits and burdens;

HIGHLIGHTING the value of GJIE in developing judicial best practices, stimulating collaboration and bolstering information exchange for the global advancement of environmental justice;

CONSIDERING that judicial colloquia, symposia and conferences coordinated by GJIE provide platforms for judges to advance environmental constitutionalism and rights;

NOTING that GJIE, WCEL and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) partnered to develop a Judicial Portal to make environmental jurisprudence and legislation from around the world accessible; and

COGNISANT of the important contribution of the judicial community to enforcing standards and safeguards for environmental sustainability;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and WCEL to continue their commitment to and support of GIPE;

2. URGES WCEL and UNEP to continue their collaboration with GJIE to develop a Judicial Portal that can provide access to environmental information, public participation in environmental decision-making, and access to justice;

3. INVITES State Members to support national and sub-national prosecutorial offices focused on environmental protection in order to further strengthen the capacity of governments and institutions around the world to promote the environmental rule of law; and

4. ALSO INVITES State Members to collaborate with the GJIE to develop best practices to strengthen the capacity of judges.
WCC-2020-Res-038-EN

Treating organized crime having an impact on the environment as a serious crime

RECOGNISING that environmental crime covers illegal activities harming the environment and aimed at benefitting individuals, groups or companies, and may include illicit wildlife trafficking, illegal forest exploitation, illegal fishing, dumping and illicit trafficking of waste, including hazardous and toxic substances, and illegal mining and illicit trafficking of minerals, including precious metals and gemstones;

RECOGNISING that transnational organised crime having an impact on the environment, including wildlife trafficking, illegal logging and associated trade, and illegal mining and illicit trafficking of minerals, is among the most lucrative forms of crime in the world and, in addition to undermining development, harms biodiversity and natural environments, deprives local communities of important resources and the generation of legitimate income, and negatively affects public health, and in doing so threatens international security;

VERY CONCERNED by the close links between environmental crime and other types of illicit trafficking and crime, such as illicit firearms trafficking, drug trafficking, corruption, money laundering and obstruction of justice;

RECALLING United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolutions 55/25, 69/314, 70/1 and 71/13, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Resolutions Conf.11.3 and Conf.17.6, the Paris Declaration (2013), the London Declaration (2014), the Kasane Statement (2013), the G20 Leaders’ Declaration (2017), the Declaration from the London Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade (2018), as well as Targets 15.7 and 15.c of the Sustainable Development Goals, all of which recognise the urgent need to combat wildlife trafficking;

WELCOMING the measures taken to combat environmental crime by governments, the United Nations (in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)), CITES, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the World Customs Organisation, and other international and regional organisations, as well as the private sector and non-governmental organisations;

ALARMED that, despite these measures, environmental crime is becoming increasingly sophisticated and organised, is occurring on an unprecedented global scale, and continues to contribute to the destruction of nature and the decline of populations of numerous threatened species;

VERY CONCERNED about the lack of awareness among lawmakers and criminal justice professionals about these crimes, the lack of prioritisation of these crimes by law-enforcement authorities and across the penal chain, the inadequacy of domestic legislation, the weakness of criminal penalties, as well as the lack of adequate capacities, equipment and training available to effectively detect, prevent and combat environmental crime;

RECOGNISING that the rule of law is strengthened when witnesses to crimes are protected from retaliation when they provide information (‘blow the whistle’) to law enforcement and prosecutors;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that organised crime continues to flourish and expand to illicit trafficking in wildlife, timber, and other natural resources, because the risk of prosecution is frequently very low in comparison with the profits generated, and sentencing often does not reflect the seriousness of such crimes; and

FURTHER NOTING WITH CONCERN that some countries permit legal domestic trade in wildlife threatened by trade, including species in which international trade is prohibited, thereby risking the exacerbation of wildlife crime through perpetuating demand for such species, compounding law enforcement, undermining demand-reduction efforts, and providing opportunities to launder illegally-sourced specimens;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

URGES states to:

a. recognise environmental crimes as serious crimes within the scope of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) where the offence is transnational in nature and involves an organised criminal group;

b. fully and effectively implement their obligations under UNTOC and the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), as well as commitments under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), the Bern Convention, the EU Environmental Crime Directive, the EU Birds Directive and other instruments, and to use more effectively the provisions of UNTOC and UNAC to strengthen national capacities and cooperation to prevent and combat trafficking in wildlife, timber, and minerals, as well as the corruption and money laundering associated with it, which can facilitate such crime;

c. adopt and implement, where necessary, national, regional and international legal standards providing for effective, proportionate and dissuasive penalties for individual offenders, accompanied by liability of legal persons for such crimes, civil compensation, and habitat restoration for environmental damage and victims;

d. enhance national law-enforcement capacities to conduct transnational investigations and operations to disrupt criminal networks engaged in trafficking wildlife, timber, and other environmental commodities worldwide;

e. reinforce the organisation of regulatory frameworks, in particular those related to corruption, money laundering, organised crime, illegal firearms trade, labour law, and terrorism, to recognise the links between trafficking in wildlife, timber, and minerals, and other forms of crime;

f. actively encourage, protect and otherwise support whistleblowers who are willing and able to provide information needed for prosecution of environmental crimes;

g. encourage, where appropriate and permitted by applicable law, the establishment, with adequate training and resourcing, of integrated national entities in charge of the fight against trafficking in wildlife, timber, and minerals, combining law-enforcement agencies, customs, environmental agencies, prosecutors and NGOs;

h. develop specialised research with sufficient means and capacities, and strengthen international cooperation in order to dismantle the criminal networks involved, through retracing the entire supply chain, by taking into account the corruption that facilitates the crossing of borders, and by investigating illicit financial flows;

i. strengthen the training and specialisation of law-enforcement and judicial authorities to reinforce their capacities to detect, investigate and prosecute environmental crime; and

j. actively support specialised international agencies to increase cooperation, to develop data and monitoring and to dismantle networks involved in the trafficking of wildlife, timber and minerals; and

2. REQUESTS members of the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime, IUCN, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), in close partnership with the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL), and all relevant United Nations entities and international and regional organisations, to enhance international inter-agency cooperation and coordination in supporting states in their efforts to prevent and combat environmental crimes, including by developing data and trend analysis relating to these crimes and by providing technical assistance and reinforcing capacities of states to effectively dismantle and prosecute criminal networks involved in environmental crimes.
WCC-2020-Res-119-EN
Renunciation of the Doctrine of Discovery to Rediscover care for Mother Earth

GRATEFUL that IUCN has full participation of representatives of Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations among its Members;

SEEKING to advance further IUCN’s 2008 endorsement of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and SUPPORTING the International Labour Organization’s Convention 169 and IUCN’s continuous participation in the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

CONSCIOUS of the many contributions Indigenous Peoples make to restoring and sustaining Mother Earth and the alliances all IUCN Members embrace to conserve biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage;

TROUBLED that the denials of the human rights of Indigenous Peoples are fundamentally unjust and impede IUCN policies and programmes to restore ecologically and socially just relations among all living beings;

AWARE that the rights of Indigenous Peoples have been denied since the beginnings of the colonial era in the 15th century, when Papal Bulls and royal edicts legitimised their enslavement and seizures of their assets, and occupying the lands where they lived, through proclaiming the legal ‘Doctrine of Discovery’ in all its manifestations;

MINDFUL that many governments seek to establish just and equitable relations with the Indigenous Peoples in the lands of which they are stewards, and that the Arctic Council has embraced the Permanent Representatives of Indigenous Peoples as full participants in the stewardship of the Arctic regions;

RECOGNISING that many post-colonial legal regimes still formally recognise the ‘Doctrine of Discovery’ in all its manifestations, despite most acknowledging that Indigenous Peoples have long inhabited lands European powers claimed to have discovered and that neither the Holy See nor the Church of England have annulled their Papal Bulls and Edicts that gave moral and religious support for the ‘Doctrine of Discovery’; and

CONVINCED that acknowledgements of truth and testimonies for reconciliation are essential predicates for building social justice and peaceful relations among peoples;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. RENOUNCES the ‘Doctrine of Discovery’ in all its manifestations;

2. REQUESTS Council, in alignment with the IUCN Programme 2021–2024, to establish an IUCN Truth and Reconciliation Working Group, to explore and explain best practices for involving Indigenous Peoples in co-stewardship of protected natural areas, conservation of nature, and sustainable use of species, and other appropriate activities for the care of Mother Earth;

3. URGES all states to repeal all legal vestiges of the ‘Doctrine of Discovery’, and to consider establishing truth and reconciliation commissions through which the story of the ‘Doctrine of Discovery’ in all its manifestations can be made known and pathways toward justice discovered; and

4. INVITES the leaders of all religions to repeal and renounce their past proclamations that legitimised the ‘Doctrine of Discovery’ in all its manifestations, and FURTHER URGES the leaders of all nations to promote new paradigms in conservation, where the ancestral knowledge of Indigenous Peoples is incorporated, in the struggle to conserve the nature of the planet.
NOTING that Australia is one of 17 mega-biodiverse countries globally;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that three vertebrate species have gone extinct in Australia since 2009;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that a number of ecosystems in Australia demonstrate evidence of collapse;

CONCERNED that Australia has been identified as a global deforestation hotspot;

FURTHER CONCERNED that since Australia’s national environmental law has been in operation it is estimated more than 7.7 million hectares of habitat for nationally-listed threatened species have been destroyed;

NOTING that Australia is reviewing its primary national environmental law, the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act;

FURTHER NOTING the interconnections between community well-being, human-health outcomes and a healthy environment; and

ALSO NOTING the obligations of the Australian Government as a State Party to the Convention on Biological Diversity to achieve the objectives of the convention;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

CALLS ON the Australian Government to demonstrate national leadership in environmental protection and ensure that reform of its national environmental law:

a. prevents the destruction of primary, remnant, old-growth or high-conservation value forests;

b. prevents the avoidable extinction of native fauna and flora;

c. protects and recovers key biodiversity areas, threatened ecological communities and threatened species, including strict protection for their critical habitats;

d. prevents the introduction of, and reduces the current extent, spread and population size of, invasive species;

e. substantially reduces Australia’s greenhouse gas pollution and increases carbon sequestration in biodiverse landscapes and seascapes;

f. protects World Heritage Areas, National Heritage Places, Wetlands of International Importance and the National Reserve System from unsustainable development and ensures adequate management;

g. protects freshwater supplies and other areas essential for ecosystem services;

h. reduces, to as close to zero as possible, air pollution, plastic pollution and chemical pollution;

i. effectively protects Australia’s wildlife from illegal trade and unsustainable fishing;

j. provides communities with transparent information and access to justice;

k. ensures decisions are made on the best-available science; and

l. creates a positive obligation on governments to develop and adequately resource threat abatement and recovery planning instruments.
DEEPLY CONCERNED by the severe threat that wildlife trafficking poses to the survival of protected species, local communities and the rule of law;

AWARE that the relative anonymity of internet commerce and its ease of use allow a range of illegal wildlife and wildlife products to be trafficked to a wider market than ever before;

RECALLING IUCN’s efforts to address environmental and conservation crimes and protect the most frequently trafficked species;

RECALLING Resolution 6.070 Crimes against the environment (Hawai‘i, 2016), which, inter alia, encourages collaboration amongst relevant actors to examine and provide legal and policy expertise to respond to environmental crimes;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 6.076 Improving the means to fight environmental crime (Hawai‘i, 2016), which, inter alia, calls for the strengthening of environmental criminal laws;

WELCOMING steps taken to address wildlife crime linked to the internet by Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES);

FURTHER WELCOMING efforts to combat cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking including the Global Action on Cybercrime Extended (GLACY+), Global Wildlife Cybercrime Action Plan, the first cross-sector partnership of enforcers, NGOs and academics linking policy and private sector initiatives, and the Coalition to End Wildlife Trafficking Online, which includes more than 30 of the world’s leading online technology companies;

NOTING the value of the Convention on Cybercrime in assisting countries to develop national legislation, and as a framework for international cooperation between state actors;

ALSO NOTING increased public awareness and public reporting channels, and that a freer exchange of information, expertise and best practices among interested parties would improve the detection, disruption and deterrence of cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking;

RECALLING that law enforcement is strengthened when witnesses to crime are encouraged, financially and otherwise, to provide information ("blow the whistle") through appropriate mechanisms to prosecutors and other law enforcement as appropriate, and are protected from retaliation when they do so;

NOTING with concern that the authorities of many countries concerned do not encourage and protect whistleblowers and therefore regularly miss opportunities to identify and prosecute wildlife trafficking;

APPLAUDING steps taken already by some governments to address cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking, including by amending legislation, enhancing enforcement capacity and engaging private, academic and non-government sectors; and

NOTING that the growth of online marketplaces for illicit goods makes the current period a critical juncture in time;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with the Commissions, to facilitate efforts to reduce and eliminate cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking by:
   a. assisting IUCN Members to convene a cross-sector workshop to review progress and best practices in tackling cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking;
   b. reviewing examples of national legislation addressing cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking and making recommendations on best practices; and
   c. contributing to awareness-raising efforts about cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking;

2. ENCOURAGES governments, intergovernmental organisations and other relevant IUCN Members and stakeholders, as appropriate, to implement measures outlined in the Global Wildlife Cybercrime Action Plan and INTERPOL’s Guidelines on Wildlife Crime to the Internet;

3. RECOMMENDS that governments adopt best-practice enforcement models and utilise INTERPOL’s Guidelines on Wildlife Crime to the Internet;

4. CALLS ON governments to:
   a. strengthen legislation to address cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking where appropriate;
   b. collaborate across departments and sectors, and with other countries, to enhance the detection, investigation and disruption of cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking;
   c. actively encourage, protect and otherwise support whistleblowers who are willing and able to provide information for the prosecution of wildlife trafficking;
   d. encourage technology companies to improve efforts to tackle cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking; and
   e. raise awareness of their citizens concerning wildlife trade-related regulations and the requirements pertaining to them;

5. ENCOURAGES governments, international funding mechanisms and IUCN Members to increase resources available to tackle cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking; and

6. FURTHER ENCOURAGES Parties to the Convention on Cybercrime which have not yet ratified the Convention, and states which have not yet become Party to the Convention, to consider doing so;

7. ENCOURAGES members engaged in other forums addressing broader cybercrime issues, such as the Convention on Cybercrime and GLACY+, to consider how measures under those forums could be applied to tackling cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking; and

8. ASKS non-governmental organisation (NGO) Members to monitor and report cyber-enabled wildlife trafficking to companies and enforcement agencies, and to raise awareness of this threat with their supporters.
WCC-2020-Res-041-EN
Ensuring funding to secure rights and secure ecologies

RECOGNISING that many indigenous peoples and local communities seek to self-govern, manage, care for, and sustainably use their territories and areas, including commons and sacred sites, and in some cases have internationally recognised rights to maintain and develop such management, use and care;

RECALLING IUCN’s affirmation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and further affirmation of indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ collective rights and responsibilities to land, water and resources in their traditional territories, including through Resolution 5.094 Respecting recognizing and supporting Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (Jeju, 2012);

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 6.072 Enabling the Whakatane Mechanism to contribute to conservation through securing communities’ rights (Hawai‘i, 2016), which remains extremely under-resourced;

UNDERSTANDING that indigenous peoples’ organisations and authorities and local community initiatives that contribute to conservation outcomes receive a small share of conservation funding globally, despite the significant conservation outcomes being achieved under indigenous and community governance, management and use;

CONSIDERING that previous World Conservation Congresses have passed numerous Resolutions recognising the role of indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation; and

EMPHASISING that we are in a global climate, biodiversity and ecological emergency in which it is important for indigenous peoples and local communities to manage, use, conserve and sustain their territories, and that this is particularly effective where security of tenure is recognised;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to work with State and non-State Members, Commissions, Regional Offices and the Secretariat to:

   a. recognise the importance of funding for indigenous peoples and local communities to govern, manage, care for and sustainably use their territories and areas;
   b. facilitate dialogue between non-governmental organisations, indigenous peoples’ organisations and government membership on how to mobilise additional resources; and
   c. undertake resource mobilisation with donors to finance this shift to securing collective tenure and indigenous rights, in accordance with relevant national legislation;

2. REQUESTS Commissions, in particular the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), to contribute to knowledge generation, fund-raising and technical support to ensure donor funding is redirected to support communities to sustain and be sustained by their lands;

3. CALLS ON IUCN, states and Members to support activities for communities to sustain and be sustained by their lands through self-determined effective rights-based conservation;

4. REQUESTS Members to promote financial cooperation to safeguard the livelihoods of indigenous peoples, which depend on nature and which are shared territorially mainly with protected areas; and

5. URGES states and donors to ensure that their legal and funding regimes secure ecologies through securing IPLCs tenure rights, in accordance with relevant national legislation.
WCC-2020-Res-042-EN
Protection of the environment in relation to armed conflict

NOTING that military conflict can contribute to destroying megafauna and their habitats, pushing species to extinction, reducing biodiversity and damaging the environment, and also generates the loss of geodiversity, geological heritage and places of geological interest that are also part of the environment;

FURTHER NOTING that conflicts over natural resources underpin and prolong many armed conflicts, and through unsustainable methods of extraction cause further environmental harm;

AWARE that the uncontrolled circulation of arms can exacerbate environmental damage in conflict situations, for instance, by driving unsustainable hunting of wildlife;

RECOGNISING the links between the illegal exploitation of natural resources, including poaching and illegal trafficking of wildlife and natural heritage (fossils, minerals, meteorites), and the proliferation and trafficking of arms as one of the major factors fuelling and exacerbating conflicts, as stressed in United Nations Security Council Resolution 5/RES/2136 (2014);

CONSCIOUS that long-term peace and security depends on a productive environment able to deliver the ecosystem services needed to sustain human well-being and for the fulfilment of human rights; and

RECALLING Resolution 19.41 Armed Conflict and the Environment (Buenos Aires, 1994);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to strongly encourage the United Nations Security Council to address the issue of wildlife trafficking and environmental protection in mandates for UN peacekeeping operations, as appropriate;

2. CALLS ON the global community to recognise the importance of environmental protection before, during and after armed conflicts in order to protect biodiversity and to foster peace and security;

3. CALLS ON the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) Specialist Group on Peace, Security and Conflict to develop model legislation and/or principles in line with the work undertaken by the International Law Commission, and where appropriate to help State Members protect the environment in relation to armed conflict;

4. URGES Members to engage with the work of the International Law Commission on the protection of the environment in relation to illegal armed conflicts to ensure that the Commission’s principles adequately and appropriately address issues associated with sustaining ecosystems and preventing biodiversity loss;

5. URGES State Members to use the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms and the Arms Trade Treaty to address the uncontrolled circulation of small arms and light weapons, and their use in poaching and wildlife crime in regions affected by armed conflicts; and

6. CALLS ON Members to conduct scientific research to improve understanding of the impacts of armed conflicts on the environment and broader socio-ecological systems.
WCC-2020-Res-043-EN
Enhancing implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity through National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs)

RECALLING that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20, 2012) recognised the importance of the three Rio Conventions to advancing sustainable development and urged Parties to fully implement their commitments;

RECALLING paragraph 198 of the Rio+20 outcome document, which reiterates nations' commitment to the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and calls for urgent actions that effectively reduce the rate of, halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity;

NOTING that in decision 14/29 of the 14th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (COP14, Egypt, 2018), the Parties recognised the need to strengthen their implementation and commitments to achieve the 2050 Vision of CBD;

NOTING the report of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, National Geographic Society, International Symposium on Biodiversity Sciences held in Beijing, China, in June 2019, which proposes moving from generalised global targets to national commitments to improve the measurement of conservation progress;

ALSO NOTING the differing biodiversity status and varying protection goals among Parties of developed and developing countries, Small Island Developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition;

NOTING that in COP14 decision 14/5, the Parties to CBD recognised the interaction and synergy between the two issues of biodiversity and climate change, and encouraged Parties to integrate national priorities for each issue into national strategies and action plans for both, including the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) set up by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);

FURTHER NOTING that the CBD report Synthesis of views on the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (CBD/POST2020/PREP1/INF/1) indicates that there were discussions on the desirability of voluntary commitments, and proposed to develop a process to incorporate voluntary contribution into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and other national and sub-national planning; and

WELCOMING the draft recommendation on 'tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming' (CBD/WG2020/2/L.2/Add.1) submitted by the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, within the context and remit of the IUCN Programme 2021-2024:
a. to develop IUCN guidelines on how to reflect the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in relevant planning processes, including NBSAPs;
b. to promote the development of a financial mechanism to support the development and implementation of NBSAPs; and
c. to develop global strategies for collaboration and technology transfer, and to provide training to assist in capacity building for implementation of established NBSAPs by all stakeholders;

2. CALLS ON all governmental and non-governmental Members to develop and publicly present their own voluntary biodiversity commitments with the aim of supporting and increasing the level of ambition needed to achieve CBD’s 2050 Vision and implementing actions additional to those already set out in NBSAPs; and

3. CALLS ON Members and experts, particularly through the National Committees:
a. to advocate for the role of ambitious NBSAPs and a ratcheting mechanism for enhancing the implementation of a strong and ambitious post-2020 global biodiversity framework to be agreed at CBD COP15 (Kunming, China); and
b. to assist in the development of NBSAPs based on science to support biodiversity conservation efforts.
ACKNOWLEDGING the risks posed by the climate crisis for present and future generations and terrestrial and marine biodiversity;

RECALLING IUCN’s commitment to mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change through the creation of a Climate Change Taskforce;

NOTING the serious consequences of the climate crisis on natural diversity, ecosystems, biodiversity, geodiversity, natural heritage, natural processes and also on economies, societies and world peace;

ACKNOWLEDGING the difficulty of unified and coordinated action to effectively mitigate the impact of climate change;

NOTING the existing bodies of treaty and customary international law that call for governments to adequately reduce carbon emissions;

RECALLING the IUCN World Declaration on the Environmental Rule of Law, which states that it should serve as the legal foundation for promoting a sustainable future for all; and

RECALLING IUCN’s goal to reduce climate change risks and impacts through climate change mitigation and adaptation methods in the IUCN Programme 2021-2024;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) to create a climate action toolkit to assist interested national, sub-national and local actors, as appropriate, to implement relevant climate mitigation and adaptation actions, from which State Members can identify those most appropriate for their governance structure, judicial system and ecosystem, to inform relevant policies and legislation;

2. RECOMMENDS strengthening synergies and interlinkages between environmental law databases, such as ECOLEX and InforMEA, and increasing resources on climate change; and

3. ENCOURAGES IUCN State Members to utilise the climate crisis toolkit, when available, as a basis for drafting their own legislation.
WCC-2020-Res-045-EN
Global Indigenous Network for Aquaculture (GINA)

RECALLS that Resolution 1.018 *Aquaculture* (Montreal, 1996) promotes aquaculture as a solution to global food security, and supports the integration of traditional forms of aquaculture into local fishing methods of coastal communities;

CONCERNED that some fish-farming industry practices utilise aquaculture methods that compromise ecosystems and sustainable best practices;

RECOGNISING that indigenous communities have practised sustainable aquaculture for generations;

AWARE of the need to involve indigenous knowledge and traditional aquaculture practices in order to reconcile the sustainable management of coastal fishing resources, food safety and access to the market, by enhancing aquaculture management strategies to adapt with traditional knowledge of the ecosystem;

RECOGNISING the need to facilitate dialogue between indigenous peoples and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), in order to facilitate and ensure respect for intellectual property rights as well as the sharing of benefits associated with traditional knowledge, including those arising from the use of genetic resources, as framed by the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing;

RECALLING IUCN’s affirmation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP);

ALSO RECALLING that Resolution 6.065 *Community Based Natural Resource Management in the State of Hawai‘i* (Hawai‘i, 2016) supported indigenous principles to benefit the environment and the partnership between wildlife and communities;

RECALLING that Resolution 5.168 *Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries* (Jeju, 2012) recognised the benefit ecosystem-based fisheries can have for the environment; and

WELCOMING technological advances that increase accessibility to global information about indigenous peoples’ approaches;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. RECOMMENDS that the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) supports the creation of the Global Indigenous Network for Aquaculture (GINA), a global database of indigenous aquaculture practices, by, among others, initiating the dialogue between indigenous peoples and WIPO;

2. URGES State Members to encourage and support private and public aquaculture facilities that implement best practices;

3. REQUESTS the Secretariat to initiate pathways that support global indigenous efforts and exchanges to develop restorative approaches to aquaculture as a foundation for the development of sustainable food systems and abundance; and

4. ENCOURAGES indigenous peoples’ organisations and partners to:
   a. develop best practices and implement sustainable aquaculture; and
   b. document and share experiences, including both successes and failures, as well as lessons learned, and build a collection of indigenous aquaculture practices.
WCC-2020-Res-046-EN
Creation of the Ombudsperson for Future Generations

AWARE that the destiny of future generations depends on the decisions and measures taken today, that current problems must be solved in the interests of present and future generations, and that extreme poverty, underdevelopment, exclusion, discrimination and the biodiversity and the climate crisis represent a serious danger for all generations, but particularly for future generations;

RECOGNISING the need to establish new equitable and global links of partnership and solidarity between generations and to promote intergenerational solidarity within the framework of the continuity of humanity, so as to preserve our environment for the benefit of future generations;

RECALLING that the task of guaranteeing the protection of future generations, in particular through education and the policies of equality, inclusion and equity, constitutes an important part of the fundamental ethical mission of institutions;

RECOGNISING that in the Declaration approved in 2011 by the Annual Conference of the United Nations Department of Public Information and the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) associated with the United Nations there is a call for the creation of the figure of an Ombudsperson for Future Generations, also proposing the creation in the United Nations of a High Commission for Future Generations to deal with and promote this idea in a healthy world, with intergenerational solidarity and at international, regional and national levels;

RECALLING that sustainable development is defined as development that meets the needs of the present generations, without compromising the ability of future generations;

CONCERNED about the climate and global environmental crisis, which is the cause of death and the displacement of millions of people; and

POINTING OUT that the responsibility for future generations has already been mentioned in numerous international conventions and agreements such as the UNESCO World Heritage Convention of 1972, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development of 1992, the World Conference on Human Rights of 1993, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, etc.;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES the states in general and IUCN State Members in particular to promote the creation and development of Offices of the Ombudsperson for Future Generations at international, national, regional and local levels;

2. HIGHLIGHTS the need to give these Offices of the Ombudsperson for Future Generations a voice in decision-making processes and the right of veto, which will allow them to assert the rights of future generations;

3. ENCOURAGES all governments to identify the people that could act as Ombudspersons for Future Generations; and

4. ASKS the IUCN Director General to put forward this proposal to the United Nations.
WCC-2020-Res-047-EN
Law enforcement regarding commercial trade in tigers and tiger parts

RECALLING that four out of nine subspecies of tigers have become extinct largely due to illegal wildlife trade, habitat loss, retaliatory killing associated with human-tiger conflict, and hunting in the last century;

NOTING findings in a recent TRAFFIC report on tiger seizures from 2000 to 2018 showing that the survival of tiger populations continues to be seriously threatened by illegal trade in whole tigers and their parts;

RECOGNISING the efforts of existing international conventions and legislation to mitigate negative effects of wildlife trade;

ACKNOWLEDGING Resolution 6.010 Conservation of Amur tiger (Panthera tigris altaica) and Amur leopard (Panthera pardus orientalis) in Northeast Asia (Hawaii 2016) which contributes to the conservation of Amur tiger in Northeast Asia;

BUILDING ON Resolution 5.024 Enhancing anti-poaching and wildlife resource protection efforts, using rhino and elephant as indicators (Jeju, 2012) that deplored the commercial exploitation of animal species by international organised criminal syndicates and requested IUCN to encourage State Members, governments and civil society, and local and international non-governmental organisations and foundations, to enhance anti-poaching and wildlife-resource protection efforts;

MINDFUL of Resolution 5.027 Conservation of tropical Asia’s threatened species (Jeju, 2012) that urges all governments to ensure that import of endangered species originating from South and Southeast Asia is legal and sustainable in accordance with the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and Resolution 3.076 Illegal and unsustainable international trade in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Mekong river riparian states (Bangkok, 2006), which advocates an international effort to control illegal and unsustainable international trade in Southeast Asian states;

ALSO MINDFUL of CITES Decision 14.69 which states that: “Parties with intensive operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale shall implement measures to restrict the captive population to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers; tigers should not be bred for trade in their parts and derivatives”;

NOTING that only two tiger subspecies are included in the above-mentioned Resolutions;

CONCERNED that high market demand persists for tiger body parts used as traditional medicine and luxury products;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that recent seizures have exposed well-organised trafficking networks for products originating from tigers that were from captive sources both in and outside of tiger range countries and territories; and

CONCLUDING that there is room for further actions and improvements to address the trade in tigers and tiger parts;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON IUCN Members, including States, government agencies and non-governmental organisations to take immediate action to eliminate illegal trade in tigers and tiger parts by:
   a. providing data and expertise to assist with intelligence-led law enforcement;
   b. sharing information, especially in relation to cross-border incidents;
   c. identifying and removing legislative loopholes that facilitate illegal trade;
   d. increasing, where appropriate, penalties and fines to act as stronger deterrents;
   e. employing more robust ‘wildlife diplomacy’ to promote conservation and discourage countries from introducing measures and decisions that incentivise illegal trade; and
   f. ensuring that the ex situ tiger populations in human care are adequately registered and regularly monitored to evidence that they serve non-commercial purposes, such as: research directly related to the conservation of in situ and ex situ populations, scientific conservation education, and conservation breeding aimed at ensuring genetic diversity of the global ex situ population demonstrably for the purposes of species conservation; and

2. REQUESTS States and government agencies, donors and funding agencies to make more funding available to improve enforcement and regulation as indicated above.
RECALLING that Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) requires that “biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development... and planning processes” by governments and other stakeholders;

FURTHER RECALLING that the IUCN Policy on Biodiversity Offsets supports the rigorous implementation of a mitigation hierarchy for biodiversity impacts, and states that this can contribute to positive biodiversity outcomes;

RECOGNISING that economic development is often necessary for enhancing human well-being, particularly in less industrialised or poorer nations;

NOTING that CBD Parties will adopt a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, driving action for the conservation of biodiversity for the next decade;

FURTHER NOTING that this framework is planned to reflect the means by which governments, businesses and stakeholders at all levels “have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption”;

ALSO NOTING that it is hoped that this framework will recognise that actions to avoid loss and to minimise impacts, and remedial and compensatory measures to offset unavoidable losses, count as progress toward desired outcomes;

NOTING that the IUCN Global Inventory of Biodiversity Offset Policies shows over 100 countries to have policy machinery in place or under development that makes provisions either implicitly or explicitly for a mitigation hierarchy;

STRESSING that the most important step in the mitigation hierarchy is avoidance of biodiversity loss, which requires exploring multiple development options in the earliest phases of planning, in order to avoid areas of high environmental or socio-cultural importance; and

AWARE of emerging evidence that policies incorporating a mitigation hierarchy for biodiversity impacts of development can, given necessary conditions, result in neutral or positive net biodiversity outcomes;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ENCOURAGES the Director General, Commissions and all Members to work, as appropriate, with their national-level and other counterparts engaged in the CBD to encourage them to consider the following elements in its discussions, advocacy and advice relevant to the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework through the CBD:

   a. explicit mention of those irreplaceable and/or culturally indispensable biodiversity features that are vitally important to protect (for example, sacred sites);

   b. explicit reference to the Conservation-enabling Hierarchy of sequentially preferred actions (avoid, minimise, remEDIATE, offset, additional conservation actions) as an operational structure for assessing biodiversity losses and gains from human activities, with the aim that the latter outweigh the former (i.e. seeking net gain); and

   c. a requirement that conserving existing wildlife and natural habitats should be prioritised, and that any biodiversity losses due to economic development should be addressed in order of sequentially preferred actions and at least compensated for by comparable biodiversity gains, consistent with IUCN’s Biodiversity Offsets Policy;

2. INVITES all public-sector, business and civil society entities to work to ensure that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework be adopted at CBD COP15 (Kunming, China), including the aforementioned elements; and

3. INVITES the relevant donors to support implementation of the Conservation-enabling Hierarchy by governments and other entities, including through funding associated capacity-building and the development of monitoring and reporting mechanisms.
Mainstreaming the Cerrado in international cooperation and global environmental funds

RECALLING that in more than 30 countries around the world semi-forest or non-forest ecosystems cover about 25% of the Earth’s land area and are of key importance for the sustainable livelihoods of present and future generations;

OBSERVING that, in a context of international scrutiny, important efforts are being made to conserve tropical forests, yet the destruction of the savannahs advances with increasing leaps, and that the lack of funding and attention to achieving the Cerrado’s conservation needs to be addressed;

NOTING that the Cerrado is poorly protected (8.26%), far from meeting the Aichi Target, and has already lost about 50% of its native vegetation cover through land-use changes, mainly for livestock and agriculture;

CONSIDERING the weak environmental governance and increased focus on the Amazon biome and other forest systems in international market compliance mechanisms and supply-chain regulations;

HIGHLIGHTING that substantial investments are needed to address drivers of biodiversity losses and land-use changes, to promote sustainable rehabilitation of degraded areas and restoration of native vegetation, and to create the enabling environment for sustainable practices;

KNOWING that it is imperative to cover glaring gaps in the international policy and financial models for savannahs to maintain the functions of non-forest tropical ecosystems that are vital in environmental, economic and social terms;

RECOGNISING that the Cerrado – extending over 2 million square kilometers across Brazil, Paraguay and Bolivia – is the second largest integral biome in Latin America, the most biodiverse savannah on the planet, and provides key ecosystem services such as water provision, climate regulation and food production;

BEARING IN MIND the key contributions of local communities, including traditional and indigenous peoples, in addition to other forms of environmental and social protection, to the maintenance of these vital ecosystem functions, and

STRESSING that there is still no dedicated financial mechanism to support conservation and restoration strategies for the Cerrado, only different funding arrangements that need to be negotiated for each phase to the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and which are hard to access for local stakeholders;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

ASKS the Director General to:

a. recommend to the governments of Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay that they take immediate action to increase the representation of the Cerrado in their protected area networks and promote strategies and mechanisms of land-use planning that safeguard the ecological integrity of the biome in the long term;

b. call on the European Commission and European Union (EU) Member States to include semi-forest or non-forest ecosystems in the scope of the ‘EU Communication (2019) on stepping up EU Action to protect and restore the world’s forests’, mostly to:

i. assess additional demand-side regulatory and non-regulatory measures to ensure deforestation-free supply chains, associated with commodity imports in the EU;

ii. help partner countries to implement sustainable forest and non-forest-based value chains and promote sustainable bio-economies; and

iii. develop and implement incentive mechanisms for smallholder farmers to maintain and enhance ecosystem services and products provided by sustainable management and agriculture;

c. mobilise the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) to:

i. allocate regular support for sustainable land-use practices in the Cerrado biome in their national projects;

ii. strengthen financing mechanisms, such as the Small Grants Program (SGP) funding, to broadly reach Community Based Organisations (CBO) in the Cerrado; and

iii. promote sustainable mechanisms to catalyse regeneration of ecosystems, and to create positive incentives for investments in sustainable management and sustainable forest and non-forest-based value chains to further leverage and increase funding;

d. encourage the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) and the Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM) for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), as well as other public and private donors, to:

i. increase their support for the Cerrado hotspot; and

ii. boost positive incentives for investments in sustainable management and sustainable forest and non-forest-based value chains; and

iii. implement a more effective communication strategy and institutional approaches among international conservation community networks to:

i. recognise the high conservation value of the Cerrado’s biodiversity endemism, and the importance of its high adaptive capacity to extreme events such as fire, drought, floods, in the global climate change scenario;

ii. acknowledge local communities and indigenous peoples’ rights and capability to use non-forest timber products, maintaining their territories and areas in a well-conserved condition; and

iii. encourage the development of markets for sustainable natural products to value the ecosystem as a provider of income and cultural heritage.
Measuring the effectiveness of environmental law using legal indicators

CONSIDERING that nature conservation requires the effective application of international, regional, national and local environmental rules;

AWARE that the implementation of these rules is unsatisfactory, and that their application involves all the stakeholders, following a complex legal process: administrations, economic stakeholders, legal professions, environmental associations;

OBSERVING that, in most cases, the reports on the state of the environment only assess policies through scientific or economic indicators, omitting to appreciate their legal effectiveness;

REGRETTING that the indicators regarding Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are rarely aimed at the contribution of the law and often lack qualitative data allowing for the assessment of the effectiveness of rules, thereby omitting the contribution of the law to the success or failure of environmental policies;

DELIGHTED AT the emerging interest in more representative indicators of the difficulties of applying environmental law, as revealed by the European Union’s 7th Environment Action Plan, demanding specific indicators to control environmental legislation or the ministerial statement on the third meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-3), encouraging the development of multidisciplinary indicators;

NOTING that the Escazú Agreement in Latin America and the Caribbean provides for indicators to assess the efficacy, effectiveness and the progress of policies;

NOTING the promotion by IUCN, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Institute for the French-speaking World for Sustainable Development (IFDD) of the International Organisation of La Francophonie (OIF) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) of an innovative methodology regarding the creation of legal indicators during the Yaoundé Symposium in 2018; and

PERSUADED that the legal indicators will increase the visibility and legitimacy of environmental law, allowing for a greater understanding of the reasons why it is misapplied or rarely applied;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) and its members, supported by the Director General, to develop experiments and training in the creation of legal indicators on nature conservation, with the participation of law professors, lawyers, judges, prosecutors and the administrative services responsible for the enforcement of environmental law;

2. ASKS the Director General to invite the United Nations to add legal indicators to the existing indicators on the sustainable development goals;

3. ASKS the Parties to regional and universal conventions on the environment to introduce legal indicators also, in order to facilitate the assessment of the States’ reports, notably in compliance committees; and

4. URGES all the governments and secretariats of international and regional organisations to introduce legal qualitative indicators in their regular reports on the state of the environment, in order to assess the effectiveness of legal policies and decisions.
Regional agreement on access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean

RECALLING Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992);

Welcoming the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (Escazú Agreement), adopted by 24 countries in the Escazú region, Costa Rica, on 4 March 2018;

Highlighting the fact that the Escazú Agreement was the result of a preparatory phase, which was supported by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean as technical secretariat, and brought together government delegates, representatives of the public and the academic sector, experts and other interested parties, who participated actively, collaboratively and on an equal footing;

Highlighting the fact that the Escazú Agreement was opened for signing on 27 September 2018 at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York, requiring 11 ratifications to enter into force;

Concerned about the harassment and murder attempts suffered by people who defend the environment and human rights in Latin America and the Caribbean;

Noting with satisfaction that the Escazú Agreement is the first binding agreement in the world that obliges the Member States to protect and promote the rights of people who defend human rights in environmental matters;

Considering the opportunities that arise from the Escazú Agreement to contribute to a fair world that values and conserves nature;

Recalling that since it was established, IUCN has recognised the importance of the rights to access to build democratic, fair, transparent, participatory, sustainable and pacific societies, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and

Recalling Recommendation 1.43 Public participation and right to know (Montreal, 1996), Resolution 2.37 Support for environmental defenders (Amman, 2000) and Resolution 3.081 Implementation of Principle 10 by building comprehensive good governance systems (Bangkok, 2004);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. Urges the states of Latin America and the Caribbean to sign and ratify the Escazú Agreement on access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters in Latin America and the Caribbean;

2. Urges the governments of Latin America and the Caribbean to do their utmost to ensure the effective implementation of the Escazú Agreement in their countries, with the broad and effective participation of civil society; and

3. Calls on the Director General, through the corresponding programmes, the Commission on Environmental Law and the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy, with the available resources, to:

   a. provide technical support to all members in Latin America and the Caribbean, including states and government bodies, in the implementation of the Escazú Agreement;

   b. support the development of the skills of IUCN Members in Latin America and the Caribbean in issues such as: access to information, access to justice, citizen participation, environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment processes, the rights of environmentalists and human rights; and

   c. share with the members in Latin America and the Caribbean material created by IUCN on the rights to access environmental materials (manuals, guidelines, and publications), and promote events and activities in order to ensure wide dissemination and the building of capacities in the entire region.
WCC-2020-Res-120-EN
Towards a Policy on Natural Capital

RECALLING the adoption of Resolution 6.058 Natural Capital (Hawaii, 2016);

WELCOMING the substantial work carried out to date to address Resolution 6.058, as listed in the 2018 progress report for that resolution, but
RECOGNISING that the Resolution has not yet been fully implemented, and that a working group has not been formally set up, but is needed, along
with an open and inclusive process, for the development of a natural capital policy;

HIGHLIGHTING the continued importance of the development and implementation of standards and frameworks for the integration of the value
into decision-making by governments, businesses, financial institutions and society;

NOTING significant advances and IUCN’s involvement in a number of key initiatives to improve the understanding and application of concepts and
methods associated with natural capital approaches, examples including: (i) the United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting –
Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EEA) and links to the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species; (ii) the continued
application and development of Sector Guides for the apparel, food and beverage, and forestry sectors, as well as a supplement for the finance sector,
under the Natural Capital Protocol, a standardised framework for business to measure and value natural capital; and (iii) the development of the
Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) methodological assessment on diverse conceptualisation
of multiple values of nature and its benefits, and many others; and

PROPOSING a set of non-binding principles contained in the Annex to this motion for the working group to consider when developing a policy;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. PROPOSES non-binding principles – attached herewith as an Annex – to be considered in the development of an ‘IUCN Policy on Natural Capital’; and
2. REQUESTS Council to establish an inclusive mechanism to consider the proposed non-binding Principles widely among Members.

Annex: Principles to consider in the development of an IUCN Policy on Natural Capital

Definitions

Natural capital is regularly understood as the stock of ecosystems on Earth including air, water, biodiversity and geodiversity. This stock underpins our
economy and society by producing value for people, both directly and indirectly. Goods and services provided to humans by sustainably managed
natural capital include a range of social and environmental benefits including clean air and water, climate change mitigation and adaptation, food,
energy, places to live, materials for products, recreation and protection from hazards. A definition on natural capital will be refined by the working
group on natural capital.

Sustainable Development is defined in these Principles using the Brundtland Report definition as ‘development that meets the needs of the present
without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’.

The definition of community used in these Principles includes: territorial or ‘place communities’ where people have something in common and this
shared element is understood geographically; and ‘interest communities’ where people share a common characteristic other than place.

This Annex provides a set of principles that aim to ensure that actions taken to preserve or restore natural capital are equitable, effective and
sustainable.

Principle 1. Natural capital values
Understanding the multiple instrumental, intrinsic and relational values of natural capital at local, national, regional and global levels can be a
powerful driver towards the protection, restoration and sustainable use of natural capital.

Principle 2. Intrinsic value of nature
Application of the concept of natural capital must always recognise that nature has an intrinsic value in and of itself, and that this is an important moral
principle for the protection, restoration and sustainable use of natural capital.

Principle 3. Positive outcomes
Application of the concept of natural capital through any given natural capital approach must at the very least maintain, but preferably enhance, the
condition of natural capital. This implies that natural capital approaches should not lead to the substitution of natural capital with other types of
capital.

Principle 4. Sustainable development
Application of the concept of natural capital should further sustainable development with the enhancement of the resilience and capacity of
ecosystems to provide ecosystem services and maintain biological diversity. This application should be guided by the principles of living within
planetary boundaries whilst fostering a strong, healthy and just society.

Principle 5. Ecosystem Approach
Application of the concept of natural capital should be informed by the twelve principles of the Ecosystem Approach as defined by the Convention on
Biological Diversity.

Principle 6. Continuous learning and adaptive management
Knowledge of the evolving theory and practice of natural capital should be shared widely and used to continuously improve our understanding of the
case of natural capital and ensure more effective application of these Principles, which may be amended in light of new research and knowledge
becoming available, over time.

Inclusivity principles

Principle 7. Design and application of natural capital approaches
The design and application of natural capital approaches should be based on available sound science together with local, indigenous and expert
knowledge with the desired outcomes from a given approach agreed by a range of appropriate stakeholders, including youth, in advance, and should
also take into account the multiple instrumental, intrinsic and relational values that stakeholders attribute to natural capital.

Principle 8. Indigenous peoples and local communities
Application of the concept of natural capital should respect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, in accordance with national
legislation, to make their own decisions affecting their lands, territories and resources, by ensuring their rights to manage natural resources on which
their livelihoods and ways of life depend. These rights must not be derogated.

Principle 9. Ownership of natural capital
Notwithstanding that some natural assets, such as land and mineral resources, can be legally owned by governments and private interests, natural capital should be viewed as commons which provide both local and global ecosystem goods and services to
society and for which society as a whole has rights and responsibilities.
Principle 10. Private gain and transparency
Any actor applying the concept of natural capital through a given mechanism should do so transparently, taking into account pollution produced by industry, in good governance, with respect for indigenous communities and their territories and in such a way that any private gain accrued does not contravene Principle 3.

Principle 11. Principles 10 (Public Participation) and 15 (Precautionary Approach) of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992) should be observed.

Implementation principles

Principle 12. Limitations of natural capital valuations
Natural capital valuations can only ever be approximations as the multiple values of natural capital are difficult to measure whether they are in monetary or non-monetary terms. The cultural and spiritual values people derive from natural capital are particularly difficult to place monetary or non-monetary measures on and this must always be taken into consideration when interpreting valuations. Additionally, it is very difficult in this concept to present them in economic value terms. Nevertheless, it is our responsibility to develop better approaches that take into account the multiple non-economic values of natural capital.

Principle 13. Mitigation hierarchy
Where biodiversity offsets and related compensatory mechanisms are used, there should be strict adherence to the IUCN Policy on Biodiversity Offsets, including the mitigation hierarchy of avoidance, minimisation, rehabilitation/restoration and, as a last resort, offsetting. Offsetting must never be used as justification for development.

Principle 14. Additionality and cost-shifting
Mobilisation of resources from natural capital approaches should result in additional action to value, protect, restore and sustainably use natural capital and should never be used to justify the reduction of resources from existing or planned public expenditure.

Principle 15. Complexity of ecosystems
Application of the concept of natural capital should recognise that components of natural capital are connected in complex, interdependent ecosystems. When considering the value and management of one component of natural capital, these connections and interdependencies should be recognised and understood using best-available science in order to avoid unintended impacts on the ecosystem as a whole. This necessitates a precautionary approach to the design and application of natural capital approaches. The elements of this complexity of natural systems, the lack of knowledge on the functioning and composition of ecosystems as well as the evolutionary potential must also be taken into account in the valuation of the capital, in particular by taking into account phylogenetic diversity which sums up both this complexity and this potential for evolution.

Principle 16. Trading and markets
The risks and limitations of securitisation, trading and offsetting monetary or non-monetary units of natural capital on markets should be recognised and mitigated through robust, transparent and effective regulation by governments and, where these are cross-border, by international institutions. Where market mechanisms are voluntary in nature these should operate in accordance with the principles in this paper and any future IUCN Policy on natural capital, using best-available guidelines, recognising that natural capital from one place can never be exactly equivalent to that in another place.

Principle 17. Species diversity and habitat integrity
Living natural capital encompasses not just the genetic and species diversity and abundance in a given area but also the relative habitat integrity of that area, which may be species-rich or naturally species-poor.

Principle 18. Data
Natural capital approaches should use the most robust, valid and reliable data and data analysis methods available. Where insufficient data is available, taking into consideration the precautionary principle, the aim should be to collect additional data in the field prior to any conclusions being reached or management decisions being taken. All data should be made available for independent and public scrutiny.

Principle 19. Transboundary impacts and dependencies
Application of the concept of natural capital should recognise that decisions made in a given area such as a catchment, region or sovereign state, may have impacts and/or effect dependencies in other areas. The design of natural capital approaches should ensure transboundary impacts and dependencies are considered and managed in a fair and equitable way.

Principle 20. Irreplaceability
Strict protection should be given to irreplaceable natural capital such as endangered species, geological heritage, or critical water supplies, where they would be lost without such protection. Natural capital mechanisms may complement such legal protection mechanisms but should be additional to, rather than a replacement for, strict protection.

Principle 21. Future generations
The management of natural capital must consider the well-being of both current and future generations as its objective, following the general principles of sustainable development.
RECOGNISING that the Alto Paraguay River Basin is the largest flood plain on Earth, the Pantanal, and that this territory was one of the priority regions for the installation of small hydro-power plants (SHP), which have been considered strategic for the expansion of Brazil’s energy mix over the last few decades and that, despite their clean image, these ‘development’ projects cause irreversible impacts on the biophysical space and drastically alter the environment in which they are carried out, generating significant losses for the traditional communities in the Pantanal;

RECOGNISING that the Alto Paraguay Basin has 52 operational dams and there are plans to build 101 more, and that each of these infrastructure interventions has a negative impact on the landscape, especially the Pantanal, one of the regions of the world with the highest levels of biodiversity, thanks to the convergence of several biomes: the Cerrado, Amazonia, Mata Atlântica, Chaco and the Chiquitano Dry Forest;

CONSIDERING that the Pantanal forms part of the Paraguay-Paraná Wetland System, the largest in the world, which encompasses parts of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay;

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that the Pantanal was declared a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO’s Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, with an internationally adopted, integrated management model, which is participatory and sustainable in the use of natural resources, and also contains four Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites);

OBSERVING that damming the rivers that flow into the Pantanal alters the natural rhythm of the waters of the largest tropical wetland in the world, which is home to a wide range of different plants and animals adapted to living in calm waters, with 1,000 species of bird and 300 species of mammal, including the jaguar, the capybara and the tapir; and

FURTHER OBSERVING that the total energy generated by these dams is insignificant for Brazil and that, of the 63.98% of all the hydropower electricity generated by Brazil, only 0.70% is produced in the basin;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ASKS the countries whose territory includes part of the Paraguay-Paraná Wetland System to:

   a. make an effort to carry out more detailed studies of the impacts caused by the construction of major projects in the Alto Paraguay River Basin and to permanently monitor the possible impacts of the dams in operation to obtain guidelines for strategies and actions aimed at mitigating the impacts upstream and downstream;

   b. promote processes and mechanisms for discussion between the respective governments and civil society and for the protection of towns in the Pantanal and along the shores of the Alto Paraguay River Basin;

   c. consider as general ideas on the management systems for transboundary waters that:

      i. the transboundary waters should be used in an equitable, reasonable and optimal manner;

      ii. each state bordering on a transboundary river system has the sovereign right to use the water in its territory without causing “significant damage” to other states bordering on the river system;

      iii. the principle of “profit sharing” and of “eliminating damage within the framework of joint responsibility” should be followed on a basin level; and

      iv. all the states bordering on a transboundary river system, and these states only, should form part of the solution and cooperation in terms of transboundary water resources;

   d. adopt as a state policy that the infrastructure projects should be presented for an Integrated/Strategic Environmental Assessment during the planning phase;

   e. adopt strategies to minimise the impacts the country suffers overall along with civil society;

   f. suspend the installation of new hydroelectric projects in the region until the synergistic impacts are better understood, and encourage the opening of a process to carry out surveys to find alternative options that can avoid these projects;

   g. discourage the funding of this type of project in the region; and

   h. create national programmes for the management and conservation of the Pantanal System with an integral, holistic, transboundary vision, highlighting in their programmes for economic, energy, social and environmental development the great relevance of this System for the stability of the planet’s climate as well as for the conservation of species and the poorly known interactions carried out there; and

2. URGES the international organisations, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to:

   a. take into account the movement to relax Brazil’s environmental regulations, an issue that, combined with economic and financial incentives, requires the urgent integrated management of the basin, considering the potential of those policies to promote the acceleration of the introduction of hydraulic projects in the region;

   b. take into account the fragile status of the Pantanal in the face of infrastructure projects in the Alto Paraguay Basin; and

   c. call on the IUCN Regional Office for South America (IUCN-Sur) and the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) to promote a regional event with the participation of Members and experts.
WCC-2020-Res-053-EN
Promoting sustainable and ethical mining practices in Africa

NOTING the exploitation of minerals, especially columbite – tantalite (coltan) – linked to many human rights and environmental concerns, in African countries and the market demand for metals, especially coltan, in the global electronics economy;

RECALLING the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas;

RECOGNISING the dialogue between IUCN and the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) to advance sustainable development in mining through responsible sourcing, product stewardship and chemical management;

REAFFIRMING the World Charter for Nature’s call not to overexploit non-renewable resources and United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, which call on mining companies to respect human rights and to prioritise environmental management;

ARE that environmental impact assessments (EIAs) are customary international law;

CONCERNED that without EIAs and human rights assessments, the Sustainable Development Goals are difficult to achieve as peace, security and sustainable development depend on maintaining a healthy environment;

ARE that lack of EIAs and human rights assessments in mineral-rich African States has increased environmental degradation and human rights violations through forcible evictions, land-grabs, ill-treatment of and violence against miners, and that forest degradation, water contamination, soil erosion, and toxic chemical release and climate change intensification occur from unsustainable mining practices;

CALLING on those engaged in international commerce in metals and materials from African mines to pay attention to the supply chain in order to be environmentally ethical companies;

RECOGNISING that importer states have the moral responsibility to ensure supply chains do not destroy the environment;

DISMAYED that environmental degradation in Africa happens because some importers fail to follow OECD guidelines on sustainable mining practices and human rights compliance;

ENCOURAGED that electronic and mobile phone recycling has the potential to significantly reduce unsustainable mining by recovering a large quantity of materials, thereby protecting crucial chimpanzee, gorilla and other wildlife habitats; and

RECOGNISING that mining activities in Africa have contributed to the development of the African economy and welfare of indigenous people living in Africa, and that therefore the realisation of sustainable supply-chain systems can contribute to eliminating the primary cause that threatens wildlife species, namely poaching due to serious poverty;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General, as well as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to convey to ICMM the urgent need for supply-chain stewardship with respect to mining activities in Africa;

2. REQUESTS the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCCEL) to prepare a report to Council on breaches of environmental law with regard to unsustainable mining practices in Africa and to consult with the African Union on how to strengthen African rule of law with respect to mining through EIAs and human rights assessments;

3. REAFFIRMS UN Environment Assembly Resolution UNEP/EA4/Res.19 (2019), establishing sustainable mineral resource governance by encouraging governments, business, NGOs and academics to diligently ensure sustainable supply-chain management;

4. REQUESTS states importing minerals from Africa to establish supply-chain standards to ensure that importers are not harming the African environment;

5. INVITES the mining sector to adapt and strengthen the available supply-chain standards and assurance systems for minerals – especially tantalum and niobium – mining to prevent human rights abuses from occurring in the African region; and

6. ENCOURAGES recycling and reuse of metals – especially tantalum and niobium coltan – by Members and others to further protect the environment and to restore, conserve and protect gorilla and other wildlife.
WCC-2020-Res-054-EN
Engaging the private sector to combat wildlife trafficking

RECOGNISING that wildlife trafficking is an international crisis that is negatively affecting populations of a variety of threatened species, including timber species;

RECALLING that wildlife trafficking is now the fourth largest transnational crime, and that illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife parts around the world continues to increase in scope and volume;

RECOGNISING that combating wildlife trafficking is a complex issue that requires a holistic, civil society approach and the inclusion of non-traditional actors;

WELCOMING the ongoing efforts by nonprofit organisations to engage the private sector across a variety of industries;

RECALLING the IUCN Business and Biodiversity Programme, which engages key sectors to address biodiversity challenges;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that wildlife traffickers are utilising global supply chains to transport and trade illicit goods;

RECOGNISING that law enforcement is strengthened when witnesses to crimes are encouraged financially and otherwise to provide information ('blow the whistle') to prosecutors, and are protected from retaliation when they do; and

HIGHLIGHTING that the private sector has unique consumer audiences that can be educated and mobilised to reduce global demand for illegal wildlife and wildlife products;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General, in cooperation with Commissions and Members, to:
   a. inventory and identify priorities for strengthening and expanding the various private-sector initiatives and partnerships underway to fight wildlife crime in various sectors; and
   b. develop a strategy to further engage key private-sector industries, working with relevant international organisations;

2. URGES Members to increase engagement with the private sector to combat wildlife trafficking;

3. CALLS ON Members to share case studies and lessons learned when engaging with the private sector, in order to combat wildlife trafficking;

4. REQUESTS the private sector, in partnership with Members, to develop and implement strategies that seek to combat wildlife trafficking, such as by:
   a. implementing strong corporate policies that seek to close supply chains and thwart the transport and trade of illegal wildlife and wildlife products;
   b. utilising owned communications channels to amplify unified messaging to combat wildlife trafficking, engaging consumers in efforts to reduce global demand; and
   c. working in partnership with law enforcement to comply with international and domestic wildlife laws and create internal and external reporting mechanisms for suspicious activities;

5. URGES States to actively encourage, protect, reward and otherwise support individuals who are willing and able to provide information for the prosecution of wildlife trafficking; and

6. URGES IUCN and its Members to develop and communicate globally, a formal definition of poaching and its negative impact on sustainability, providing a clear delineation between poaching and legal, regulated hunting.
WCC-2020-Res-055-EN
Guidance to identify industrial fishing incompatible with protected areas

RECALLING that urgent clarification is needed to implement Recommendation 6.102. Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development (Hawaii, 2016), which states that effective management of marine protected areas (MPAs) requires that they do not have any environmentally damaging industrial activities or infrastructural developments located in, adjacent to, or otherwise negatively affecting them, and calls on government to prohibit environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development in all IUCN categories of protected area;

RECOGNISING that the IUCN MPA Standards published in 2018 are consistent with Recommendation 6.102, and WELCOMING the guidance that any industrial activities and infrastructural developments (e.g., mining, industrial fishing, oil and gas extraction) are not compatible with MPAs;

NOTING that further guidance is needed to define what any environmentally damaging and industrial activities or infrastructural developments mean for different marine industries, in particular industrial fishing inside MPAs;

MINDFUL that IUCN Protected Area Guidelines identify protected areas as indispensable reference areas for scientific research and monitoring, where under the control and conditions that are most appropriate to ensure their conservation, low-impact scientific research activities and ecological monitoring related to and consistent with the values and restrictions of the protected area can be carried out, particularly when collection cannot be conducted elsewhere;

RECOGNISING that IUCN Protected Area Guidelines allow sustainable resource use by indigenous people to conserve their traditional spiritual and cultural values, provided this is done in accordance with cultural tradition;

RECALLING that IUCN Guidance for Protected Area Category VI allows for a proportion of the area having low-level non-industrial use of natural resources, including sustainable commercial or recreational fishing, as long as it is compatible with nature conservation, has a stated primary conservation aim, meets the overall definition of a protected area, and achieves verifiable ecological sustainability;

ACKNOWLEDGING the six IUCN Protected Area Management Categories and four Governance Types and the importance and relevance of IUCN’s existing Resolutions and Recommendations regarding environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure projects in MPAs;

RECOGNISING that ‘industrial fishing’ activities can be identified by variables including the capacity and size of vessels and the method and volume of fish extraction, and that in the context of protected areas, ‘industrial fishing’ is defined here as >12 m long x 6 m wide) motorised vessels, with a capacity of >50 kg catch/voyage, requiring substantial sums for their construction, maintenance, and operation and mostly sold commercially, and that all fishing using trawling gears that are dragged or towed across the seafloor or through the water column, and fishing using purse seines and large longlines, is defined as industrial fishing; and

AWARE that when there is fishing activity in marine protected areas, it must be well managed, sized and adapted to the specific environment of the marine protected area to ensure the sustainability of resources, the environment and the coastal community;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General and the Commissions to provide guidance to countries to ensure that ‘industrial fishing’ is not being allowed in MPAs and OECMs to the extent that it is not compatible with the conservation objectives and the management goals of these areas, using Recommendation 6.102. Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development (Hawaii, 2016);

2. CALLS ON Commissions, Members, and state and government agencies to apply the definition of ‘industrial fishing’ formulated above, to promulgate its usage in policy frameworks; and

3. CALLS ON state and government agencies to accurately report their MPAs and Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) taking into account all IUCN Standards and Guidance.
WCC-2020-Res-121-EN
Reducing the impacts of the mining industry on biodiversity

REAFFIRMING Resolution 053 Protecting coastal and marine environments from mining waste (Hawaii, 2016);

CONCERNED by the considerable increase in demand for mineral resources worldwide, principally from industries such as construction, transport and defence, but also the energy production, information and communication technologies and agri-food sectors, threatening terrestrial, freshwater, marine and coastal ecosystems with increasing pressure for exploration of the seabed; the ecology of which is still largely unknown;

NOTING that the mineral and metal industry represents 30% of international maritime traffic, and 8–10% of the world’s energy consumption, in a context of dramatic global warming and that the burning of fossil fuels is a major contributor to the rise of greenhouse gas emissions;

AWARE that the mining industry is considered to be one of the most impactful on nature due to the major damage it causes to ecosystems, and that rehabilitation of exploited sites must be improved and systematically conducted;

NOTING the progressive scarcity of rich and easily exploitable deposits and, consequently, the steady decline in mining sequence grades, which pushes back the physical (geographic area, depth) and technological (e.g. leaching, mountaintop removal) boundaries of projects and increases the threats to and impacts on socio-ecosystems;

NOTING that the market for many mining commodities also includes industries, such as renewable energy, that can reduce anthropogenic impact on climate and that resource recovery, new organic and other technologies and substitution can reduce these demands;

NOTING the serious negative impacts linked with some practices such as seismic surveys, the disposal of mine waste in riverine, lake and marine environments, or the storage of waste in tailing dams, and recalling that more than 50 dam failures have occurred since 2000, with major and lasting consequences on humans and the environment; and

CONSIDERING that the exploitation of mineral resources, on which humankind currently depends, can generate seriously damaging effects to the environment, workers and local communities;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CHARGES the IUCN Environmental Law Programme with developing guidance on legislation and regulations for the phasing out of fossil fuel mining and decreasing the impact of mining including minerals mining activities including exploration, extraction and processing, which can be adopted by authorities;

2. CALLS ON states to effectively regulate such exploration, extraction and processing activities within their territories through international regulation and through the effective implementation of national and/or local regulations;

3. RECOMMENDS a reduced consumption of primary resources;

4. REQUESTS that governments and industries prioritise and adopt alternatives to exploring for and mining virgin raw materials and prioritising resource recovery, reuse and recycling of minerals as sources of supply, as well as substitution with renewable materials, and to improve the efficiency of associated techniques;

5. CALLS ON states to apply the precautionary approach to the management of risks to terrestrial, fresh water and benthic ecosystems and to the water column from the exploration, extraction and processing phases of mining;

6. URGES the ending of practices that do not guarantee human safety and nature protection in the long term from the disposal of mine waste into terrestrial, freshwater, marine and coastal ecosystems, such as the use of harmful chemicals in order to protect humans and nature;

7. INVITES states and other competent authorities to develop and implement transition plans to reduce demand for virgin raw materials and to phase down and progressively phase out the production of virgin raw materials and instead to supply recovered, reused and recycled materials and to find renewable substitutes; and

8. ENCOURAGES governments to cooperate in creating medium- and long-term mineral supply and substitution plans, taking biodiversity and human well-being issues into account, including through strategic environmental and social assessments.
RECOGNISING that biodiversity and associated ecosystem services provide a range of invaluable services for society that underpin human health, well-being and economic development;

RECALLING that more than 30% of the mitigation necessary to deliver the 2-degree Celsius target under the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change can be cost-effectively achieved through investment in nature, specifically by stopping deforestation and restoring coastal ecosystems;

RECALLING that a joint increase in finance is necessary to safeguard life under water (Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14) and on land (SDG 15) and to allow humanity to achieve the other SDGs;

RECALLING that annual global funding needed to safeguard nature is estimated at US$ 300–400 billion while the current finance flows are around US$ 50–80 billion per year, based on the latest available data, and current biodiversity-related bilateral, official development assistance is less than US$ 10 billion per year;

RECALLING that the cost of inaction in the face of biodiversity loss is estimated to be at least 7% of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2050;

ALSO RECALLING the difficulties in estimating risks associated with nature degradation and the need to develop better methodologies to assess those risks and establish efficient finance tracking and reporting frameworks; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the 2019 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) report ‘Biodiversity: Finance and the Economic and Business Case for Action’ that sets out the economic and business case for the G7 and other countries to take urgent and ambitious action to halt and reverse global biodiversity loss;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON Members to:

   a. assess and communicate socio-economic dependencies and impacts on biodiversity at geographic scales relevant to decision makers; and
   b. assess and showcase the co-benefits of investments in nature conservation and its sustainable use and the costs of inaction;

2. CALLS ON States:

   a. to integrate biodiversity goals and considerations into the national development plans and policies of key economic sectors;
   b. follow the recommendations set out in the 2019 OECD report, in particular to:

      i. scale up the suite of policy instruments for biodiversity and get the economic incentives right to ensure biodiversity is better reflected in producer and consumer decision-making;

      ii. scale up and align finance for biodiversity from all sources – public and private – to meet the CBD post-2020 biodiversity objectives;

      iii. establish consistent and comparable finance tracking and reporting frameworks across countries and companies; and

      iv. identify, assess and reform subsidies harmful to biodiversity at the national level, and expand internationally comparable information on those subsidies, for example, through peer review; and

   c. to link international trade deals and development funding to biodiversity protection and restoration;

3. CALLS ON the financial sector to work on assessing risks associated with nature degradation within its portfolios, as well as the impact that its investments have on biodiversity; and

4. CALLS ON the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and donors to continue financing biodiversity conservation in future replenishments.
WCC-2020-Res-122-EN
Protection of deep-ocean ecosystems and biodiversity through a moratorium on seabed mining

RECALLING that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) established the International Seabed Authority (ISA) to act on behalf of humankind as a whole and charged it with ensuring the effective protection of the marine environment from harmful effects of seabed mining activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ);

RECALLING UNCLOS Articles 136 and 145, Article 5 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the commitments of states to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development including Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 12 and 14;

RECALLING Resolution 5.079 Protection of the deep ocean ecosystem and biodiversity from the threats of sea bed mining (Jeju, 2012) urging all State Members of IUCN to facilitate the adoption of precautionary and ecosystem approaches, including the precautionary principle, with respect to deep-sea mining;

NOTING that the ISA has already approved 30 licences for the exploration of seabed minerals in ABNJ, and is working to adopt commercial mining regulations to enable applications from countries and companies for commercial mining permits in the international seabed area;

NOTING the need to ensure sufficient scientific information on deep-sea biodiversity and ecosystems and an appropriate and transparent institutional structure prior to adopting such regulations;

NOTING the warning of the 2013 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services that up to a million species are threatened with extinction;

RECOGNISING advances in scientific knowledge since 2012 regarding deep-sea mining and concerns expressed by scientists that biodiversity loss will be inevitable if deep-sea mining is permitted to occur, that this loss is likely to be permanent on human timescales, and that the consequences for ocean ecosystem function are unknown;

CONSIDERING the unique, vulnerable character of deep ocean and seabed ecosystems, and their fundamental and intrinsic value to life on Earth;

NOTING the existence of studies that predict growth in the demand for minerals determined to be strategic, and considering that this demand should be met first through effective processes of a circular economy, so that the extraction of minerals (including from seabed mining) is carried out only when sources of materials from recycling or reuse are insufficient; and

NOTING commitments in SDGs 12, 13 and 14;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

CALLS on all State Members, individually and through relevant international fora, to:

a. support and implement a moratorium on deep-seabed mining, issuing of new exploitation and new exploration contracts, and the adoption of seabed mining regulations for exploitation, including 'exploitation' regulations by the International Seabed Authority (ISA), unless and until:

i. rigorous and transparent impact assessments have been conducted, the environmental, social, cultural and economic risks of deep-seabed mining are comprehensively understood, and the effective protection of the marine environment can be ensured;

ii. the precautionary principle, ecosystem approach, and the polluter pays principle have been implemented;

iii. policies to ensure the responsible production and use of metals, such as the reduction of demand for primary metals, a transformation to a resource-efficient circular economy, and responsible terrestrial mining practices, have been developed and implemented; and

iv. public consultation mechanisms have been incorporated into all decision-making processes related to deep-sea mining ensuring effective engagement allowing for independent review, and, where relevant, that the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples is respected and consent from potentially affected communities is achieved; and

b. promote the reform of the ISA to ensure transparent, accountable, inclusive, effective and environmentally responsible decision making and regulation.
WCC-2020-Res-057-EN
Accounting for biodiversity: encompassing ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

CONCERNED with the ongoing rapid decline of biodiversity, as highlighted in the 2030 United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and the negative impacts that this decline has on the benefits that living nature provides to health and well-being;

RECOGNISING the need to measure the contribution of nature to the economy and livelihoods, in order to complement the conventional system of national accounts, thereby supporting policy and decisions that take into account biodiversity and ecosystems;

ACKNOWLEDGING Resolution 6.058 Natural Capital (Hawaii, 2018), which will contribute towards mainstreaming the incorporation of biodiversity into national policy and other decision making;

EMPHASISING that natural capital accounting must recognise, and support the discussion of biodiversity’s multiple values to promote better-informed decision making and planning;

WELCOMING the progress led by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) in the development of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and its implementation through many programmes;

OPTIMISTIC that the implementation of the SEEA offers substantial opportunity for synergy with the development of indicators to track progress towards many SDGs, in particular goals 2, 6, 11, 12, 14 and 15, the Aichi Targets, as well as the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

FURTHER WELCOMING the progress led by the UNSD in the revision of the SEEA – Experimental Ecosystem Accounting with the objective of elevating it to an international statistical standard; and

NOTING that the Convention on Biological Diversity's definition of 'biological diversity' includes “diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems”, such that biodiversity spans levels of ecological organisation encompassing genes, species and ecosystems;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, Commissions, Members and partners to engage, and to mobilise resources to facilitate such engagement, with the UNSD, other partners and leading global initiatives:
   a. in the development and implementation of the SEEA to describe accounting for biodiversity at ecosystem, species and genetic levels, building on current advances in accounting for ecosystems, including the development and maintenance of relevant classifications (e.g. the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species); and
   b. in the application of accounting to support the derivation of indicators of biodiversity change (e.g. with respect to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, indicators for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and the SDGs) and to underpin the production and organisation of data for assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services;

2. CALLS on Members and partners, especially national governments and multilateral institutions, to support national statistical offices, relevant technical agencies and experts in implementing the SEEA, on enhancing capacity building and awareness towards its implementation; and

3. CALLS FOR Members and partners, especially national governments and multilateral institutions to test, implement and apply the SEEA accounting for biodiversity in all relevant aspects of their work.
Safeguarding coral reefs from harmful chemicals in sunscreen

EMPHASISING that coral-reef ecosystems play a fundamental role in ecological, social and economic well-being;

AWARE that over 60% of the world’s coral reefs are at risk from factors including climate change, pollution and overfishing;

RECOGNISING that sunscreen is a source of coral-reef pollution and scientists have found that certain chemicals in sunscreen contribute to coral-reef bleaching and pose a threat to healthy coral-reef ecosystems, even at extremely low concentrations;

CONCERNED that 6,000 to 14,000 tons of sunscreen wash into the ocean every year;

RECOGNISING that sound coral-reef management and protection is integral to a strong and healthy marine ecosystem;

HIGHLIGHTING that Hawai‘i, Palau, US Virgin Islands, and certain parts of Mexico and the Florida Keys have banned sunscreens containing chemicals harmful to coral reefs;

RECALLING the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, particularly Target 10, “By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning”;

UNDERLINING that the Fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4) found that Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 is not being met and that significantly accelerated actions are needed to reverse this trend;

RECOGNISING that the proposed IUCN Programme 2021–2024 identifies restoring the health of the world ocean as one of five priority areas;

ACKNOWLEDGING Goal (3) of the International Coral Reef Initiative Plan of Action 2016–2018 to “review issues related to the impact of sunscreens and other endocrine disruptors on coral reefs, and encourage the production of sunscreens that are proven not to damage coral reefs” and the ICRI study on ‘Impacts of Sunscreens on Coral Reefs’ that provides several recommendations; and

APPRECIATING IUCN’s longstanding commitment to coral-reef protection;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES the Species Survival Commission (SSC) to conduct an assessment on best practices to inform and help State Members to protect coral reefs from the harmful chemicals found in sunscreen;

2. CALLS ON the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) to:
   a. compile examples of existing legislation or regulations adopted for the purpose of protecting coral reefs from harmful chemicals found in sunscreen, with analysis and recommendations concerning the various approaches; and
   b. provide guidance to State Members to develop legislation or regulations to protect coral reefs from harmful chemicals found in sunscreen; and

3. REQUESTS Members, based on available guidance and/or model legislation and regulation, to encourage the adoption and implementation of model legislation to protect coral reefs from harmful chemicals found in sunscreen.
WCC-2020-Res-059-EN

Combating the illegal trade in lion body parts and derivatives

RECOGNISING that the global lion population has declined during the past decades;

RECALLING that the African lion (Panthera leo) has been classified as Vulnerable on the global IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, although in the majority of its range the species met the criteria for an Endangered classification;

RECOGNISING that at the joint CITES/CMS African Lion Range State Meeting held in Entebbe, Uganda in May 2016, range states identified the main threats for lions in Africa as (listed in no particular order): habitat degradation; reduction of prey base; human-lion conflict; unfavourable policies, practices and political factors (in some countries); ineffective lion population management; institutional weakness; adverse socio-economic factors; and increasing trade in lion bones;

CONSIDERING that the relative impact of these factors on wild lion populations is not well understood;

RECOGNISING that there are indications that the illegal killing of lions for the trade in lion body parts and derivatives is increasing, and that this is partly driven by the illegal pan-African and Asian trade in lion body parts and derivatives, including bones, claws and teeth for traditional medicine, decorative and status purposes across the continuum from subsistence to commercial use and trade, but that there is limited published evidence devoted to the subject;

CONSIDERING that while certain wild lion populations subject to legal trade have a positive conservation status, legal trade has the potential to act as either an incentive or a disincentive for illegal trade; that there is a paucity of conclusive evidence for the impact of legal trade in lion parts and derivatives for commercial purposes on levels of illegal activity (killing and trade) and consequent conservation impacts on wild lion and other felid populations; and that there is an urgent need to understand the impact of the legal bone trade on illegal trade in lions and other big cats; and

RECALLING the adoption of IUCN Resolution 013 Terminating the hunting of captive-bred lions (Panthera leo) and other predators and captive breeding for commercial, non-conservation purposes (Hawaii), 2016;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. DECLARES the importance of deterring the illegal killing of lions and the illegal trade in lion body parts and derivatives;

2. REQUESTS the Director General to support an initiative for further robust, evidence-based research, that applies rigorous and replicable methodology, into the extent and drivers of the trade in African lion parts and derivatives in Africa and East/South-East Asia, and its impact on wild lion populations in Africa and on those of other big cats globally – information that is required to better inform decision-making and intervention measures; and

3. ENCOURAGES Members to combat illegal and unsustainable exploitation of wild lion populations by improving law enforcement, improving and enforcing wildlife crime legislation (including wildlife crime-related legislation), enhancing benefits to rural communities through maintaining and strengthening lion values and incentives for conservation, tackling governance and corruption issues, and engaging in efforts to reduce the consumer demand for lion bones and any other parts and derivatives from illegally killed lions.
ACKNOWLEDGING that a definition and a set of eight principles for Nature-based Solutions (NbS) were presented in Resolution 6.069 Defining Nature-based Solutions (Hawaii), 2016, and that the importance and relevance of NbS was reflected in three seminal Resolutions: Resolution 5.083 Advancing the role of nature-based solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation and their potential to contribute to the global climate change regulatory regime, Resolution 5.084 Promoting ecosystem-based adaptation, and Resolution 5.058 Ecosystem management for disaster risk reduction (DRR) (Jeju, 2012);

NOTING the conclusions of the recent report entitled “Summary for policymakers of the global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services” that was prepared under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES);

RECOGNISING that NbS have demonstrated potential to significantly reduce the impact of disaster-scale events;

ALSO RECOGNISING that NbS can play a critical role in adaptation and mitigation related to changing climate;

FURTHERACKNOWLEDGING that NbS have gained significant international recognition, including through the development and implementation of relevant policies;

APPRECIATING the crucial role that NbS can play in contributing to systemic and durable change across economic, social, political and technological sectors; and

ACKNOWLEDGING IUCN Council decision C98/17 of February 2020 endorsing the approval of an IUCN Nature-based Solutions Standard (see Annex);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to:

a. promote the NbS concept throughout IUCN;

b. establish a robust, science-led, inclusive and transparent governance mechanism to:

i. guide and manage periodic reviews and the future development of the IUCN Global Standard for NbS; and

ii. ensure and enhance the integrity and credibility of the IUCN Global Standard for NbS in its application; and

iii. ensure the IUCN Secretariat prioritises support for the promotion and implementation the IUCN Global Standard for NbS, its uptake and governance;

2. REQUESTS CEM, in collaboration with Commissions, Members and the Secretariat, and in the spirit of the One Programme Charter, to:

a. identify specialists with a diversity of skills to provide the scientific advice required for the application of the Standard across different national circumstances and to provide evidence-based inputs to the periodic reviews of the Standard; and

b. compile, manage and share lessons learned from the application of NbS at local, national and international levels;

3. INVITES all IUCN Members to adopt, apply and promote the IUCN Global Standard for NbS in their policies, programmes and projects, as appropriate; and

4. ENCOURAGES governments, international organisations, International Financial Institutions and the private sector to embrace a consistent and coherent approach to NbS, as represented by the IUCN Global Standard for NbS.

Annex – IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions


The Standard will be appended in full to the motion (resolution) following its adoption.
WCC-2020-Res-061-EN
Partnerships and further development of a Global Ecosystem Typology

RECALLING Resolution 4.020 Quantitative thresholds for categories and criteria of threatened ecosystems (Barcelona, 2008) that requested "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...;"

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 5.055 Consolidation of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems (Jeju, 2012), which urged "CEM and the Secretariat to assess the status of the world’s terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems in order to be able to report on progress towards achieving Aichi Target 5...;"

APPLAUDING the progress made towards a global Red List of terrestrial ecosystems with national Red Lists of Ecosystems completed in more than 25 countries;

ACKNOWLEDGING the scientific advances in developing comprehensive and practical Global Ecosystem Typology (GET) and the importance for comprehensive data on the status of the world’s ecosystems to monitor and assess changes in that status;

RECOGNIZING the importance of the GET that has been developed through extensive expert consultation to further the aims of the IUCN One Programme Charter, as reflected in the proposed IUCN Programme 2021–2024; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the urgent need to undertake, and/or complete, cross-compatible national-scale assessments of ecosystems using the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems criteria;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. TAKES NOTE of the ongoing work to develop a GET;

2. ENCOURAGES Council to:
   a. promote and support Members, including indigenous peoples, local communities, and public actors, Commissions, and public and private partnerships, in applying the GET to support global, regional and national efforts to assess and manage risks to ecosystems;
   b. support adaptation to national and regional levels of the IUCN criteria and categories for Red Lists of Ecosystems, as well as continued development of national Red Lists of Ecosystems to enhance implementation of action for conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems and their biological diversity;
   c. support application of Red List of Ecosystems criteria to assess risk of collapse in the world’s thematic priority ecosystems; and
   d. as part of the IUCN Annual Report, report on progress on development of the Red List of Ecosystems database, integration of the Red List of Ecosystems approach, as well as in IUCN position and policy products for UN Sustainable Development Goals and Biodiversity Targets; and

3. CALLS ON the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) and the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) to lead:
   a. continued mapping of the distribution of the GET related to terrestrial, freshwater and oceanic environments;
   b. identification of contributions of the world’s major ecosystem types to a diverse suite of services and/or benefits contributing to human health and well-being; and
   c. development of innovative educational material, including print and web-based publications, other web-based resources, telephone applications, etc., that provide access to ecosystem information.
Towards development of an IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation

RECOGNISING the mandate given by Resolution 6.086 Development of IUCN policy on biodiversity conservation and synthetic biology (Hawai‘i, 2016); ACKNOWLEDGING the processes contributing towards advancing this subject up until 2016, as documented in the preamble to Resolution 6.086; FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING the processes which have advanced the subject since 2016, notably decision XII/19 of the 14th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP14, Egypt, 2018) and subsequent decisions;

RECOGNISING the work of the IUCN Task Force and Technical Sub-Group on Synthetic Biology and Biodiversity Conservation, established under the authority of all six IUCN Commission Chairs and the Director General, and their work in completing ‘Genetic Frontiers for Conservation: An Assessment of Synthetic Biology and Biodiversity Conservation’;

REAFFIRMING the fundamental importance to apply the Precautionary Principle regarding applications of synthetic biology and their impact on biological systems and conservation of nature and sustainable development for the prevention of ecosystem destruction and environmental degradation as set out in the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and noted in Resolution 3.075 Applying the Precautionary Principle in environmental decision-making and management (Bangkok, 2004);

NOTING that in the context of synthetic biology, the precautionary principle deserves specific attention as some applications of synthetic biology can produce organisms with complex modifications of biological characteristics or organisms that intentionally persist, propagate and spread in natural populations;

ACKNOWLEDGING that there remain significant data and knowledge gaps about synthetic biology (including genetic engineering and engineered gene drives), and on ecological, ethical, social and cultural impacts;

AWARE that the field of synthetic biology is advancing rapidly;

NOTING that synthetic biology, including engineered gene drives, continues to be discussed and scrutinised in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); and

EMPHASISING the unique role of IUCN in engaging governments, non-governmental organisations and indigenous peoples’ organisations to foster dialogue in and build knowledge on the topic of synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, Commission Chairs and Members to initiate an inclusive and participatory process to develop an IUCN policy on the implications of the use of synthetic biology in nature conservation to be debated and voted on by the next 2024 Conservation Congress. This should follow the process described in Annex section I and for the proposed policy;

2. REQUESTS the Council to, for this purpose, create a working group composed of IUCN Members (NGOs, governments and indigenous peoples’ organisations) ensuring a balance among genders, regions, perspectives and knowledge systems, as defined in Annex section II;

3. REQUESTS the Council to establish a drafting and participatory review process for the working group to undertake the development of the IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation, as defined in Annex section III; and

4. CALLS UPON the Director General and Commissions to remain neutral on all aspects of synthetic biology until the formal adoption of an IUCN policy on synthetic biology, remaining cognisant as new understanding develops during the process.

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ANNEX

Section I – terms of reference for the inclusive process

The purpose of this inclusive process is to inform discussions, promote consultation and support improved understanding of synthetic biology and the direct and indirect impacts that this technology might have on biodiversity and its conservation, sustainable use, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilisation of genetic resources. This inclusive process should identify questions about assessment of areas in which there are significant uncertainties and unknowns. That is to collect, formulate and consider ecological aspects, conceptual and legal challenges and wider questions such as socio-economic, cultural, ethical and legal impacts of the diverse existing and possible future applications of synthetic biology, including gene drives, for nature conservation purposes. A series of processes will be used to undertake a competent and timely process of participatory and anticipatory technology assessment, including community-led foresight and participatory action research.

In this regard, a briefing should be developed early in the process, in order to explain to a broad range of IUCN Members and their respective membership what synthetic biology is, and why its implications for nature conservation require an inclusive debate. This briefing should recall the process on the topics so far within the context of IUCN.

The process should strive to achieve widely diverse participation across IUCN Members (NGOs, governments and indigenous peoples), genders, regions and knowledge systems, and identify relevant questions for consideration. Several structures and processes should be used, e.g. IUCN national, regional and inter-regional committees, IUCN regional conservation fora, IUCN Commission processes, grassroots online discussions and roundtables, with appropriate reporting of discussions and summaries of the collected inputs.

Section II – terms of reference for the establishment of the working group

The working group will be composed of IUCN Members (NGOs, governments and indigenous peoples organisations) and Commission members ensuring equal representation of genders, regions, opinions, ethics and knowledge systems. The working group will be established according to the following process:

a. the Council will request nominations from IUCN Members (NGOs, governments and indigenous peoples organisations) and IUCN Commission members, ensuring equal representation of genders, regions, opinions, ethics and knowledge systems, to join a working group;

b. the President, drawing on the advice of the IUCN Vice-Presidents and Commission Chairs, will appoint the members of the working group on synthetic biology from among the names nominated; and

c. IUCN Members will have time to consider and make comments on the overall working group appointed, as well as propose modifications to ensure the diverse representation described above.

The working group will be in charge of steering the development process for the IUCN policy on synthetic biology.

Section III – terms of reference of the policy development process
Section A – Guiding criteria

These guiding criteria should be integrated into the IUCN policy development process on synthetic biology.

The purpose of these criteria is to guide the development of an IUCN policy following the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Marseille. These guiding criteria are not intended to serve as a specific set of guidelines for decision making about the use of synthetic biology (including engineered gene drive), nor are they intended to serve as a risk assessment methodology, technology assessment process or regulatory framework. These guiding criteria should not be interpreted as supporting or opposing the application of synthetic biology.

The scope of these guiding criteria is all aspects of existing and proposed application of the tools and technologies of synthetic biology (including organisms, components and products developed using synthetic biology, and engineered gene drives), in relation to any of their possible negative and positive impacts, over all timescales, spatial scales (including within and between countries), and dimensions of biological diversity (including at genetic, species and ecosystem levels), on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and on the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilisation of genetic resources. This includes consideration of uncertainties.

Integrity and diversity of nature

Intergenerational equity

Gender equity

Respect for rights, beliefs and cultures

Free, prior and informed consent

Inclusion of knowledge holders and right holders

Stakeholder and right-holder participation

Multiple sources of types of knowledge and expertise

Transdisciplinarity, intra-, inter- and multidisciplinarity

Multiple values and ethics

Section B – Process

a. Based on the outputs of the inclusive process described above, together with the IUCN Secretariat, the working group will produce a first draft of the IUCN policy on synthetic biology, that is reflective of the input received during the inclusive process, and which draws on the guiding criteria listed in Annex section II and previous resolutions, the IUCN report Genetic Frontiers in Conservation: Assessment of Synthetic Biology and Biodiversity Conservation, as well as on other relevant sources of information.

b. The Director General will circulate the draft IUCN policy on synthetic biology to all IUCN Members and Commission members for feedback and comment.

c. The working group will use the comments and feedback received to prepare a second draft of the IUCN policy on synthetic biology, and will explain through the IUCN website how each comment has been handled.

d. The Director General will circulate the second draft IUCN policy on synthetic biology to all IUCN Members and Commission members for feedback and comment.

e. The working group will use the comments and feedback received to prepare a third draft of the IUCN policy on synthetic biology and biodiversity, and will explain through the IUCN website how each comment has been handled.

f. The third draft of the IUCN policy on synthetic biology will be submitted to the IUCN Council, which will transmit it, through a motion, to the next meeting of the IUCN World Conservation Congress for debate and potential adoption by the Members of IUCN.
ACKNOWLEDGING the need for children and youth to be aware of environmental issues, to care about and understand them, and to take action;

AFFIRMING that children and youth, an important part of society, can and should be able to contribute to solving critical environmental issues;

RECOGNISING the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), which outlines the rights of children and youth to have their voices heard regarding decisions which will impact their lives and freedom of expression, and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts, and education;

RECOGNISING the central role that academic institutions, such as primary schools, secondary schools, colleges, universities and scientific facilities play in raising this awareness and engaging children and youth around environmental issues;

COMMEMDING the work carried out by the IUCN institutions in the area of nature conservation through environmental education;

RECALLING Resolutions 5.008 Increasing youth engagement and intergenerational partnership across and through the Union (Jeju, 2012) and 6.084 Environmental education and how to naturalise the spaces in educational centres for healthy development and a better childhood connection with nature (Hawaii, 2016), as well as student protests such as Youth Strike 4 Climate that show the social and political influence of youth;

RECALLING that the Tunza Youth Statement, emerging from the 2013 UNEP Tunza International Youth Conference, suggested that “government should introduce Education for Sustainable Development in formal education curriculums”;

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 6.085 Connecting people with nature globally (Hawaii, 2016), which recognised the potential of technology in engaging youth to learn about and connect with nature as well as sharing experiences with each other; and

CONSIDERING that children and youth in urban areas may have fewer opportunities to engage in nature-based (outdoor) activities, that online and offline resources and practical experience on community based approaches can be an efficient way for children to learn about nature, and that existing and new technologies can provide innovative and captivating ways to engage children and young people and to prepare urban children and youth to care about nature and experiences in nature;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ENCOURAGES State Members, or levels of government with responsibility for education, as appropriate, to draft and enact legislation or adopt other relevant effective measures to:

   a. incorporate environmental education into the formal curriculum, with both online and offline components, and with the participation of responsible parties; and

   b. incorporate child and youth engagement into policy making, recognising their respective rights, valuing young professionals, and respecting different forms of child and youth-initiated actions, such as petitions and strikes; and

2. Requests all Members, and all levels of government responsible for education, to increase their commitment to education of children and young people in environmental matters, including by:

   a. facilitating the participation of educational establishments and academic institutions, including primary schools, secondary schools, colleges and universities, in global networks and ‘twinning’ relationships designed to connect children and youth in different parts of the world as a means to improving education and awareness around all aspects of the environment, biodiversity and climate change issues, through work and study exchange;

   b. developing public information specifically designed for and oriented towards children and youth, including through websites and other online and offline platforms;

   c. integrating online and offline activities and promoting innovative technologies that encourage education on nature, biodiversity, climate change and environmental issues;

   d. incorporating education and formal and non-formal urban and peripheral green areas into cities as spaces to increase people’s contact with nature and as a strategy to promote knowledge of biodiversity and the physical and mental health of city dwellers, particularly children and youth; and

   e. developing community-based approaches to encourage the participation of children and youth, vulnerable groups and women, including through family-based nature activities.
WCC-2020-Res-063-EN

Urgent call to share and use primary biodiversity in situ data

RECOGNISING that biodiversity is an essential component of natural ecosystems and contributes important ecosystem services to people including adequate carbon storage, seed dispersal, pollination, soil integrity and fertility, and food, among others;

CONCERNED that, according to the latest Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) report, “around 1 million flora and fauna species are now threatened with extinction, many within decades, more than ever before in human history”;

RECOGNISING that the greatness of science lies not only in the process of its discovery, but also in capacity and willingness to make data and information selflessly available;

NOTING that the collection of in situ biodiversity data has dramatically increased in the last decade due to the popularisation of passive automatic data collection sensors such as camera traps, sound recorders, drones and biodiversity eDNA collection devices;

RECOGNISING the importance of biodiversity data generated by public administrations (or on their behalf) for the implementation and monitoring of policies and the efforts of these administrations to disseminate such data in interoperable formats;

CONCERNED that, despite a large amount of in situ biodiversity data being collected with these new technologies, most of these data are not shared or used in conservation due to the lack of standards for data sharing, technical capacity to process and analyse them, adequate tools for data management, and trusted data repositories available at local to global scales;

AWARE that in order to manage biodiversity in an adequate and transparent manner, conservation managers and policy makers need data on wildlife populations that are current (real-time or near-real-time), primary (in their original form), geographically representative (covering most of the spatial distribution of a species), with the appropriate temporal resolution (sampling intervals of at least 10% of the estimated generation range of a species), and are readily available to the conservation, science and public community at large;

NOTING that this information is essential for the development of knowledge and management products required to measure progress and set concrete targets towards the conservation of biodiversity at local, national, regional and global scales;

RECOGNISING the role of the network of experts organised under the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the Red List Unit of the Secretariat for the delivery of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species;

ALSO RECOGNISING the role of national biodiversity commissions, research centres and institutes, and other regional, national, and subnational organisations devoted to gathering, storing, organising, processing, and communicating in situ biodiversity data and associated information, and the contribution of global biodiversity data clearinghouses; and

MINDFUL and WELCOMING of the emergence of various wildlife and biodiversity in situ data-sharing platforms such as Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), eBird, iNaturalist, eMammal and Wildlife Insights among others;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON Commissions, Members and the global community of in situ data collectors to:

   a. consider these data as a public good for the planet and a valuable resource to manage, benefit and conserve biodiversity for the benefit of nature and people;
   b. readily deposit these data in globally available repositories and platforms, or public national biodiversity repositories;
   c. readily share these data at local, regional/national, and global levels using the most unrestricted Creative Commons data-sharing licences such as CC0 (public domain) or CC-BY (attribute generic); but
   d. ensure and demand that these platforms comply with the ‘Sensitive Data Access Restrictions Policy for the IUCN Red List’ such that the exact sampling locations for sensitive species are obscured for their protection;
   e. minimise the time that data are embargoed under any of these platforms to maximise their utility for the conservation of species, while recognising the need to keep some data partially private (for research, education or security); and
   f. share needs concerning specific knowledge products at local, regional and global scales;

2. INVITES the global community of data users, including scientists, policy makers, conservation managers, private citizens and others, to:

   a. readily use these data to inform knowledge of biodiversity and conservation through their application in, among others, assessments for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas, and development of biodiversity indicators;
   b. develop these products in a transparent and reproducible way, while respecting corresponding data-sharing licences and any proprietary information as appropriate; and
   c. promote the development of formal and creative technological tools that facilitate sharing of data on biodiversity; and

3. ENCOURAGES national and international donors, development banks, IUCN State Members, and other investors, to require that the projects they fund contribute data to open platforms for sharing of biodiversity data.
WCC-2020-Res-064-EN
Promoting conservation through behaviour-centred solutions

RECOGNISING the severe threats facing global biodiversity and ecosystems, as stated in the 2019 Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Global Assessment Report and Global Biodiversity Outlook 4 (GBO-4), and that transformative change in our present patterns of production and consumption is required to end biodiversity loss;

RECALLING Aichi Biodiversity Target 1 that “by 2020, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably”;

PROPOSING that awareness itself is not enough for the change necessary to meet global conservation targets;

RECOGNISING that advances in the field of behavioural science have changed our understanding of human decision making and have revealed strategies that can aid in designing effective conservation solutions and policies;

RECALLING that GBO-4 also states that social sciences, including our knowledge of social and cultural drivers, can accelerate progress to tackling the underlying causes of biodiversity loss;

NOTING that many development and health organisations have used behavioural science, social marketing, and design thinking to achieve positive change;

IDENTIFYING behaviour-centred design (BCD) as an approach to behaviour change that integrates knowledge from the behavioural sciences (social psychology, cognitive science, anthropology) with design thinking methodology to identify the target audience(s) and behaviour(s) we must address; to understand motivations, barriers and biases; to generate targeted solutions to those environmental challenges; and to test those solutions with the intended audience before scaling up;

WELCOMING BCD as an expanded tool for conservation efforts;

ACKNOWLEDGING the influence of cultural values and beliefs on behaviour and the need for sensitivity, ethics and integrity in promoting change;

HIGHLIGHTING the critical role that Members play to ensure that solutions using BCD are in all conservation efforts, including when they work with natural-resource users, with corporations/supply chains, with consumers demanding unsustainable products, and with civic/public institutions; and

NOTING specifically the role that zoos, aquariums, botanical gardens and museums have in reaching wide audiences (more than one billion visitors annually), as well as the critical role of in situ conservation programmes, and the influence these experiences have in motivating action for biodiversity;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to work closely with Members to employ BCD within conservation initiatives and planning;
2. URGES Members to address conservation as a behavioural challenge and to incorporate action alongside raising awareness;
3. REQUESTS that post-2020 goals for biodiversity conservation include measurable targets on behaviour change involving citizens, institutions (governmental and non-governmental) and businesses;
4. URGES governments to embed conservation action and behaviour change within outreach and education programmes, such as the national educational curriculum, on a par with climate change, and to fund such initiatives, building on Resolution 6.084 Environmental education and how to naturalise the spaces in educational centres for healthy development and a better childhood connection with nature (Hawaii, 2016);
5. REQUESTS that Members incorporate BCD into programmes that:
   a. champion holistic campaigns that include behaviourally-informed change communications, advocacy and citizen engagement efforts aimed at the wider public in increasingly urban-based societies, to engage consumers and drive change through demand (e.g. plastics, palm oil, endangered wildlife), utilising emotional appeals, social incentives, behavioural economics and choice architecture – such as featuring iconic species to capture the public imagination;
   b. engage with local resource users, the private sector producers, supply chains and civic/public leaders as a means of driving sustainable practices;
   c. develop and enforce policies that protect biodiversity and use resources sustainably;
   d. inspire all citizens, including a younger generation, to mobilise and adopt sustainable lifestyles; and
   e. plan, manage, interpret and promote protected areas and historic sites; and
6. CALLS ON Members to share research that provides evidence-based lessons to facilitate growth across this field.
Enhancing knowledge of natural resource conservation and alternative sustainable energy models through faith-based organisation networks

BEARING IN MIND the cultural and spiritual significance of faith-based organisations found in many people’s daily lives;
CONSIDERING the opportunity to share and spread sustainable living practices through interactions between faith leaders and people of faith and their communities;
NOTING existing relationships between traditional, local and cultural knowledge in natural-resource conservation, whether it be through sacred texts or in practice;
DEVELOPING information sessions, capacity-building programmes, interface dialogues and other methods for correlating aspects of spirituality, religion and culture with sustainable living practices;
RECOGNISING efforts being made by different groups, thinkers and social activists, concerning environmentally-friendly practices; and
HIGHLIGHTING the emergence of organisations which could address the root causes of climate change through religious traditions, leaders and institutions;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

CALLS ON the Director General, Council and Members to:

a. support cooperation between faiths and relevant stakeholders while working towards common goals of natural-resource conservation and sustainable living practices; and

b. encourage relations between faith-based organisations and environmental groups, as the latter may provide guidance to facilitate the knowledge and practice already present in faith-based groups.
Generalising alternative practices and techniques to the use of synthetic pesticides

RECALLING the harmful impact of synthetic pesticides on biodiversity, water quality, soil and health, as highlighted in Resolutions 16/5 International Trade in Pesticides and other Biocides (Madrid, 1984) and 17.20 Transfer of Technology relating to Contaminating Products including Pesticides (San Jose, 1988);

CONSIDERING that a large number of synthetic pesticides have proven to be toxic for biodiversity, including insects, and including the aquatic ecosystems in which they accumulate;

NOTING that the Worldwide Integrated Assessment of the impact of Synthetic Pesticides on Biodiversity and Ecosystems, carried out by IUCN experts by summarising 1,121 studies, shows that one important cause of the decline in pollinators is the use of pesticides, as does the International Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services assessment report on pollinators (IPBES, 2016);

ALSO NOTING that part of the annual global food production, with a market value of around $77 billion USD, is faced with the risk of the disappearance of pollinators;

NOTING that a growing number of judgments are recognising occupational illnesses linked to synthetic pesticides;

NOTING that their impact on health and biodiversity is often underestimated, given the assessment systems currently being implemented;

WELCOMING the fact that hundreds of towns across the globe have successfully stopped using synthetic pesticides in their public areas, and this has had a positive impact on nature in towns and cities and thus on their inhabitants’ quality of life;

FURTHER WELCOMING the commitment by increasing numbers of farmers, individuals and businesses to reduce or stop the use of synthetic pesticides;

WELCOMING the adoption in several countries of stringent regulations aimed at severely limiting the use of synthetic pesticides; and

RECOGNISING that alternative production system techniques such as agroecology or organic farming reduce the pressure on ecosystems, whilst having real potential for ensuring food security, as highlighted in the report “Agroecology and the Right to Food” (2010) presented at the 16th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council and the report “Organic Agriculture and Food Security” by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO, 2007);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON all the states and sub-national and local governments to take action, in order to generalise in agricultural and non-agricultural areas, practices and techniques that are respectful of natural ecosystems, alternatives to the use of synthetic pesticides such as agroecology or organic farming:
   a. ambitious policies linked to this issue;
   b. economic, financial, and fiscal incentives; and
   c. training and awareness-raising programmes and independent professional advice;

2. ENCOURAGES all farmers to adopt these practices on their land and to accelerate the ecological transition in agriculture;

3. INVITES all private businesses to adopt a proactive approach in suppressing the use of synthetic pesticides to maintain their properties as well as through their supply chains;

4. CALLS ON all citizens to stop using synthetic pesticides in their gardens or in any land they own;

5. ASKS IUCN Members, in particular NGO Members to:
   a. raise public awareness about alternatives to synthetic pesticides and about the progressive elimination of these pesticides; and
   b. promote and support the implementation of nature-based solutions to address the food supply challenge.
RECALLING Resolution 6.029, *Incorporating urban dimensions of conservation into the work of IUCN*, which set out in detail the reasons for greater involvement in urban matters by IUCN;

RECALLING Resolution 6.064 *Strengthening cross-sector partnerships to recognise the contributions of nature to health, well-being and quality of life (Hawaii, 2016)* which recognises that places, including urban areas, that have a rich natural heritage improve physical and mental health, as well as spiritual well-being and may increase appreciation of nature, including for the elderly;

RECOGNISING that the New Urban Agenda approved by the United Nations in Habitat III (Quito, Ecuador, 2016) reaffirms the global commitment to sustainable urban development and a common ideal for a better and more sustainable future, in which all people enjoy equality of rights and access to the benefits and opportunities that cities can offer, and in which the international community reconsiders urban systems and the physical form of our urban spaces as means to achieving this;

RECOGNISING that well-designed green and blue infrastructure can profoundly enhance urban livability, resilience and sustainability, while reducing climate and disaster risks, contributing to public health and well-being, and supporting substantial components of native biodiversity and native geodiversity;

ALSO RECOGNISING IUCN’s partnership with The Nature Conservancy and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability in developing CitiesWithNature, a platform for local and sub-national governments to report on their commitments to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

RECALLING that further to Resolution 6.029 *Incorporating urban dimensions of conservation into the work of IUCN (Hawaii, 2016)*, the IUCN Urban Alliance was launched in September 2018 as a coalition of IUCN constituents concerned with urban dimensions of nature conservation, chaired by an IUCN Councillor and including three IUCN Commission Chairs on its strategic board; and

NOTING that, in its initial phase of development, the IUCN Urban Alliance has focused on three priorities: creating a platform for knowledge exchange and debate, catalysing new projects and partnerships, and developing a new knowledge product – the Urban Nature Index – with the aim of helping cities to measure, value and conserve nature within and beyond their boundaries;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), other governments and stakeholders to recognise the critical importance of Nature in Cities in the development and implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

2. URGES Parties to the CBD, other governments and stakeholders to develop Nature in Cities Agendas, mainstreaming of natural diversity, biodiversity and geodiversity, and natural heritage into urban planning and decision-making processes, promoting the implementation of the principles of ecological urbanism, strengthening urban resilience to climate change – including disaster risk reduction – through enhancing, establishing and effectively managing urban and near urban protected and conserved areas and green infrastructure, and scaling up nature-based solutions providing favourable conditions for wildlife habitats, reducing the ecological footprint of cities, and fostering meaningful connections between people and nature, including urban protected areas, and taking advantage of urban natural heritage;

3. URGES IUCN and its constituent parts to scale up work with cities and city networks, such as ICLEI, as well as with United Nations peer agencies (UN-Habitat, World Health Organization) and strategies that work with cities (International Strategy for Disaster Reduction);

4. CALLS ON the Director General to champion the work and further development of a strong IUCN Urban Alliance through supporting its activities, including:

    a. developing and promoting the Urban Nature Index knowledge product;

    b. establishing science-based targets work to measure and understand the positive and negative impacts that cities have on ecosystems and natural, geological and biological diversity, around the world;

    c. compiling and developing case studies of nature-based urban interventions and solutions that have resulted in tangible benefits to the health and well-being of urban people and nature and overall to resilient city management;

    d. promoting research into ways of scaling up and extending the implementation of such case studies, and ensuring they are widely communicated through platforms such as #NatureForALL, Panorama Solutions and CitiesWithNature, as well as other communication and education alternatives and strategies, including to decision makers; and

    e. reviewing and strengthening the governance arrangements of the IUCN Urban Alliance, including enabling the chair to be drawn from Members, Commissions or Council; and

5. ENCOURAGES research institutions to develop and deliver training; programmes and courses on urban nature (biodiversity, geodiversity, geological and biological heritage), to promote experiences in nature, seeking to reconnect human beings with nature, and to promote assessment and knowledge of the importance nature has in people’s lives and well-being, and FURTHER ENCOURAGES governmental authorities to take into account the need to restore and develop nature in cities in the programmes they manage.
ALARMED that the Government of New South Wales (NSW) is continuing to push ahead with processes designed to facilitate the raising of the Warragamba Dam, given its location within the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area that would inundate over 1,000 hectares of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area and 3,700 hectares of the surrounding National Park, considered essential to the integrity of the property at the time of nomination;

CONCERNED that the NSW Government’s publicly stated intention is to raise the Warragamba Dam wall by 14 m, which will result in the regular flooding of 65 km of streams and rivers, home to eucalyptus forests and threatened species habitat;

CONCERNED that over 300 indigenous cultural sites would be inundated under the proposal to raise the Warragamba Dam wall;

AWARE that the Australian Government has stated that “The impact of increased flood water levels within the dam is likely to have extensive and significant impacts on listed threatened species and communities and world and national heritage values of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area”; and

CONCERNED that the cumulative impacts of coal mining within the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, notably water pollution and cliff collapse, are impacting upon the Outstanding Universal Values of the site;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the State Government of NSW to abandon all plans to raise the Warragamba Dam wall;

2. CALLS ON the Government of Australia to refuse all approvals for the raising of the Warragamba Dam wall and any other developments which would impact the Outstanding Universal Values of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area; and

3. ENCOURAGES the IUCN World Heritage Programme to continue to flag concerns regarding the Warragamba Dam-raising project, along with any other threats (post-NSW bushfires) to the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, through mechanisms such as World Heritage Outlook.
WCC-2020-Res-069-EN
Eliminate plastic pollution in protected areas, with priority action on single-use plastic products

APPRECIATING that protected areas serve an important role in protecting global biodiversity, mitigating carbon emissions and increasing resilience to climate change;

AWARE that wildlife resources also serve as important components of ecosystems, providing services that benefit humanity in the form of pollination, seed dissemination, disease control, pest control, food production, water purification and waste decomposition;

ACKNOWLEDGING that plastic products account for the majority of waste in protected areas, are often inappropriately disposed of on-site, and that discarded plastics take up to a thousand years to decompose;

RECOGNISING that inappropriate disposal of plastics has a significant impact on the environment and may affect wildlife;

FURTHER RECOGNISING the need for responsible management of plastics waste and scrap that prevents its leakage into the environment; and

NOTING that there are alternatives to single-use plastic products available for bringing drinks and other items into protected areas, and that 'pack-it-out' policies encourage responsible management of plastics brought into protected areas;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

URGES State Members to take priority action by 2025 to prevent pollution of protected areas by single-use plastic products, with the ultimate goal of eliminating all plastic pollution in protected areas.
WCC-2020-Res-124-EN
Taking action to reduce light pollution

NOTING that artificial night lighting has expanded considerably worldwide, generating light pollution that continues to increase by an estimated 2 to 6 % per year, and reducing darkness everywhere including in protected areas;

NOTING that the impacts of artificial light at night affect many biological groups, both flora and fauna, vertebrate and non-vertebrate, and affect the functioning of ecosystems and the free services that they provide to human societies, including pollination;

RECALLING that a large proportion of animals live partially or exclusively at night and a daily period of darkness is essential for all living organisms to alternate periods of rest and activity;

RECOGNISING that the outdoor lighting alters the chronobiology of living organisms and their synchronisation with their environment, in animals and plants, for example for trees by delaying the fall of leaves;

RECOGNISING that artificial lighting disrupts the orientation of many animal species with severe adverse effects (marine turtles, migrating birds, etc.) and reduces the quality of habitats and connectivity within landscapes, with consequences for the viability of populations;

RECOGNISING that artificial lighting affects trophic relationships between species, increasing foraging time available for diurnal species while diminishing it for nocturnal ones and reducing the cover of darkness for both predators and prey;

NOTING that artificial light obscures the anti-predator, luring and courtship signals of diverse bio-luminescent organisms including fireflies and glow-worms;

RECOGNISING that the impacts of light wavelengths on biological groups are very diverse (e.g. orientation, growth, phototaxis, circadian clock, activity modification) and that a biological group can be affected by several types of impact;

RECOGNISING that some wavelengths have more impact on biological groups than others;

NOTING that the outdoor lighting fleet is now either gradually being replaced or newly installed using light-emitting diode (LED) technologies that can lead to an increase in lamp intensity and a significant proportion of blue in their light spectrum that presents a risk for living organisms and increases sky glows, and that finally often results in an increase in the intensity of light together with the energy savings they provide;

RECOGNISING that awareness of light pollution is still low among most states, local authorities and private actors;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the purpose of some lighting is to protect human life, as well as property;

NOTING the importance of urban development and the number of places lit at night with no purpose and their contribution to energy waste and then to climate change; and

NOTING that a volume on dark skies and nature conservation in the IUCN Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series is being prepared by the Dark Skies Advisory Group of the Urban Conservation Strategies Specialist Group of the World Commission on Protected Areas;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to assist efforts of Members and Commissions to reduce light pollution;

2. RECALLS that it is everyone’s duty to ensure the protection of the nocturnal environment;

3. CALLS ON all IUCN Members and agencies that manage land and water areas to develop, disseminate and implement engagement, education and outreach programmes to explain the harmful impacts of light pollution, the benefits of preserving natural darkness, and methods to reduce light pollution, with such programmes being directed at all appropriate stakeholders, including but not limited to, visitors, users, private and corporate residents;

4. ENCOURAGES authorities in charge of the planning and management of outdoor lighting to examine the utility of existing lighting and then i) to remove the unnecessary light points (i.e. those not necessary to ensure the safety of humans or property) and ii) to adapt the remaining lighting as closely as possible to the needs, incorporating several options:

a. defining the useful illumination level, so as not to risk over-lightening, which may cause biodiversity perturbations;

b. reducing the lighting time at night, in particular by switching off in the middle of the night;

c. avoiding upward lighting by choosing a fixture with the light fully shielded and ground-level downward-directed;

d. avoiding any illumination of a natural environment (unless safety is at stake);

e. limiting the risk of glare for nocturnal species avoiding outdoor lights that exceed international agreed standards; and

f. choosing wavelengths that have the least impact on terrestrial species according to the knowledge, which indicates to this day to favour amber lights with little blue;

5. RECOMMENDS that natural environments should not be illuminated in order to reduce or avoid pollution, unless safety is at stake;

6. RECOMMENDS that authorities identify, preserve and restore naturally dark infrastructure (i.e. ecological networks formed by cores linked by corridors which are both characterised by a natural level and periodicity of night-time darkness) to facilitate the functioning of healthy, species-rich nocturnal environments;

7. RECOMMENDS that agencies funding research support research and evidence synthesis on the effects of artificial night lighting on species and that research organisations and universities set up corresponding research programmes; and

8. RECOMMENDS that agencies raise awareness by collaborating with states, local authorities and private actors on educational programmes that address the effects of artificial night lighting and measures to reduce light pollution.
WCC-2020-Res-070-EN

Combatting soil degradation and artificialisation

AWARE that soils are reservoirs of biodiversity, ensuring numerous ecosystem services such as food production, climate regulation, water quality and human well-being in general, and that they can be maximised when soils are in good health;

AWARE that faced with the growing demands on soils by human activities, this limited and non-renewable resource is subject to pressures that have an impact on its quality and restrict its availability;

RECALLING that soil degradation is one of the major pressures on biodiversity: the physical destruction of soils, functional modifications, or artificialisation, or soils covering most of the areas being used for human activities (towns, homes, economic infrastructures, transport networks, some agricultural land, forest land and brownfields);

CONSIDERING that the degradation and artificialisation of soils leads to an increase in the effects linked to climate change such as the increased vulnerability to floods, the rise in greenhouse gas emissions due to the impacts on ways of life (increase in the time spent in means of transportation, the use of cars, the building of car parks, etc.), heat islands in towns and cities, etc.;

NOTING that all countries, developed or emergent, are directly dependent on the health of soils, but that soil health and the phenomenon of artificialisation do not always correlate with a country’s real needs nor its health;

FURTHER NOTING that states, as well all private and public economic players and all sectors (property, tourism, industry, agriculture) do not seem to integrate this problem adequately into their development strategies and projects;

NOTING however with interest the work by certain states, which have carried out land use planning policies for their territory, objectives for limiting the consumption of natural, agricultural and forestry areas (green belts around towns, a zero net artificialisation goal) or economic levers (market for the rights to create an artificial environment, environmental tax incentives);

SATISFIED that numerous construction techniques mitigate the harmful effects of the degradation of soils (green roofs, pools, etc.) and allow for the restoration and improvement of ecosystem services; and

CONSIDERING that, despite the national initiatives and possible ways to improve soil health or to alleviate the soil artificialisation phenomenon, no global response has been formulated;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ASKS the states, sub-national and local governments at different levels to:
   a. establish land use plans to curb the artificialisation of soils and improve their health, setting specific goals for the sustainable maintenance of non-artificialised soils;
   b. develop policies for the renaturation and the de-artificialisation of soils, supporting the techniques for the reduction of the effects of soil sealing;
   c. give priority to constructions on soils that have already been degraded or artificialised and apply circular economy principles (multifunctionality, shared usage, reversibility, etc.); and
   d. propose economic incentive levers to:
      i. preserve natural and agricultural areas of high ecological value, notably favouring virtuous land strategies and involving private owners;
      ii. encourage the revaluation and optimisation of built-up land; and
      iii. draw up strategies for the payment of ecosystem services and voluntary conservation aid programmes;

2. CALLS ON private and public economic players to include the fight against soil degradation or artificialisation in their development strategies, and to report on their initiatives, notably through their extra-financial reports;

3. ASKS non-governmental organisations and IUCN Members to collaborate with all the stakeholders in order to support these approaches through expertise, education and specific actions;

4. ASKS the competent agencies to reinforce controls and sanctions if necessary; and

5. ASKS IUCN to work with national and international soil organisations, in order to make progress in the fight against soil degradation and artificialisation.
WCC-2020-Res-071-EN
Wildlife-friendly linear infrastructure

ALARMED by proliferation of linear infrastructure – roads, railways, canals, power lines, fences and pipelines – into some of the most biodiverse, intact, undisturbed, and important ecosystems in the world, including protected areas, other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) and other natural areas;

AWARE that linear infrastructure harms wildlife, especially through mortality and barriers to movement and ecological connectivity, driving habitat and biodiversity loss by opening remote areas to human exploitation;

FURTHER AWARE that the most effective conservation measure to limit impacts of linear infrastructure on the environment is avoidance of new or expanded development, especially in areas of importance for biodiversity, ecological connectivity, and ecosystem integrity;

CONCERNED that financial investment in linear infrastructure can saddle developing economies with lasting environmental degradation and long-term debt;

RECALLING adoption of more than ten IUCN Resolutions since 1996 addressing impacts of infrastructure on species and ecosystems, including Resolution 6.18: *Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development* (Hawaii, 2016);

NOTING that the 2017 International Forum on Sustainable Infrastructure resulted in the ‘Hanoi Principles’ for planning, designing and financing ecologically sound linear infrastructure;

RECOGNISING the World Commission on Protected Areas’s (WCPA’s) preparation of guidance for connectivity conservation impacted by linear transportation infrastructure;

CONVINCED that the impacts of linear infrastructure on the environment are sufficiently well-known to be addressed through the use of the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, minimise, restore, compensate); and

FURTHER CONVINCED that increased knowledge, expanded expertise, and strengthened partnerships are necessary to deliver existing and new frameworks, including the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, to integrate science, policy and best practices that avoid and mitigate adverse impacts of linear infrastructure;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General and Members to emphasise in the IUCN Programme 2021–2024 provision of scientific, technical and policy approaches to avoid impacts of linear infrastructure on the environment, and to mitigate impacts when necessary;

2. REQUESTS Members, all components of the Union, governments and agencies, intergovernmental organisations, non-governmental organisations, local communities, indigenous peoples, and financial institutions, to increase collaboration to implement existing guidance, guidelines and standards, including the 2017 ‘Hanoi Principles’ adopted by the International Forum on Sustainable Infrastructure, for more effective new and existing linear infrastructure avoidance and mitigation, based on specific targets and indicators, and to develop:
   a. scientifically rigorous research, data collection, analysis, evaluation and reporting protocols;
   b. methodologies for accurate quantification of adverse impacts at appropriate spatial and temporal scales;
   c. evidence-based spatial plans, where possible, incorporating the needs of wildlife and ecological connectivity;
   d. nature-based solutions and mitigation measures for incorporation into short-term and long-term strategies; and
   e. rigorous monitoring and evaluation to determine the effectiveness of measures;

3. INVITES all relevant actors to consider of high importance the need to reduce wildlife mortality, maintain ecological connectivity, and to provide all other necessary protections for biodiversity, including exceeding compliance with existing laws and policies, when developing new, and addressing existing, linear infrastructure impacting areas of importance for biodiversity, ecological connectivity, and ecosystem integrity, including protected areas, OECMs, Key Biodiversity Areas, World Heritage sites, and other natural areas; and

4. FURTHER INVITES all relevant actors to develop, promote, and sustain a diverse coalition that mainstreams wildlife-friendly linear infrastructure in science, policy, and practice.
WCC-2020-Res-072-EN

Importance for the conservation of nature of removing barriers to rights-based voluntary family planning

NOTING that the United Nations estimated global human population at 7.7 billion in 2019 and forecasts that the 2050 population will be between 8.9 billion (low variant projection) and 10.6 billion (high variant projection);

MINDFUL that the 2050 medium variant projection (9.7 billion) is commonly cited, but is only one possibility;

CONCERNED that physical, educational, social, cultural and other barriers to rights-based voluntary family planning prevent access to and use of contraception;

NOTING that barriers exist in all countries and are often greatest in rural areas, where conservation takes place;

NOTING that 232 million women in low- and middle-income countries are not using modern contraception despite wanting to delay or avoid pregnancy and that global estimates of unintended pregnancy suggest hundreds of millions of women would have fewer children and/or begin motherhood later if they faced no barriers to contraception;

AWARE that future population size is greatly influenced by reproductive healthcare provision provided now, and that removing barriers to rights-based voluntary family planning now would have significant impacts on long-term population size and therefore reduce some pressures on the environment;

AWARE that unintended pregnancy can restrict ability to engage in natural-resource management and conservation action as well as limiting education and income-generating potential;

RECALLING the 1994 agreement at the International Conference on Population and Development on links between population, sustainable development and the need for universal access to reproductive health services, based on the right to decide for one's self whether and when to have children;

NOTING target 3.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): "By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies, and programmes"; and

AWARE that the impacts of human population growth on biodiversity are stated in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) by 64 of the 69 countries with the greatest barriers to family planning;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS that an inter-Commission Task Force be formed by the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), the Species Survival Commission (SSC), and other interested Commissions, supported by the Margaret Pyke Trust, to assist IUCN to develop guidance on how and why removing barriers to rights-based voluntary family planning can strengthen conservation outcomes in addition to promoting the health, well-being and empowerment of women and girls;

2. CALLS ON State Members to consider including the importance of rights-based voluntary family planning in their NBSAPs and other national planning documents that draw attention to the impact of human population growth on ecosystems and ecosystem services;

3. URGES Members to consider:
   a. internal training and awareness programmes on how improved reproductive health benefits women’s and girls’ health and empowerment, reduces pressures on ecosystems and ecosystem services, and enhances sustainable development, and how such issues can be included in project planning and
   b. partnerships with health organisations to pilot or plan a population, health and environment (PHE) programme (a conservation model integrating sustainable and alternative conservation livelihood actions with reproductive health improvements, benefiting human and ecosystem health), this being a critical project model in areas where removing barriers to rights-based voluntary family planning can improve conservation outcomes; and

4. REQUESTS Members, donors, academics and others to encourage the implementation of PHE programmes and to ensure integrated funding streams and multi-sector collaboration.
Ecological connectivity conservation in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework: from local to international levels

ALARMED that fragmentation, habitat loss and climate change gravely threaten persistence of biodiversity and nature’s contributions to people, as detailed in the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) 2019 Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services;

AWARE that plants and animals move as part of life strategies, and that gene flow between different populations is necessary for long-term species persistence;

FURTHER AWARE that successful conservation requires interconnected ecological networks comprised of large-scale systems of core habitats (Protected Areas, Other Effective Conservation Mechanisms (OECMs) and other natural areas) connected by ecological corridors across intact and human-modified terrestrial, freshwater, intertidal, and marine environments, regardless of political borders, to sustain the ecological processes between plants, animals, and non-living components;

RECALLING over 20 related IUCN Resolutions adopted since 1996, including Resolution 6.087 Awareness of connectivity conservation definition and guidelines (Hawaii, 2016);

ALSO RECALLING that Resolutions 6.051 Ecological connectivity on the north coast of the Alboran Sea and 6.096 Safeguarding space for nature and securing our future: developing a post-2020 strategy (both adopted in Hawaii, 2016), as well as Resolutions 12.07 (Rev.COP13) The Role of Ecological Networks in the Conservation of Migratory Species and 12.26 (Rev.COP13) Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species adopted by the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS COP13, India, 2020);

HIGHLIGHTING that CMS Resolution 12.26 (Rev.COP13) defined ecological connectivity as the unimpeded movement of species and the flow of natural processes that sustain life on Earth;

OBSERVING the commitment under Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 towards achieving well-connected systems of protected areas, and adoption of Decisions 14/11 Updated assessment of progress towards selected Aichi Biodiversity Targets and options to accelerate progress and 14/8 Protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures adopted by the Fourteenth Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP14, Egypt, 2018);

FURTHER NOTING ecological connectivity as part of the current draft of a new international legally-binding instrument for marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction;

ACKNOWLEDGING that since its entry into force in 1983, CMS has been providing the primary specialised intergovernmental framework for international cooperative efforts on issues of connectivity conservation;

AWARE of the proliferation of connectivity conservation plans, including for indigenous, urban and working lands, that would benefit from globally consistent guidance for their creation, implementation and reporting;

RECOGNISING the importance of careful design and management of interconnected ecological networks to ensure they support conservation goals and do not contribute to biodiversity loss through the spread of non-native and invasive species;

FURTHER RECOGNISING publication of IUCN ‘Guidelines for Conserving Connectivity through Ecological Networks and Corridors’;

CONVINCED that these Guidelines and enhanced collaboration will deliver connectivity conservation solutions that reinforce current commitments and elevate the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to be progressive, inspirational, measurable and effective;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General to clearly integrate connectivity conservation into the IUCN Programme 2021–2024, including formal/informal cooperation, enabling policies/mechanisms, and public/private sector engagement for funding and implementation;

2. RECOMMENDS that the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) engages across the Union and works with existing and new partners to advance connectivity conservation by:

   a. exploring how to document connectivity issues between terrestrial, freshwater, intertidal and marine environments;

   b. promoting information exchange and data collection for assessing, monitoring, and measuring ecological connectivity, and to enhance implementation of area-based and species-based commitments;

   c. developing the evidence base, identifying and developing case studies and providing best practices and practical guidance to inform policies, laws, plans and operational instruments that support ecological connectivity and species range-shift due to climate change, while mitigating or preventing the unintended spread of invasive species;

   d. providing technical and scientific expertise to identify key drivers, species, areas, ecosystems and processes, especially in indigenous areas, urban areas and working lands; and

   e. supporting conservation efforts to maintain and restore connectivity;

3. CALLS ON Members to recognise the role of connectivity conservation in underpinning the planet’s life-support systems and in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the three objectives of the CBD, and relevant goals of other treaties and agreements, to promote and support the inclusion of connectivity conservation and international cooperation in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and in other relevant initiatives such as the 2030 Agenda and the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030;

4. FURTHER CALLS ON Members to promote use of the IUCN ‘Guidelines for Conserving Connectivity through Ecological Networks and Corridors’;

5. INVITES Parties to the CBD, CMS, the World Heritage Convention, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and other treaties/agreements, to use these Guidelines and build synergies for establishing and implementing area-based and species-based targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework; and

6. RECOMMENDS that Parties to the CBD include appropriate goals, targets and indicators on connectivity conservation, including an indicator for migratory species, in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and ensure that connectivity conservation is effectively addressed there via appropriate tools – for example, green infrastructure, international cooperation, and other implementation mechanisms.
WCC-2020-Res-074-EN
Geoheritage and protected areas

CONSIDERING that our well-being and survival depend on the elements and processes of both geodiversity and biodiversity;

NOTING the growing commitment with respect to the preservation, study and sustainable use of geoheritage;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the main geodiversity elements directly influencing biodiversity are geological substrates, which determine hydrology, erosion, nutrients, the chemistry of soils, and vegetation health and cover; landforms, which determine climate, hydrology, soils and habitats and species distributions; and active geological processes, which determine habitats and species distributions and survival;

RECOGNISING that selected geodiversity elements and processes, designated as geoheritage, play a crucial role in underpinning biodiversity conservation and the conservation of protected areas, as well as providing other scientific, conservation and ecosystem-service benefits;

CONSIDERING the specificity of natural cavities resulting from complex dynamic processes linking the Earth's surface and underground rocks;

RECOGNISING the biological and geological interest in natural cavities, which combine endokarstic and volcanic geological formations with terrestrial and aquatic habitats, and which support fauna, flora and fungi specific to these environments, and include elements and landscapes without any equivalent on Earth's surface;

RECALLING that underground environments remain largely unknown because they are invisible to most people and hard to access, and are a pioneering frontier for scientific research and discoveries;

CONCERNED that the role of geodiversity in ecosystem services is not yet being fully addressed by protected area policies and management;

BEARING IN MIND that, while certain countries have geodiversity protection, it is generally recognised that the mechanisms available, whether internationally or nationally, are not enough to guarantee conservation of the most significant geosites, and that many of these sites are at risk, mostly due to threats from human activities;

WELCOMING the efforts of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) in supporting the Global Geotopes Programme to identify geological sites of international relevance, and the initiative of the IUGS International Commission on Stratigraphy, which identifies sites of global significance as standards for Earth's geological time and its record;

RECALLING that Resolution 5.08 Valuing and conserving geoheritage within the IUCN Programme 2013–2016 (Jeju, 2012) specifically called on the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) to “promote and support, in collaboration with UNESCO and the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), the elaboration and extension of the inventory for the Global Geotopes Programme, as well as other regional and international inventories of sites of geologic interest”;

RECALLING Resolutions 4.040 Conservation of geodiversity and geological heritage (Barcelona, 2008), 5.048 (cited above) and 6.083 Conservation of moveable geological heritage (Hawaii, 2016) in favour of geocuration;

ALSO RECALLING Resolution 6.041 Identifying Key Biodiversity Areas for safeguarding biodiversity (Hawaii, 2016), which reveals that identifying, promoting and protecting geodiversity is missing in the global conservation agenda;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 6.063 Avoiding extinction in limestone karst areas (Hawaii, 2016) regarding the conservation of very specific life forms hosted in karstic environments; and

WELCOMING the efforts of WCPA's Geoheritage Specialist Group to develop effective best-practice guidance tools addressed to protected area managers;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and WCPA to:

   a. mobilise IUCN Regional Offices and the IUCN Global Programme in support of national efforts to collect, compile and publish data on geodiversity and geodiversity in protected areas, including proper inventories, research, and sustainable management and protection of geological substrate, landforms and active geological processes;

   b. support the development of a detailed study envisaging the establishment of a future IUCN initiative on Key Geoheritage Areas, as a complement to the existing Key Biodiversity Areas programme, in order to protect geoheritage sites of global conservation significance and move towards more integrated nature conservation;

   c. encourage work, including by protected area managers, to enhance the information and proper interpretation of geodiversity and geoheritage in order to increase the awareness of visitors of all natural features inside natural cavities and protected areas and the ways in which geological, biological and cultural elements are often inter-linked; and

   d. engage with the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) to encourage a concerted effort to conduct ecosystem Red List assessments of geologically interesting ecosystems, and to incorporate geoheritage assessments as part of the normal procedure for red-listing and ecosystem assessments;

2. ENCOURAGES national Member organisations, other nature conservation organisations, civil society, academia and managers of protected areas and outstanding underground sites to:

   a. foster knowledge about geodiversity and geoheritage inside and outside protected areas and to integrate nature conservation principles and methods into the management of protected areas to ensure the effective protection of this component of natural heritage;

   b. establish or improve national legislation concerning the protection of geoheritage, and enabling the necessary conditions to ensure the implementation of effective conservation measures; and

   c. encourage the respectful exploration and study of underground environments and their interrelations with the surface; and

3. CALLS ON states, non-governmental organisations, universities, researchers, economic stakeholders and protected area managers to take into account the specific issues linked to underground environments in the definition and implementation of nature conservation policies and to adopt a holistic approach to the management of underground natural environments, considering all relationships between biological and geological elements.
WCC-2020-Res-075-EN
Transboundary cooperation for conservation of big cats in Northeast Asia

RECALLING Resolutions 6.010 Conservation of Amur tiger (Panthera tigris altaica) and Amur leopard (Panthera pardus orientalis) in Northeast Asia and 6.035 Transboundary cooperation and protected areas (both adopted in Hanoi, 2016);

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 5.043 Establishing a forum for transboundary protected area managers and Recommendation 5.152 Enlarging and connecting transboundary protected areas for the Ecological Corridor of Northeast Asia (both adopted in Jeju, 2012);

ALSO RECALLING the Harbin Consensus adopted by the International Forum on Tiger and Leopard Transboundary Conservation (Harbin, China, 28–29 July 2019);

WELCOMING the efforts of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) in partnership with interested Members;

APPRECIATING State Members into development of transboundary conservation in Northeast Asia;

ACKNOWLEDGING that Amur tiger (Panthera tigris altaica) and Far Eastern leopard (Panthera pardus orientalis) are flagship species for biodiversity conservation of the Earth and sacred species for the peoples of Northeast Asia;

NOTING that an increase in the number of Amur tigers to 600 individuals and Far Eastern leopards to 120 individuals has occurred in the last four years (2016–2020);

DRAWING ATTENTION to the effectiveness of transboundary cooperation in the conservation of IUCN Red List species;

RECOGNISING IUCN’s role in providing scientific and conservation expertise and policy guidance in restoring big cat species populations; and

CONSIDERING the international experience of the SSC Cat Specialist Group and WCPA Transboundary Conservation Specialist Group, the Feline Research Center of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration (China), as well as the WCPA/SSC Joint Task Force on Biodiversity and Protected Areas in the conservation of globally endangered species;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General, SSC, WCPA and the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) to provide support to:
   a. working with relevant government authorities, and within existing established agreements, create a Russian-Chinese Natural Reserve ‘Land of Big Cats’ including the Biosphere Reserve ‘Kedrovaya Pad’ (Russia), National Park ‘Land of Leopard’ (Russia) and North East National Park of Tiger and Leopard (China) for conservation of Amur tiger and Far Eastern leopard, as well as a number of other transboundary Russian-Chinese nature reserves in the Amur river basin;
   b. develop mid-term action plans for established transboundary reserves; and
   c. promote research and sharing of knowledge for conservation and rehabilitation of Far Eastern leopard populations in partnership with the SSC Cat Specialist Group, the Eurasian Center for Conservation of Far Eastern Leopards (Russia), the Feline Research Center of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration (China), and other organisations with relevant scientific knowledge or capacity;

2. ASKS the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) to provide consultancy on the legal framework for establishing a system of bilateral transboundary protected areas;

3. URGES the governments of Russia and China, as IUCN State Members, and all interested components of IUCN, to foster transboundary cooperation towards the conservation of big cats; and

4. REQUESTS the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP/WCMC), in partnership with the SSC Cat Specialist Group, the Feline Research Center of the National Forestry and Grassland Administration (China), the Eurasian Center for Conservation of Far Eastern Leopards (Russia) and other organisations with relevant scientific knowledge or capacity, to engage in consultations on gathering and compiling relevant data.
Building and strengthening wildlife economies in Eastern and Southern Africa

RECOGNISING that there are many successful examples from the Eastern and Southern African region of sustainable wildlife-based land uses that have helped to achieve national conservation targets and objectives while providing benefits to people;

NOTING the growing interest across the region to promote sustainable wildlife economies for the benefit of both people and biodiversity;

CONCERNED that many areas in the region, which currently support extensive wildlife economies, and which are on communal, state or privately held lands, are under threat of conversion to other land uses if they cannot compete with other viable land uses;

UNDERSTANDING that land under wildlife use requires reliable revenue streams to remain competitive and stave-off transformation to alternative land-use options that will be largely, if not wholly, incompatible with biodiversity conservation;

NOTING that photographic tourism – primarily in National Parks – can generate significant funding, thereby providing strong incentives for landowners and managers to maintain wildlife on their land;

RECOGNISING that the sustainable use of wild resources could be a vital factor in maintaining wildlife strongholds throughout Eastern and Southern Africa;

MINDFUL that there is an ever-increasing need and a decreasing window in time in which to find or develop potential alternative and more sustainable funding mechanisms to retain communal and privately held lands under some form of wildlife-based land use; and

WELCOMING that the 2019 Africa Wildlife Economy Summit in Victoria Falls raised the profile of this issue and its importance to local communities of the region, as expressed in their ‘Declaration on a New Deal for Communities, Wildlife and Natural Resources’;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON all three pillars of IUCN in Eastern and Southern Africa to establish a One Programme Initiative, with technical support from the Species Survival Commission (SSC) and Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group, to:
   a. continue to evaluate social, economic and ecological opportunities provided by wildlife-based land uses (WBLUs) for local communities, governments and the private sector;
   b. investigate the barriers and limitations of current financing mechanisms for WBLUs;
   c. work with investors and financial institutions to identify and pilot novel funding opportunities, including possible mechanisms for these, emphasising approaches that are sustainable and lead to self-sufficiency, and
   d. share information on the above with role players from all relevant sectors;

2. REQUESTS the Secretariat in Eastern and Southern Africa to work with Members and Commissions to develop this One Programme Initiative by helping to secure the necessary technical expertise, and through joint fundraising efforts to secure the necessary resources; and

3. REQUESTS State Members in Eastern and Southern Africa to:
   a. integrate WBLUs, where relevant and feasible, into national planning processes, and especially spatial planning at the landscape level; and
   b. develop partnerships with financial institutions, the private sector, civil society and communities, to unlock social, economic and ecological benefits of WBLUs as viable and optimal land-use options for Eastern and Southern Africa.
WCC-2020-Res-077-EN
Effects of the increase in the use of paper as a substitute for plastic on plantations of timber species

AWARE of the negative impact that plastic waste has on nature, especially because of its poor management, which has led to a large amount of it being dumped, in particular single-use plastics;

RECOGNISING that there has been an increase in the implementation of new laws, voluntary agreements and awareness-raising campaigns focused on reducing the consumption of plastic containers, especially single-use containers;

REALISING that changes in consumer habits may not be sufficient to reduce the consumption of single-use plastics, especially single-use containers, and that this trend points toward the replacement of the materials used to create them;

AWARE that the reduction of plastic containers, in particular single-use containers, is leading to a greater demand for other types of container, such as paper packaging;

FURTHER AWARE that the global boom in the paper industry, with a growing production of paper for packaging, amongst other things, may lead to an increase in forested areas given over to the monoculture of pulpwood species, without adopting or implementing sustainable forestry management practices or certifications;

INDICATING that plantations of pulpwood species mainly contain fast-growing species, listed by the paper industry as softwood lumber (pines, firs, etc.) or hardwood lumber (birch trees, etc.) and that these species are grown in monoculture plantations, with potential negative effects on biodiversity and indigenous ecosystems, particularly when these species are not native to the area;

RECOGNISING that forest stands can be managed for different purposes and that a plantation managed mainly for wood fibre may also be managed to achieve better ecological values; that the risks of unsustainable forest management not only affect monoculture plantations; and that the increase in plantations for wood fibre is not only at the expense of natural ecosystems, since they may be located in areas with other management options, such as agricultural or agro-forestry management; and

ALARMED that the selection of pulpwood species in forest plantations based on commercial criteria rather than on a broader set of criteria linked to sustainable forest management, with some species that are potentially highly invasive, may lead to an increase in monoculture plantations and undermine the ecological benefits of forests;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

CALLS ON the Director General to address national and regional governments in paper-producing areas to ask them to implement the following actions:

a. ensure that the planting of pulpwood trees is carried out within the framework of sustainable regional planning or land-use programmes, following credible management rules and regulations or certifications, also aimed at improving ecological values and compatible with nature conservation plans in the land used;

b. encourage paper manufacturing companies to adopt sustainable forest management criteria and credible forest certifications that include regional ecological considerations and that gradually replace the plantations with non-native species with others containing native species, ecologically related to the country's own ecosystems;

c. also encourage the collaboration between manufacturers, suppliers and retailers in order to guarantee sustainable practices across the entire supply chain;

d. generate environmental education campaigns specifically aimed at consumers, promoting products that reinforce efficient use of resources through regenerative design, which can include the use of reusable products such as recycled bags and paper, and the reduction in the demand for single-use products;

e. continue encouraging the use of recycled paper and/or fibre of sustainable origin to cover the new demand for paper packaging; and

f. allow for progress to be made in research into and the implementation of materials that have a lower impact on the environment than plastic, and into the use of native species that have better ecological benefits and efficiency of materials as part of a more circular bio-economy, in order to safeguard forests now and in the future.
NOTING that since the last IUCN Resolution on mangroves globally, General Assembly Resolution 15.12 Protection of mangrove ecosystems (Christchurch, 1981), more than one-third of the world’s mangroves have disappeared;

RECALLING that mangroves and associated tropical coastal ecosystems harbour vital biodiversity, are highly productive and provide major ecosystem services like coastal protection, carbon storage, water purification, flood prevention, sediment trapping, prevention of salt intrusion, important cultural and heritage values, and nursery habitat for fisheries species, and therefore contribute towards poverty alleviation, food security, nutrition and support for livelihoods of coastal communities, as well as climate change adaptation and mitigation;

RECOGNISING that mangroves support complex ecological communities that are typically tightly linked with adjacent ecosystems such as mudflats, coral reefs, seagrass beds and salt marshes via ecological processes and energy flows and that therefore, thousands of other species are interacting with mangroves in a myriad of ways and with complex interdependencies;

CONCERNED by the continued worldwide loss of mangroves at an alarming rate – over half of them have disappeared in the last century – principally due to impacts of human activities, including coastal and infrastructure development, agriculture, intensive aquaculture, over-harvesting and climate change;

NOTING the need to foster the application of best practices in development and implementation of mangrove restoration projects in terms of location, selected species and techniques; and

WELCOMING the contribution of global mangrove conservation initiatives, including the Global Mangrove Alliance, Save Our Mangroves Now!, International Society of Mangrove Ecosystems and the International Tropical Timber Organization’s Call to Action for Sustainable Mangrove Ecosystems 2017 as well as other efforts contributing to the same overall goals, such as the IUCN Mangrove Specialist Group and pledging mechanisms for mangrove conservation targets, including the Bonn Challenge for restoration and the United Nations Community of Ocean Action (CoA) on Mangroves, supporting implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES Members to take all necessary measures to protect, sustainably manage and, where relevant, restore mangroves and associated ecosystems, applying best practices of nature-based solutions and ecological restoration, and to promote further knowledge and adaptive management;

2. URGES Members to involve local communities and traditional owners, applying participatory and co-management approaches for conservation, such as land acquisition where appropriate, restoration and sustainable management of mangroves, while recognising environmental and social safeguards, ensuring approaches are inclusive and following best practices, and recognising that communities dependent on mangroves may be some of the poorest, most marginalised and vulnerable;

3. ENCOURAGES Members to join, support and contribute to ongoing mangrove conservation and restoration efforts;

4. REQUESTS urban and infrastructure development and agriculture authorities, as well as the private sector, to adequately consider the provision of ecosystem services by mangroves, to systematically consider climate projections for sea-level rise with a view to allowing ecosystems to migrate inland, to adopt ecosystem-based adaptation and ridge-to-reef approaches that consider upstream impacts on mangroves, and to ensure sustainable use of wetlands; and

5. CALLS ON relevant authorities to assess and integrate services provided by mangroves into law-making and regulatory authorisation procedures for projects that impact mangroves directly or indirectly, and to adopt adequate compliance and enforcement processes.
ALARMED that as of February 2020, 73 species were considered Extinct in the Wild, and that 6,413 were classified as Critically Endangered on the 2019 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species;

RECOGNISING that the status of a number of these species is in part due to a failure to intervene with emergency action early enough in their decline, and that preventing extinction is more likely when efforts are initiated before a species is reduced to a small number of individuals;

HIGHLIGHTING the Species Survival Commission's (SSC) adoption of the One Plan Approach and the provision of technical advice summarised in IUCN Species Survival Commission Guidelines on the Use of ex situ Management for Species Conservation, which encourage deliberative science-based processes of action-plan development by all responsible parties for all populations of a species across the spectrum of management, and provide practical guidance on evaluating the suitability and requirements of an ex situ component for achieving species-conservation objectives, respectively;

AWARE OF the many successes in species recovery that have resulted directly from ex situ action, and of the powerful role and as yet not fully realised potential of professional and accredited zoos, aquariums and botanic gardens in species conservation;

UNDERSTANDING that conservation breeding programmes can take significant time to be successful, and that in situ and ex situ populations of threatened species must be considered as global metapopulations in order to mitigate the alarming rate of extinction;

ACKNOWLEDGING the increasing value and potential of animal records as an ex situ and in situ conservation resource to understand key species demographics essential to conservation breeding and management, required to understand extinction risk, and to support conservation-directed research; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the increasing value and potential of biobanking as an ex situ conservation resource to secure genetic material, enable conservation-directed research, improve the viability of small populations, and provide a backstop against extinction in certain cases;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES the Secretariat and professional societies to promote integration of in situ and ex situ conservation interventions by applying the One Plan Approach, to ensure effective use of all available conservation tools;

2. CALLS ON IUCN Commissions and Members to enable and support establishment of a global network of biobanks dedicated to the achievement of global species conservation targets and operating on common standards of good practice and information sharing;

3. ALSO CALLS ON all Members to ensure that 11th hour, last ditch ex situ conservation efforts are prevented by proactive and timely application of planning methods, such as the One Plan Approach, and informed by the Guidelines on the Use of ex situ Management for Species Conservation;

4. RECOMMENDS closer collaboration between SSC and conservation advisory groups of zoos, aquariums, botanical gardens and biobanks through integrated membership, aligned goals and shared planning processes;

5. CALLS ON Commissions, Members and Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to support collection of standards-based animal records for in situ and ex situ populations and to support sharing of information, data analytics and research for the conservation of in situ and ex situ populations; and

6. CALLS ON CITES Parties and governments to support and take measures, as appropriate and consistent with applicable laws, to enable efficient transfer of samples from/to biobanks for effective species conservation purposes.
WCC-2020-Res-080-EN
Recognising, reporting and supporting other effective area-based conservation measures

RECOGNISING that Decision 14/8/Protected Areas and Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures of the 14th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 14, Egypt, 2018) provides the definition of "other effective area-based conservation measures" (OECMs) and requests IUCN to assist Parties in identifying OECMs and in applying scientific and technical advice;

NOTING that the CBD states "the fundamental requirement for the conservation of biological diversity is the in-situ conservation of ecosystems and natural habitats and the maintenance and recovery of viable populations of species in their natural surroundings..." (CBD Preamble);

RECALLING the following IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations relevant to OECMs: Resolution 6.030 Recognising and respecting the territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities (ICCA) overlapped by protected areas, Resolution 6.050 Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation, Recommendation 6.102 Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development (all adopted in Hawai‘i, 2016) Resolution 5.077 Promoting Locally Managed Marine Areas as a socially inclusive approach to meeting area-based conservation and Marine Protected Area targets and Resolution 5.094 Respecting, recognizing and supporting Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (both adopted in Jeju, 2012);

MINDFUL of the ecological importance of many sites, including Key Biodiversity Areas and other important sites for biodiversity, outside of protected areas that nonetheless effectively conserve biodiversity in situ for the long term, and the potential benefits of recognising, reporting and supporting such areas as OECMs in line with CBD Decision 14/8;

ACKNOWLEDGING ongoing efforts to develop sector-specific guidance on OECMs consistent with CBD decision 14/8 and complimentary to the existing IUCN Technical Guidance; and

RECOGNISING the importance of tracking of protected areas and OECMs and their dynamics over time in order to ensure that conservation goals are being met;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General, Secretariat, Commissions and Members to:
   a. support the recognition and reporting of OECMs, working with the full range of governance authorities to operationalise CBD Decision 14/8;
   b. engage with the appropriate governance authorities and other partners to assess potential OECMs using the IUCN Technical Report ‘Recognising and Reporting OECMs’; and
   c. secure and strengthen overall capacity related to OECMs and monitor threats and conservation measures at the site level;

2. INVITES Members, governments and other institutions to use the IUCN Technical Report ‘Recognising and Reporting OECMs’ to recognise, report on and support OECMs in accordance with the framework of existing principles set out by the CBD, IUCN and partners;

3. INVITES Members and governments to encourage transparent reporting on OECMs – including their assessment results of biodiversity outcomes and spatial-temporal dynamics – by the relevant governance authorities to United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), alongside the reporting of protected areas to the World Database on Protected Areas (CBD Decision 14/8 paragraph 9);

4. INVITES the Secretariats of relevant multilateral environment agreements (MEAs) to work with their Parties to consider how OECMs can also provide or strengthen natural solutions to global issues, such as climate change; and

5. ENCOURAGES the private sector, finance institutions and donors to provide appropriate financial support for OECMs to sustain long-term effective conservation.
WCC-2020-Res-081-EN
Strengthening national spatial planning to ensure the global persistence of biodiversity

CONCERNED that biodiversity is declining across the world despite a decade in which governments have signed up to specific targets for biodiversity conservation;

NOTING that governments, businesses and civil society generally want to see development happen with minimal negative impacts on biodiversity;

RECOGNISING the efforts of the systematic conservation planning (SCP) community to advance the science and practice of spatial conservation planning;

VALUING the development of spatially explicit maps of important sites for biodiversity and their ability to not only guide conservation investment but also guide development of infrastructure, agriculture and industry such that it avoids and minimises impacts on biodiversity;

RECOGNISING that spatial planning tools such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Mapping Biodiversity Priorities guidance, are available for governments and local authorities to follow a step-by-step process for how to develop spatial plans and include key components such as ensuring representation of all species and ecosystem types;

RECALLING Resolution 5.036 Biodiversity, protected areas, and Key Biodiversity Areas (Jeju, 2012) which welcomed the efforts of the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and Species Survival Commission (SSC) Joint Task Force on Biodiversity and Protected Areas in consolidating standards for the identification of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) as sites contributing significantly to the global persistence of biodiversity;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 6.041 Identifying Key Biodiversity Areas for safeguarding biodiversity (Hawaii, 2016), which encouraged the conservation community, governments and business to identify and safeguard KBAs;

NOTING Resolution 6.087 Awareness of connectivity conservation definition and guidelines (Hawaii 2016) which encouraged the raising of awareness around the guidelines for ecological corridors and their implementation to develop, designate, plan and manage ecological networks of connectivity;

FURTHER NOTING Resolution 5.037 The importance of nature conservation criteria in land-use planning policies (Jeju, 2012), which recognised the value of land-use planning and encouraged its application at national level; and

WELCOMING the efforts countries have made in developing their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), which have guided national efforts in conservation over the past decade;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS UPON governments at all levels to:

   a. develop or update spatial conservation plans to incorporate sites and areas of importance for the global persistence of biodiversity across multiple taxa and ecosystems (KBAs), along with the connectivity required to ensure biodiversity persistence, and use these to inform plans to expand networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures;

   b. incorporate these plans into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), and integrate them through cross-sectoral planning across government and non-governmental institutions, using them prior to, and at all stages of, national land- and sea-use planning, to avoid or otherwise minimise negative impacts on biodiversity;

2. REQUESTS the Director General and Commissions and their Specialist Groups to:

   a. support the development or updating of spatial conservation plans at national level, specifically by:

      i. identifying and mapping sites of significance for the global persistence of species and ecosystems (KBAs), for multiple taxonomic groups and ecosystems;

      ii. incorporating these and existing KBAs, plus other important sites identified with tools such as Spatial Biodiversity Planning, or sites important for regionally/nationally red listed species;

      iii. identifying corridors linking these sites, to provide the required connectivity where appropriate;

      iv. incorporating climate change models to predict the future of KBAs and identify where corridors are needed to allow for migration and adaptation; and

      v. identifying socio-political and cultural factors of importance in proposed protected areas and other sites of conservation value to ensure successful implementation, while protecting and strengthening the rights of indigenous and local communities in the landscape;

   b. raise funding to train national-level individuals and organisations in spatial planning, with the deliberate inclusion of indigenous, local, and youth leaders;

   c. continue to support implementation of Resolution 6.041 (cited in the preamble) to identify KBAs for safeguarding biodiversity; and

   d. coordinate spatial conservation plans across national boundaries, working with relevant IUCN Commissions and governments to apply best practice, and supporting transboundary collaboration to ensure regional conservation is incorporated in national plans; and

3. ENCOURAGES Members and the donor community to:

   a. support existing KBA National Coordination Groups, and encourage the establishment of new KBA National Coordination Groups, to update national KBA inventories through applying the global KBA standard to multiple taxonomic groups and ecosystems;

   b. apply guidelines for connectivity, such as the IUCN “Guidance for Safeguarding ecological corridors in the context of ecological networks for conservation”, to identify vital corridors;

   c. work with local, regional, and national governments to support the integration of these plans into multi-sectoral spatial land-use plans; and

   d. monitor species and ecosystems for which sites are identified and corridors established, and adapt plans where necessary based on measures of success.
WCC-2020-Res-082-EN
Reducing marine turtle bycatch: the important role of regulatory mechanisms in the global roll-out of Turtle Excluder Devices

CONCERNED that six of the seven marine turtle species are categorised as Vulnerable, Endangered, or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (the remaining species is data deficient), and that fisheries bycatch is recognised as a major threat to all seven species;

ACKNOWLEDGING that a proven tool exists for reducing marine turtle bycatch in shrimp trawls, namely the Turtle Excluder Device (TED), which reduces mortality of turtles and other marine megafauna by 97% (Eyars, 2007), whilst increasing productivity of trawling operations by reducing damage to nets, reducing the crushing of the catch, and reducing fuel costs (Gillett, 2008);

RECOGNISING that the United States of America passed legislation in 1989 prohibiting the importation of shrimp harvested in a manner that may adversely affect sea turtles but offering an exception to the ban for the use of TEDs;

CONSIDERING that the Interamerican Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles includes a provision for each member Country to take measures to reduce marine turtle bycatch, including the use of TEDs and corresponding training,

RECALLING previous IUCN Congress and General Assembly Resolutions and Recommendations, such as: Recommendation 5.140 Reversing the crisis of the decline in turtle survival (Jeju, 2012); Recommendation 17.4.17 Sea Turtles (San José, 1988), which recognised the importance of supporting the United States' promulgation of TED regulations; Recommendation 19.6.1 By-Catch of Non-Target Species (Buenos Aires, 1994), requiring bycatch monitoring and mitigation; and Resolution 1.16 Fisheries Bycatch (Montreal, 1996) which expressed alarm at the slow progress in effectively tackling fisheries bycatch;

NOTING that of the countries that export wild-caught tropical shrimp to the European Union (EU), at least six countries have been identified as not using TEDs in their trawls, which is leading to the bycatch of tens of thousands of turtles a year (CRPMEM, 2017); and

WELCOMING the European institutions' approval in 2019 of an amendment in the Fisheries Technical Measures that requires the mandatory use of TEDs for tropical shrimp trawlers fishing in European waters in the Western Atlantic and the Indian Ocean (European Parliament Committee on Fisheries Provisional Agreement P6E36.18R);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to raise awareness of the importance of adoption and implementation of TEDs in tropical shrimp fisheries in all relevant national, regional and international fora, and with national governments, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and regional fisheries management bodies;

2. ENCOURAGES the European Commission and EU Member States that import tropical trawl-caught shrimp, to work with exporting countries to support the implementation of effective turtle bycatch mitigation measures, such as the use of TEDs, including the provision of technical capacity and/or financial support;

3. CALLS ON the EU to adopt import regulations requiring the introduction and adoption of TEDs by all countries exporting wild-caught tropical shrimp to the European market;

4. URGES the EU to ban imports of tropical trawl-caught shrimp from countries that are not adhering to their own national regulations currently requiring the mandatory use of TEDs on shrimp-trawl vessels, thus engaging in dialogue with third parties to ensure alignment with the EU Regulation 1005/2008 to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU Regulation); and

5. CALLS ON corporations which purchase tropical trawl-caught shrimp to consider voluntary measures to ensure they are not contributing to marine turtle bycatch, for example by purchasing only those shrimp products that are certified for export to the USA, until other exporting countries have fully rolled out TEDs on all their tropical shrimp trawls.
WCC-2020-Res-083-EN
Ensuring the compatibility of human activities with conservation objectives in protected areas

REAFFIRMING that protected areas have a common, priority objective of ensuring the long-term conservation of nature and ecosystem services and the associated cultural values;

CONCERNED about the worsening of direct and indirect human pressure, in particular urban development, the exploitation of natural resources, which is affecting almost one third of all the world's protected areas, to such an extent that these pressures are compromising conservation objectives;

RECALLING the preceding Resolutions and Recommendations voted at the IUCN General Assemblies on activities that are incompatible with protected areas, in particular Recommendation 102 Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development (Hawaii, 2016);

NOTING that there are no international guidelines that allow the compatibility of certain human activities to be assessed in line with the IUCN protected area management categories, in accordance with their nature and their intensity; and

FURTHER NOTING that very limited information is given about the IUCN management and governance categories in the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA), despite the commitment made by the States Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity within the framework of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (2004);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:
1. ASKS the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) to define a guide a methodological approach to assess the level of compatibility of human activities in accordance with the management categories for terrestrial and marine protected areas;

2. ASKS the states to:
   a. provide information to the WDPA systematically on the management categories and the types of governance of all their protected areas;
   b. guarantee the respect for the protected area management objectives by clearly establishing a compatibility obligation for human activities, with the biodiversity conservation objectives assigned to protected areas;
   c. reinforce the integration of protected areas into their terrestrial and marine landscapes, and to take into account the pressures that are also placed on locations outside protected areas;
   d. ensure the quality of the assessment processes for the impacts created by human activities, in accordance with the highest environmental standards; and
   e. establish systematic monitoring of human activities in the management plans; and

3. ENCOURAGES the organisations responsible for protected areas to include systematically information on their environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic benefits and to develop assessment mechanisms for local stakeholders.
WCC-2020-Res-084-EN
Global response to protected area downgrading, downsizing and degazettement (PADD)

RECOGNISING the importance of well-managed protected areas (PAs) to reduce biodiversity loss and geoheritage loss, to safeguard intact ecosystems, to conserve geodiversity, geological processes and geological heritage, and to benefit livelihoods, and mitigate and adapt to climate change;

AWARE of the need to understand and preserve the rich geodiversity and geological heritage of the planet and to take it into account in protected areas, as endorsed by Resolutions 4.040 Conservation of geodiversity and geological heritage (Barcelona, 2008) and 5.048 Valuing and conserving geodiversity within the IUCN Programme 2013–2016 (Jeju, 2012);

RECALLING the Promise of Sydney, which “promised to invigorate our efforts to ensure that protected areas do not regress but rather progress”;

ACKNOWLEDGING the emerging global trend of protected area downgrading, downsizing and degazettement (PADD) – legal processes through which PA restrictions are tempered, boundaries reduced or protection status eliminated;

NOTING that at least 73 countries have enacted 3,749 PADD events in terrestrial and marine PAs, including in World Heritage sites, affecting an area of nearly 2 million square kilometres, that most events are related to industrial-scale natural resource extraction and development, and that PADD events have the potential to accelerate environmental degradation;

AWARE of the existence of tourism and other development projects, which, while eventually leading to a decrease in the extent of natural and/or semi-natural habitats, are not necessarily publicised as PADD events;

RECALLING that Recommendation 6.102 Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development (Hawaii, 2016) “calls on governments not to de-gazette, downgrade or alter the boundaries of all categories of protected areas to facilitate environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development”;

FURTHER RECALLING that Recommendation 6.102 also “urges companies, public sector bodies, financial institutions (including development banks), relevant certification bodies and relevant industry groups not to conduct, invest in or fund environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development within, or that negatively impact protected areas or any areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services that are identified by governments as essential to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and to make public commitments to this effect”;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING the need to consider PADD on a case-by-case basis, as some legal changes may not undermine conservation objectives, such as efforts to restore land rights of Indigenous and local communities, or to improve the overall efficiency of PA network;

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

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

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) to provide technical support to defend the integrity of PAs as a means to reduce PADD events; and

2. CALLS on all Members, including governments, to:

a. strengthen and expand PAs to safeguard areas of importance for disaster risk reduction, biodiversity, and geodiversity, natural heritage (biological and geological), Indigenous peoples and local communities, climate mitigation and adaptation, and other ecosystem services according to the goals defined in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

b. comprehensively integrate PAs into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), sectoral work plans, and post-2020 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) targets at the national level;

c. acknowledge the risks that unrestrained and poorly-governed PADD poses to biodiversity and geodiversity (natural diversity) conservation objectives;

d. support the adoption of PADD indicators as performance metrics for PAs under the CBD and encourage CBD Parties to report information on PADD to a central, publicly accessible database (e.g. United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC));

e. refrain from enacting, conducting, investing in or funding:

i. PADD that will lead to industrial activities and infrastructure development; or

ii. industrial activities and infrastructure development that will lead to PADD;

f. consider proposed changes to PA rules and boundaries through transparent, participatory and evidence- and rights-based processes that are equivalent to those governing PA establishment, to ensure compatibility with conservation objectives (e.g., conservation planning or resolving land claims or restoring rights for Indigenous communities); and

g. mobilise adequate and predictable financial and technical resources to enhance PA permanence and monitoring to manage PAs more comprehensively and in compliance with their primary objectives.
CONCERNED that human activities are increasingly altering key processes important to the productivity and diversity of Earth’s ecosystems;

RECALLING the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the need to “achieve a land degradation-neutral world” (SDG Target 15.3) and “healthy and productive oceans” (SDG Target 14.2);

FURTHER RECALLING the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and recognising the critical role that healthy ecosystems play in defending against climate change and sustaining other ecosystem services;

NOTING the emergence of rewilding as a new, cost-effective approach to enhancing biodiversity, connectivity, ecological resilience and ecosystem service delivery;

AWARE that there are different uses and interpretations of the word ‘rewilding’, including by the public and donors;

ADDITIONALLY AWARE that indiscriminate reforestation, and other inappropriately planned restoration efforts, have often caused the loss of natural, biological, geological, and cultural heritage;

FURTHER NOTING that rewilding and restoring are related concepts that both have a place in ecosystem stewardship;

ACKNOWLEDGING that rewilding places emphasis on ecosystem functionality over species composition, promotes unpredictability in ecosystem dynamic trajectory and uses a variety of management actions that can include taxonomic substitutions;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING that rewilding can be complementary to, and not a replacement for, other activities and efforts towards the conservation of biodiversity;

WELCOMING efforts by governments, conservation agencies and other partners to rewild in certain parts of the world and to develop evidence-based guidance;

AWARE that large rewilding initiatives have emerged, and are emerging, in certain areas across the world, and have gained great practical experience and generated lessons learned that should be used and considered in implementing this motion;

MINDFUL OF the challenges associated with developing a generally accepted definition, approach and set of indicators for rewilding initiatives to measure and report on success;

AWARE OF the achievements of the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) Rewilding Task Force, as well as IUCN guidelines and policies produced by the Species Survival Commission’s (SSC) thematic Specialist Groups covering issues of related relevance, including the Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations and Guidelines for the Prevention of Biodiversity Loss Caused by Alien Invasive Species, and

FURTHER STRESSING the need to consider ecological, economic and societal issues in the development of rewilding initiatives and to engage all relevant stakeholders from the onset;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General, in consultation with CEM and SSC, to establish with urgency an inter-disciplinary and cross-Commission working group involving diverse representatives from the Secretariat, Commissions (including relevant thematic Specialist Groups), Members, the CEM Rewilding Task Force (and any successor body), rewilding practitioners and other relevant experts to:

   a. agree, based on the work of the CEM Rewilding Task Force, a clear definition and understanding of rewilding, including adopting rewilding principles, and to work with the CEM Rewilding Task Force, SSC Specialist Groups on Conservation Translocation, Invasive Species, Wildlife Health, and Conservation Genetics, as well as the IUCN Sustainable Use and Livelihoods Specialist Group (SULI), to develop parameters and guidelines for applying rewilding approaches that reflect the need for careful assessment of the relative risks and rewards to ecosystems and local communities affected by land-use changes; and

   b. submit to Council an evidence-based IUCN Policy on rewilding, appropriately cross-linked to existing IUCN policy on ecosystem restoration, to guide the Director General, Commissions, Members and other agencies on best practice;

2. ENCOURAGES the Director General, Commissions and Members to use this Policy to promote rigorously planned and participatory rewilding approaches as a way to reestablish or enhance ecosystem function(s) and viable species populations;

3. CALLS ON governments and civil society, with Members taking the lead, to incorporate rewilding into strategies and measures that encourage innovation and learning from on-the-ground activities, and to ensure that rewilding initiatives do not impact negatively any component of the environment, avoiding - amongst other impacts - the deterioration and destruction of geological and cultural heritage caused by inappropriate reforestation efforts;

4. STRESSES the need for adherence to IUCN’s Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations in rewilding initiatives; and

5. CALLS ON governments, donor countries and financial institutions, private funders and businesses to recognise and support rewilding as a cross-societal approach and nature-based solution to achieving sustainable development.
WCC-2020-Res-125-EN

Setting area-based conservation targets based on evidence of what nature and people need to thrive

DEEPLY CONCERNED that nature and its life-sustaining contributions to people are deteriorating faster than at any time in human history, and that habitat loss and overexploitation are the primary direct drivers of this decline;

MINDFUL that biodiversity loss and climate change are the greatest environmental threats of our time, are mutually reinforcing, and should be tackled in a coordinated way (e.g. the 2019 Global Assessment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services – IPBES);

AWARE that well-designed and managed networks of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) are effective tools to protect and restore habitat and species, as well as geological heritage;

RECALLING Resolution 5.097 Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Jeju, 2012), which calls for ensuring that the principles of UNDRIP are observed in the work of the Union;

RECOGNISING the important role of indigenous peoples and local communities in conserving nature, and the need for conservation measures to respect and honour their rights and interests, and incentivise their contribution to nature conservation;

WELCOMING efforts of states and others to establish and recognise protected areas and OECMs towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, and to ensure that these are effectively and equitably managed;

MINDFUL of the urgent need to significantly scale-up the proportion of land, inland waters and ocean effectively protected, conserved and restored to reverse the decline of nature and tackle climate change, and of the significant benefits this would provide for people; including helping to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

RECOGNISING evidence that at least 30% and up to 70% or more of the world should be protected, conserved and restored in an interconnected way to safeguard biodiversity, stabilise the climate and provide a foundation for a sustainable relationship with the Earth;

RECALLING Resolution 6.050 Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation (Hawaii, 2016) encouraging IUCN State Members to designate at least 30% of each marine habitat in a network of highly protected marine protected areas (MPAs) and OECMs by 2030;

WELCOMING IUCN guidance and standards, including for Key Biodiversity Areas, OECMs, management effectiveness, categories and governance models, and the Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas; and

RECOGNISING that Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) have endorsed guiding principles directing that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework be 'transformative' and 'knowledge-based';

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON all components of IUCN to recognise the evolving science, the majority of which supports that protecting, conserving and restoring at least half or more of the planet is likely necessary to reverse biodiversity loss, address climate change and as a foundation for sustainably managing the whole planet, and CALLS on the Director General to widely communicate this science in all relevant international fora;

2. CALLS ON all components of IUCN to support, at a minimum, a target of effectively and equitably protecting and conserving at least 30% of terrestrial areas and of inland waters (Note: ‘Inland waters’ – as defined by the Convention on Biological Diversity and Ramsar Convention) and of coastal and marine areas, respectively, with a focus on sites of particular importance for biodiversity, in well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) by 2030 in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

3. CALLS ON all components of IUCN to prioritise support for the full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples and the implementation of all protection, conservation and restoration activities with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples, and with appropriate recognition of the rights of Indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources, as set out under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and full respect for their diverse knowledge systems;

4. CALLS ON all components of IUCN to support the full and effective participation of local communities in the protection, conservation and restoration activities, with the recognition of customary and local governance practices as appropriate, along with their diverse knowledge system;

5. ENCOURAGES State and Government Agency Members and other competent authorities to implement area-based targets in ways that are appropriate to regional conditions through participatory, knowledge-based spatial planning processes that include identifying and conserving in effectively and equitably managed protected areas and OECMs:
   a. Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) and equivalent national priorities, Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs), and other areas of importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services;
   b. areas important for ecological connectivity, including for migratory species;
   c. areas representative of all ecosystem types;
   d. remaining intact natural ecosystems, including globally significant areas of exceptional ecological integrity;
   e. culturally important areas and species identified by indigenous peoples and local communities; and
   f. key areas of geological heritage; and

6. REQUESTS all Members to support the achievement of the actions described above.
WCC-2020-Rec-086-EN

Strengthening mutual benefits of mobile pastoralism and wildlife in shared landscapes

Observing that many extensive landscapes throughout the world are shared by livestock and wildlife, and managed by livestock herders and wildlife managers;

Further observing that the world livestock herd is continuously increasing whereas biodiversity as a whole, and wildlife in particular, are on the decrease;

Noting the critical socio-economic and cultural importance of pastoralism for many local communities;

Furthermore noting the vital importance of such landscapes for the conservation of biodiversity, especially many species of large herbivores and their predators;

Recognising the potential for ecological compatibility between certain livestock husbandry practices and wildlife;

Further recognising that local communities, livestock and wildlife share common health risks and health status;

Concerning that the interface between livestock and wildlife, and between livestock herders and wildlife managers, is often a source of challenges such as competition for space, water and pasture, potentially leading to overgrazing, disease spill-over, uncontrolled fires, wildlife poaching, etc.;

Further recognising that the health of pastoral communities, livestock and wildlife share similar resource requirements and that livestock and wildlife share some common health risks;

Further concerned that extreme weather and climate events, along with changing land use and other drivers of ecosystem degradation, may worsen the common sanitary risks for domestic and wild animals and humans, thus enhancing the need for a coordinated, multisectoral One Health approach;

Furthermore concerned that negative interferences between livestock and wildlife on one side, and livestock herders, agriculturists, and wildlife managers on the other side, may have direct and indirect detrimental consequences for biodiversity, and

Further concerned that these detrimental effects will reduce the ability of wildlife-based activities to contribute sustainably to the economy and human well-being;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. Invites governments in countries where livestock and wildlife share the same landscapes to:
   a. Promote cohabitation between livestock and wildlife, and collaboration between livestock herders and wildlife managers;
   b. Establish strategies supporting both livestock development and wildlife conservation together;
   c. Promote the One Health approach in landscapes shared by humans, livestock and wildlife, for more efficient and coordinated protection of a common sanitary status, and
   d. Consider establishing early warning and monitoring systems on sanitary consequences of extreme weather and climate events and land-use changes;

2. Encourages the livestock sector to:
   a. Consider the maintenance of viable wildlife populations positively in livestock development activities and plans;
   b. Involve wildlife managers in livestock development activities; and
   c. Collaborate with wildlife managers to minimise sanitary risks shared by humans, livestock and wildlife;

3. Encourages wildlife authorities and wildlife stakeholders to:
   a. Consider the sustained presence of livestock positively in wildlife conservation activities;
   b. Involve cattle herders in wildlife conservation activities; and
   c. Collaborate with livestock herders to minimise sanitary risks shared by humans, livestock and wildlife; and

4. Invites international agencies involved in livestock-wildlife interactions to:
   a. Support projects encouraging cohabitation of wildlife in areas with livestock, and collaboration between livestock herders and wildlife managers; and
   b. Promote policies adopting the One Health approach.
WCC-2020-Res-087-EN

Urgent measures to safeguard the globally important Atewa Forest, Ghana

AWARE that the Atewa Forest in the Eastern Region of Ghana is one of the most important places in West Africa for biodiversity conservation, being a rare example of 'upland evergreen' forest, with over 100 species listed in the Threatened or Near Threatened categories of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species;

NOTING that at least two species in Atewa are Critically Endangered, and a further two are likely to become so when assessed, and that one plant species, two butterflies and one frog are endemic to Atewa;

EMPHASISING that Atewa is a critical water source, housing the headwaters of the Birim, Densu and Ayensu Rivers, which provide water to local communities as well as to millions of people downstream, including in Accra;

APPRECIATING the establishment of a Forest Reserve at Atewa in 1926 and its formal protection by the government of Ghana in the decades following independence;

ALARMED that in June 2019, in the absence of an environmental impact assessment, the Ghanaian authorities started clearing access roads to the summit of the Atewa Forest to allow test-drilling for bauxite;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that strip mining for bauxite would irrecoverably damage the Atewa Forest, resulting in species extinctions and highly degraded water sources;

RECOGNISING the strong opposition from communities around Atewa, and from Ghanaian civil society, to mining in Atewa Forest;

AWARE that both Ghanaian and international companies are involved in the development of bauxite mining at Atewa;

ALSO AWARE of the potential contribution that the aluminium industry could make to Ghana, while noting that mining bauxite at Atewa is not critical to this industry;

APPRÉCIATE of the commitment of His Excellency The President of the Republic of Ghana to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD); and

STRESSING that mining bauxite in the Atewa Forest is fundamentally inconsistent with international commitments;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES the Government of Ghana to:
   a. immediately and permanently halt all mining-related operations and other destructive activities in Atewa Forest; and
   b. establish a national park over the entirety of Atewa Forest to ensure its conservation in perpetuity;

2. URGES the donor community to provide the financial assistance needed to build a world-class protected area in the Atewa Forest, as well as for supporting green developments within the landscape;

   In the event that the Government of Ghana does not implement the provisions of the first operative paragraph:

3. STRONGLY REQUESTS all companies in the mining sector not to participate in any mining activities in or near Atewa Forest and all companies using aluminium to ensure that no aluminium from Atewa Forest enters their supply chains;

4. REQUESTS the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative to assist companies to ensure that aluminium from Atewa does not enter their supply chains and urge their member companies not to become involved in mining activities in or near the Atewa Forest;

5. URGES all financial institutions to ensure that they provide no finance in any form for any mining or other destructive activities in or near Atewa Forest; and

6. REQUESTS the Director General, in view of the extreme urgency of the situation in the Atewa Forest, to provide a special report to the next session of the World Conservation Congress on the implementation of this Resolution.

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WCC-2020-Res-088-EN
Conservation of the natural diversity and natural heritage in mining environments

Considering that mining activity often exposes geological heritage of national and international importance, like karst cavities, fossils and minerals or geological structures, such as the giant geodes in the mines in Naica (Mexico) and Pulpi (Spain), or the dinosaur fossil tracks in the Cretaceous limestone quarry in Sucre (Bolivia);

Also considering that mining activity can generate landscapes of high aesthetic value that can be declared Protected Landscapes (e.g. the Rio Tinto mines, Huelva, Spain) or UNESCO World Heritage sites (e.g. the Las Médulas Roman gold mines, León, Spain);

Further considering that in these surface and underground mining environments, the geological and biological processes can be very diverse and/or unusual, and that they can contain unique types of mineral or unique species, and that they are very useful for the study of the origin and evolution of life and natural diversity (both of geodiversity and biodiversity) in extremophilic environments on this and other planets;

Recognising that underground and surface (open-cast mines and quarries) mining environments are natural laboratories for investigating and teaching about the natural processes and their results;

Recognising that, after the end of mining activities, the restoration of the mining environment can lead to the irreparable loss of the geological, biological and/or cultural natural heritage that the exploitation had generated;

Also recognising that examples of best practices for the scientific, educational and tourist use of mining environments already exist; and

Recognising the IUCN Resolutions in favour of geoconservation and the proper management of geodiversity and the geological heritage (Resolution 4.040 Conservation of geodiversity and geological heritage (Barcelona, 2008), Resolution 5.058 Ecosystem management for disaster risk reduction (DDR) (Jeju, 2012) and Resolution 6.083 Conservation of the moveable geological heritage (Hawaii, 2016)) and Resolution 6.053 Protecting coastal and marine environments from mining waste (Hawaii, 2016), which calls on all states to restore their coastlines affected by mining waste, whilst ensuring that this process does not affect the environment or the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:
1. Calls on the Member States to conserve mining environments, both underground and surface (open-cast mines and quarries), whose value derived from the conservation of their natural heritage, both geological and biological, is considered greater than the value of their restoration; and

2. Asks the Member States to launch initiatives to guarantee that the natural heritage of these mining environments is used for biodiversity conservation, and also to promote scientific, educational, cultural and/or tourist purposes, and to this end:
   a. Encourages the Member States to draw up inventories of the natural and cultural heritage resulting from mining activities, both historical and current, and to take the necessary legal action to conserve them;
   b. Urges the Member States to ensure that mining authorisations and their environmental impact studies include a requirement for initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of the natural heritage that arises during the activity and/or after it finishes, in mining restorations;
   c. Asks the Member States to support public and private initiatives for the sustainable scientific, educational and tourist use of mining environments, with the proper safety measures; and
   d. Calls on the Member States to take steps to raise positive awareness and to educate civil society, companies, non-governmental organisations and public authorities regarding the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage generated in mining environments.
ALARMED by documented deaths of great Indian bustard (*Ardeotis nigriceps*), a Critically Endangered species endemic to the Indian subcontinent, due to collisions with the power-line infrastructure laid over the species’ habitat resulting in severe negative impact on its population;

CONCERNED that deaths due to collisions with power lines have adversely affected the already fragmented and depleted populations of these birds in semi-arid regions and grassland habitats, most of which are wrongly categorised as ‘wastelands’ in Indian Government records;

FURTHER CONCERNED that with a global population of less than 150 individuals, the great Indian bustard faces imminent threat of extinction owing to severe habitat loss, predation and uncontrolled grazing of livestock disturbing the species’ breeding activities;

AWARE that bird mortalities through power-line collision and electrocution are documented in every region of the world, with the ‘Review of the conflict between migratory birds and electricity power grids in the African-Eurasian region’ adopted by the 10th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS COP 10, Norway, 2011) and by the 5th Meeting of Parties to the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds Agreement (AEWA MOP5, France, 2012);

FURTHER AWARE that for heavy-bodied birds such as great Indian bustard, the impact of poorly located or poorly designed power-line infrastructure with inadequate mitigation measures may be particularly significant and fatal;

APPLAUDING the scientific studies conducted to identify and address this problem in many countries including India, and regional initiatives to address the issue;

RECOGNISING that guidance on good planning, cost-effective designs for bird-safe infrastructure and methods for mitigation of existing infrastructure, are available in preventing collision of bustards;

AWARE that the government of India has launched the Great Indian Bustard Recovery Programme which includes conservation breeding; and

WELCOMING the establishment of an emergency national expert panel through India’s Supreme Court to provide recommendations for the great Indian bustard’s population recovery;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS UPON the Government of India, renewable energy companies (especially wind and solar) and other power companies operating in India to ensure that all new power infrastructure complies with measures to prevent bustard collision and electrocution;

2. RECOMMENDS bringing renewable energy projects under the umbrella of strict Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), and minimising the collision and electrocution of bustards by relocating, realigning or redesigning the infrastructures of power lines, windmills and solar panels;

3. URGES the Government of India and respective state governments where bustards occur, power companies, financial institutions and other stakeholders to liaise with each other, and with the CMS Secretariat and CMS Energy Task Force, Wildlife Institute of India, The Corbett Foundation, Bombay Natural History Society and other organisations working on this species to ensure that existing and planned infrastructure which is harmful to bustards is identified and is subject to urgent remedial action, with monitoring to measure effectiveness;

4. FURTHER CALLS UPON the Government of India to recognise semi-arid regions and grasslands that are important for bustards as important ecosystems; and

5. FURTHER URGES the Indian Army and Indian Air Force to liaise with the organisations working on the species to develop a plan to manage the species inside defence establishments that are close to bustard habitats in India.
Recognising that the jaguar (Panthera onca), the largest feline in America, is an emblematic species on the American continent, with a deep symbolic meaning, central to the world view, culture and practices of numerous indigenous peoples; that it plays a fundamental role in maintaining tropical ecosystems, since it is at the top of the food chain; and that it is a key element in ecotourism operations, which help improve the economies of local communities;

Observing that its geographic distribution has declined by 55% over the last 70 years because of habitat loss and the degradation of ecosystems; and that 38.4% of the species' geographical range is in protected areas;

Further observing the systematic persecution of the jaguar for centuries, hunted unsustainably for the commercialisation of its skins or exterminated due to the advance of the colonisation frontiers of forests and savannahs;

Concerned about the growing demand for jaguar parts (skins, fangs and bones) at local and international levels;

Aware that the jaguar populations in the countries that constitute its historical distribution range have declined, and that at least two of them have died out, and that, according to the latest estimations, the total number of Jaguars left lies between 64,000 (De la Lomé et al. 2018) and 173,000 individuals (Jędrzejewski et al. 2018);

Bearing in mind that the conservation of this species should be based on local visions, involving all stakeholders, with the active participation of the local community and the indigenous and African American peoples of America, who play a critical role in the conservation of this species;

Recognising the efforts made by different groups, states and organisations to conserve the jaguar in its distribution range, as well as the importance of sharing experiences of the conservation of other felines carried out in other regions;

Further recognising that in March 2018, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) organised a high-level event, which included the governments in the jaguar's distribution range, and that this resulted in: 1) the Jaguar 2030 New York Statement; 2) the creation of a coordination committee for the Jaguar 2030 Initiative; and 3) a 2030 Jaguar Conservation Roadmap for the Americas; and

Highlighting the fact that, at the Thirteenth Session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), held in India in February 2020, a proposal was made to include the jaguar in Appendices I and II of the CMS and this was adopted by consensus;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ASKS the Director General to:
   a. call on the countries in the jaguar’s distribution range from the United States to Argentina, to commit to conserving the jaguar as a focal, emblematic species of America, including to:
      i. recognise this species’ ecological value as an indicator of the good status of the ecosystems;
      ii. prioritise its protection, conservation incentives and dissuasive measures, as it faces increasing in habitat loss;
      iii. work to minimise the conflict between humans and the jaguar, placing particular emphasis on the participation of local communities and the Indigenous and African American peoples, as well as all relevant local stakeholders;
      iv. implement strict measures to control the poaching of this species and its exploitation as a pet and its use in circuses and shows, and to apply all strategic planning measures, including intelligence measures in the entire trade chain, legal reinforcement and the regional and national policies required to combat trafficking networks that trade in the jaguar and its parts;
      v. effectively manage the pressures caused by hunting the jaguar’s natural prey;
      vi. ensure that in the inclusive, participatory planning, with a budget for the execution and the monitoring of the management units in the jaguar’s distribution range, the need for implementing connected corridors for the populations of this species and its natural prey is considered, and that these corridors are integrated into territorial management plans, including differentiated incentives and sanctions;
      vii. strengthen the integration of protected natural areas and buffer zones, with private natural areas and biological corridors into the territorial management of the jaguar, including cross-border territories;
      viii. carry out research into the relations between the conservation of the jaguar as a predator, healthy ecosystems and the prevention of zoonotic diseases;
      ix. collaborate with the Organization of American States (OAS) in the development of a strategy in synergy with the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere, a legal instrument that supports the protection of Jaguars and their habitat in the Americas; 
      x. integrate considerations regarding the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the productive and service sectors (agriculture, livestock farming, tourism and infrastructure), with particular emphasis on projects that have a large impact in regions of greatest importance for the conservation of the jaguar, its habitat and prey;
      xi. call on countries to develop and implement conservation plans for the species at a national level and to allocate technical and financial resources to allow their implementation; and
      xii. promote the development of financial mechanisms to encourage the reversal of the impact on nature across the jaguar’s range and financial sustainability in the long term;

2. ASKS Members to enhance and enrich the cultural practices associated with the jaguar that are compatible with the species’ conservation, so that these practices are considered an intangible cultural heritage in Member States and, subsequently, for humanity;

3. ASKS the IUCN Species Survival Commission to update the jaguar’s conservation status with regard to its threat category, to assess the appropriateness of considering its inclusion in the Category Vulnerable, taking into consideration the incredibly rapid degradation and destruction of its habitat;

4. Urges international organisations such as the OAS, the United Nations programmes, especially the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), consisting of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES), INTERPOL, the United Nations Office against Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Bank and the World Customs Organisation (WCO), to:
   a. address the threats to the species and establish and/or promote joint agendas with actions for its conservation; and
b. incorporate strategies to protect the jaguar in development initiatives; and

5. CALLS ON the IUCN Regional Office for South America (IUCN-Sur) and the IUCN Regional Office for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean (ORMACC), the IUCN Secretariat, the U.S. National Committee along with Members and Commissions, and INVITES the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) to organise an event that brings together the states in the jaguar’s geographic range and jaguar specialists, as well as indigenous communities and peoples, in order to promote the recognition and adoption of the 2030 Jaguar Conservation Roadmap for the Americas.
WCC-2020-Res-091-EN
Global Conservation of rhino rays (Rhinidae, Glaucostegidae, Rhinobatidae)

NOTING that wedgefishes (Rhinidae), giant guitarfishes (Glaucostegidae), and guitarfishes (Rhinobatidae) are collectively known as rhino rays, based on their distinctive, pointy snouts;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that the recent IUCN Red List Assessment of giant guitarfishes and wedgefishes determined that they are now the most threatened marine fishes, with 15 of 16 species assessed as Critically Endangered;

NOTING that rhino rays, like other elasmobranchs, exhibit relatively low reproductive rates which contribute to their high risk of extinction, hinder population rebound potential, and warrant a particularly precautionary management approach;

STRESSING that rhino rays are fished, essentially without limit, in much of the world's warm, coastal waters, particularly the Arabian Sea and adjacent waters, the Indo-Malay Archipelago, along the Indian coast, and off most of Africa and South America;

AWARE that the fins of rhino rays are prized for shark-fin soup, that the meat is also valued and that the gelatinous filling in their snouts is considered a delicacy;

WELCOMING the inclusion in 2017 of white-spotted wedgefish (*Rhynchobatus australis*), giant guitarfish (*Rhynchobatus djiddensis*), and smoothnose wedgefish (*Rhynchobatus laevis*) in Appendix II of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the recent submission of CMS Concerted Actions for the rhino rays; and

ALSO WELCOMING the 2019 listing of white-spotted wedgefish and giant guitarfish in Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) with the other members of the family Rhinidae as lookalike species and the Appendix II listing of blackchin guitarfish (*Glaucostegus cemiculus*) and the sharpnose guitarfish (*G. granulatus*) with other members of the family Glaucostegidae as lookalike species;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Species Survival Commission (SSC) Shark Specialist Group, in consultation with stakeholders, to develop a global conservation strategy for rhino rays;

2. URGES Members to support the implementation of the ‘EDGE of Existence’ Sharks and Rays initiative for rhino rays (EDGE: Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered);

3. URGES all rhino ray range states, unless their fisheries have already been determined to be sustainable, to employ the precautionary approach and introduce strict protections without delay for Critically Endangered and Endangered rhino ray species, including prohibitions on retention, as well as measures to mitigate incidental mortality and to conserve critical habitats;

4. FURTHER URGES all rhino ray range states, fishing and trading states, other entities, and relevant regional fisheries and wildlife bodies to immediately ensure that exploitation is consistent with population recovery and sustainability, and urges CITES Parties to fully implement the Appendix II listing through the development of the Non-Detriment and Legal Acquisition Findings before allowing export of these species;

5. ALSO URGES all rhino ray range states to develop species-specific monitoring of catches and population trends, to facilitate determination of population status and sustainable take, trade and, specifically, traceability in trade;

6. URGES researchers to study (with minimal harm) rhino ray life histories and ecological data to assist in the development of population assessments and conservation actions; and

7. URGES conservation organisations to prioritise projects aimed at rhino ray protection and population recovery.
WCC-2020-Res-092-EN
Adapting traditional medicine to achieve social and environmental sustainability

RECOGNISING that Traditional Medicine (TM) is a recognised medicinal system in many societies;

NOTING that use of wildlife species in TM, when sustainable and contributing to local livelihoods, supports conservation of species in their natural habitats, but when sustainable harvest and use of wildlife species cannot be guaranteed, their use should be avoided in TM products;

ALSO NOTING that TM species have an important cultural and medicinal role in some countries and regions;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the eleventh revision of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-11) includes a supplementary chapter on Traditional Medicine Conditions;

CAUTIONING that the use of wildlife in TM has the capacity to damage biodiversity, in particular those species that are known to be endangered in the IUCN Red List;

NOTING that the trade in many species used in TM is poorly regulated and is putting pressures on wildlife populations in many countries and regions, which may also prevent the sustainable use of TM;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the well-regulated use of wild-harvested products based on scientifically-sound standards is advantageous for human safety, local livelihoods, and biodiversity conservation; and

NOTING that precedent exists for removing wildlife that is threatened by trade from national pharmacopoeia due to concerns regarding over-harvesting and illegal trade;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS Commissions and the Secretariat to help in the development of standards for the sustainable production of TM ingredients;

2. CALLS ON Members to support the prevention of the use in TM of threatened species of wildlife assessed in IUCN Red List categories Endangered or higher, or which are considered Data Deficient;

3. FURTHER CALLS ON Members to assist in the development of sustainable alternatives to the use of wildlife in TM to protect wildlife populations and achieve sustainability;

4. ALSO CALLS ON Members to take strong measures to reduce the demand for the use of known endangered species in TM within their countries, or to implement rigorous requirements for sustainable wild harvest, including through education and communication programmes to train practitioners in sustainable alternatives and the promotion of sustainable use of wildlife species in TM across society; and

5. FURTHER REQUESTS Members to comply strictly with relevant CITES regulations on international trade in traditional medicine products made from specimens of CITES Appendix-listed species and/or in specimens of these species.
WCC-2020-Res-093-EN
A call for increased consideration of genetic diversity in IUCN planning and actions

RECOGNISING the importance of maintaining genetic diversity – that is, variation within species – as one of the three biological diversity components, as described in the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), further specified in CBD Aichi Biodiversity Target 13 for 2020, and highlighted in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

HIGHLIGHTING in particular emphasis in Aichi Biodiversity Target 13 on conserving genetic diversity for wild and domesticated species by including those of cultural and social or economic importance;

NOTING that genetic diversity is a critical resource for nature and society, that many species have documented pharmaceutical, industrial, ecosystem-service or cultural values (e.g. more than 28,000 medicinal plant species), and that abundant scientific evidence demonstrates the significant role of genetic diversity in wild species for ecosystem resilience, species survival, and adaptation, especially under increased threats of climate change and new pests and diseases;

NOTING that measuring and monitoring genetic diversity, using genetic markers and demographic data, enables us to better evaluate species health, including effective population size, population viability, adaptive variation, and inbreeding, and that the exchange of genetic variation across different populations (gene flow) improves the management of biodiversity and natural resources;

RECOGNISING that loss of genetic variation, like loss of species, is permanent;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that genetic diversity assessment can be a useful indicator of changes in species populations, as it may display evolutionary changes at a more sensitive level than species indicators;

NOTING that scientists have assessed genetic diversity for thousands of species over four decades, that genetic diversity is eroding from habitat and population loss, direct harvest, disease and increasing extreme events, and that genetic diversity is inadequately safeguarded both in situ and ex situ, and

ACKNOWLEDGING the role of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) Conservation Genetics Specialist Group, and the SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group, as well as other groups of experts, such as the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network (GEO BON) Genetic Composition Working Group, the Society for Conservation Biology Conservation Genetics Working Group, and European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) Action on Genetic Biodiversity Knowledge for Ecosystem Services, in providing expertise on maintaining genetic diversity and integrating genetic diversity actions into conservation planning;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON IUCN to integrate natural genetic diversity into all relevant activities beyond 2020 with explicit strategic plans, recognising genetic diversity as a crucial pillar of biodiversity, key to resilient ecosystems and society, and to preventing species extinctions, and thus contributing to maintaining all other levels of biodiversity, and underpinning the CBD and biodiversity-relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

2. ENCOURAGES that consideration of genetic diversity should be incorporated, where possible, into protected area planning, ex situ conservation, species conservation, reintroduction and restoration initiatives, natural capital assessments, and biodiversity monitoring using appropriate tools, indicators and databases; and

3. URGES that fair and collaborative research and relevant genetic analysis for non-commercial biodiversity management and safeguarding should be acknowledged and facilitated across nations to ensure that critical scientific and conservation advances can be generated and shared without impediment of inappropriate application of the CBD Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (2010); and

4. FURTHER URGES the prioritisation and promotion of collaborative research into the development of an index that (optimally) describes the genomic health of a population/species, and the subsequent application of this index.
Safeguarding the Endangered narrow-ridged finless porpoise (Neophocaena asiaeorientalis) in the Yellow Sea

RECOGNISING that the narrow-ridged finless porpoise (Neophocaena asiaeorientalis) is endemic to the East Asia region and that the species was included in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species as Endangered (A2bcd+3bcd+4bcd) in 2017, because of historical and anticipated future population declines;

AWARE that N. asiaeorientalis occurs in China, Korea and Japan, with the largest number of N. asiaeorientalis occurring off the western and southern Korean Peninsula;

GIVEN that the number of N. asiaeorientalis off the west coast of the Korean Peninsula is estimated to have declined from 36,000 in 2005 to 13,000 in 2011, a decrease of 64%, and that this decline is likely continuing, although no more-recent abundance estimate is available to confirm this and there is no time-series of estimates for assessing trends throughout the entire Yellow Sea;

TROUBLED that the continued decline in abundance of N. asiaeorientalis can be attributed mainly to bycatch in gillnet, trawl-net and stow-net fisheries in the area;

CONCERNED about other pressures on ecosystems associated with the species, from fishing activities such as fish farming and lost or abandoned (ghost) fishing nets;

NOTING that additional efforts are needed to monitor the status of the species and its populations, especially given the very limited surveys in the Republic of Korea’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ);

DETERMINED to promote action to reduce the toll from fishing on N. asiaeorientalis;

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts of the government of the Republic of Korea to conserve N. asiaeorientalis in-situ, which include the following:

a. designating an area of 210 ha off the coast of Goseong Province as a national Marine Species Protected Area for conserving N. asiaeorientalis under the name of ‘Gyeongnam Goseong-gun Narrow Ridged Finless Porpoise Marine Species Protected Area’ as of 31 December 2013;

b. including N. asiaeorientalis in the national list of marine protected species as of 28 September 2016, which prohibits any commercial activities that cause a threat to the species;

c. designing and experimenting with excluder devices to reduce mortality of the species due to bycatch; and

d. monitoring the population of N. asiaeorientalis off the coast of the Republic of Korea, along with the levels of bycatch; and

COMMITTED to reversing the declines of N. asiaeorientalis and stabilising its populations such that the species is eventually evaluated as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS that countries bordering the Yellow Sea, with support from IUCN State and Government Agency Members and other Members working in the region, complete the following prioritised actions while also advancing research:

a. form a regional working group to address threats to N. asiaeorientalis;

b. hold a direct consultation with stakeholders (especially fishers) and communities that influence the future of N. asiaeorientalis to address conservation concerns for the species, and maintain that consultation;

b. conduct robust, comprehensive research on population dynamics, distribution, habitat conditions and movement patterns of N. asiaeorientalis;

c. improve monitoring of N. asiaeorientalis bycatch across space and time and by fishery and gear type;

d. analyse and develop effective solutions to environmental threats to N. asiaeorientalis;

e. develop and implement bycatch mitigation measures for N. asiaeorientalis, including spatial and temporal management, gear modification and safe release of porpoises from fishing gear;

f. establish support mechanisms for fishers who implement proven bycatch mitigation measures; and

g. analyse impacts of fishing and fishing-related activities on mortality and abundance of N. asiaeorientalis; and

2. INVITES relevant intergovernmental bodies to engage actively – and to support states in the region – in addressing issues of population decline and bycatch of N. asiaeorientalis.
WCC-2020-Res-095-EN
Conservation of seahorses, pipefishes and seadragons (family Syngnathidae)

DELIGHTED that seahorses, pipefishes and seadragons (more than 300 species in the family Syngnathidae) exhibit remarkable life histories, including paternal care through to full male pregnancies;

AWARE that syngnathids occur from tropical to subantarctic regions in freshwater, transitional/estuarine waters and coastal seas;

MINDFUL that syngnathids are iconic flagship species, help structure communities, are ascribed medicinal and cultural value, and can be economically important for fishers and traders;

WORRIED that human activity and climate change are causing widespread degradation and destruction of syngnathids’ freshwater, transitional and coastal habitats (e.g. estuaries, coral reefs, mangroves, seagrass beds);

CONSCIOUS that about 80 countries have exported tens of millions of syngnathids annually for traditional medicines, dried seafood, aquarium display and curiosities;

DISTURBED that syngnathids are extracted by bottom trawls and other non-selective gear at unsustainable levels, particularly during biomass fishing;

DISMAYED about large declines in catch per unit effort for syngnathids in industrial and small-scale fisheries;

NOTING that the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species includes 113 syngnathid species as Threatened, Near Threatened or Data Deficient, with special concerns for seahorses (Hippocampus spp.), freshwater pipefishes and estuarine species;

APPRECIATE that the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) listed seahorses on its Appendix II and approved Decisions at the 18th Meeting of the Conference of Parties (CITES COP18, Geneva, 2019) to strengthen support for this genus;

CONCERNED that many CITES Parties face difficulties in implementation, with vast illegal exports of dried seahorses;

NOTING that bans on capture and export of syngnathids must be accompanied by constraints on non-selective fishing gear;

TROUBLE that aquaculture ventures for syngnathids often add to pressures on their wild populations; and

CONCERNED that syngnathids are released from captive populations or translocated haphazardly, without plans or monitoring;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ENCOURAGES IUCN to:
   a. use iconic syngnathids to promote action on broad ocean issues, including climate change; and
   b. contribute to public databases on syngnathids, particularly iNaturalist and iSeahorse;

2. CALLS ON all Members, especially State and Government Agency Members, to:
   a. take note that the Species Survival Commission (SSC) Seahorse, Pipefish and Seadragon Specialist Group can provide assistance on how to conserve syngnathids;
   b. by 2022, ensure the status of all syngnathids is assessed and included in national/regional Red Lists as warranted;
   c. support the work of the Seahorse, Pipefish and Seadragon Specialist Group in keeping the assessments of all syngnathids up to date;
   d. ensure that initiatives to combat illegal Wildlife Trade (including e-commerce) include syngnathids, as appropriate;
   e. by 2021, for any release, apply SSC guidelines for reintroductions and translocations; and
   f. protect and restore freshwater, transitional and coastal habitats that are important for syngnathid species, using best practices; and

3. URGE all IUCN State and Government Agency Members to:
   a. enforce regulations on fisheries, area-based management, habitat protection, wildlife trade and other measures that affect syngnathids;
   b. meet all CITES obligations for seahorses;
   c. respecting Resolution 6.021 Monitoring and management of unselective, unsustainable and unmonitored (UUU) fisheries (Hawai’i, 2016), measurably reduce impacts of non-selective fisheries on syngnathids;
   d. support implementation of Resolution 6.050 Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation (Hawai’i, 2016), to improve protection for syngnathid populations nationally;
   e. ensure that fisheries programmes and subsidies do not threaten syngnathid populations; and
   f. by 2021, restrict syngnathid culture to operations that have been subject to an appropriate/careful risk analysis prior to proceeding, and where results have concluded that it is reasonable/safe to continue.
WCC-2020-Res-096-EN
Maximising return on conservation investments and sustainable development: eradicating invasive alien species (IAS) to conserve island biodiversity and benefit society

RECOGNISING that islands are key to the livelihoods, economies, well-being and cultural identities of 600 million people; support a disproportionate amount of global biodiversity, including ~20% of plant and animal species, and an even greater proportion of threatened biodiversity including 36% of species classified as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species; and are the site of 75% of bird, mammal, amphibian and reptile extinctions since 1500;

RECOGNISING that invasive alien species (IAS), particularly mammals, have been the major driver of island species extinctions, and remain a serious threat to extant island species and human communities;

NOTING that more than 1,200 non-native mammal eradications have been implemented globally, with an average success rate exceeding 85% in support of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Aichi Biodiversity Targets 9 and 12, and up to 12 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

FURTHER NOTING that a dramatic increase in the scope, scale and pace of eradications of IAS from islands is needed to prevent extinctions and to protect island communities, aligning with the objectives of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021–2030 and the CBD Programme of Work on islands;

ALSO NOTING that biosecurity guidance and measures to protect islands from IAS are available to island communities, and must be more developed and widely adopted;

WELCOMING the recent publication of a global analysis of the most important islands worldwide for eradicating IAS to benefit native biodiversity, accounting for technical and socio-political feasibility of potential eradications (Holmes et al 2019); and

RECALLING relevant Resolutions and Recommendations on IAS;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General and Commissions to:
   a. request Members, governments and relevant Rio Conventions (CBD, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change – UNFCCC, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification – UNCCD) to incorporate policies related to the post-2020 targets and the 2020–2030 International Decade for Ecosystem Restoration, that promote the increased scale, scope and pace of IAS eradications from islands worldwide;
   b. promote and support transfer of knowledge products that inform prioritisation of efforts, including the Threatened Island Biodiversity Database, IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and Global Invasive Species Database, and to track returns on investments to biodiversity, people and communities, and sustainable development; and
   c. support an alliance committed to coordinating engagement of science, policy, funding, communication and on-the-ground action toward IAS eradication, with the application of traditional ecosystem knowledge and the efforts of civil society, governments, funders, NGOs, and various experts, including indigenous people and local communities;

2. APPEALS to governments, non-governmental organisations and private businesses to increase the scale, scope and pace of IAS control and eradications on islands by investing in innovative techniques, methods, technologies and strategies;

3. REQUESTS governments, island nations and nations with islands to prioritise IAS, pathways of introduction, and sites to enable effective biosecurity measures to protect islands from invasion or reinvasion of IAS; and

4. CALLS ON governments and private sector donor communities to give greater priority to supporting island IAS prevention, control and eradication, and protecting the investment through enhanced biosecurity measures.
WCC-2020-Rec-097-EN
National Plan for the Sustainable Management of the Guanaco in Argentina

RECALLING that the guanaco's distribution range includes Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay and Peru and that the species is considered to be in danger of extinction in Bolivia, Paraguay and Peru;

CONSIDERING that over 80% of the guanaco's population occurs in Argentina and that its density is highly variable there;

RECOGNISING that for over a century, a gradual, continuous desertification process has been taking place in Argentine Patagonia, which means that significant areas are now seriously degraded;

CONSIDERING that the livestock sector wrongly blame the guanaco for the degradation of pastures grazed by sheep, and recently promoted extractive management measures on some of the populations in the far south of its range;

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that the guanaco can be a valuable resource, since it has one of the finest animal fibres in the world, which allows for the development of an alternative product that is complementary to sheep farming;

BEARING IN MIND that in 2019 the National Plan for the Sustainable Management of the Guanaco in Argentina was approved, which facilitates the extractive use of wild guanacos to obtain their meat, skins and fibre, and the interprovincial transit of the products obtained through commercial hunting;

CONSIDERING that there are doubts about the feasibility of meeting the proposed goal of achieving the sustainable use of guanaco populations and about certain measures contained in the National Plan, in particular the extraction of guanacos from the wild;

RECOGNISING that the scientific and technical sectors pointed out shortcomings in the approved National Plan, that these opinions were not given serious consideration, and that the distribution of the guanaco in Argentina involves 15 provinces and that only a few of them were consulted; and

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that an extensive consultation of the sectors involved would significantly improve the aforementioned National Plan for the Sustainable Management of the Guanaco in Argentina;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

ASKS the Argentine Government to:

a. suspend the implementation of the recently approved National Plan for the Sustainable Management of the Guanaco in Argentina in order to introduce changes aimed at guaranteeing the viability of the management of guanaco populations across its entire national distribution range, and the effective control of overexploitation and poaching;

b. draw up, by consensus with all the sectors involved and the provinces in the guanaco's distribution range in Argentina, a revised National Plan for the management of the guanaco that takes into account the scientific background to the management of the species and its conservation status across its entire distribution range in that country; and

c. ensure that the revised National Plan includes an effective traceability system for the trade that allows the fibre obtained from the live-shearing of guanacos to be identified and differentiated from the fibre obtained from the shearing of dead animals, the marketing of which is not recommended.
NOTING that otters are unique animals that help increase public attention on the importance of wetland, coastal and freshwater ecosystems;

ALARMED that the majority of the world’s otter populations are declining worldwide due to environmental threats including pollution, deforestation, degradation of wetland habitats, illegal or unsustainable exploitation for pelts and for use as pets, limited legal protections in some places, and climate change;

FURTHER NOTING that eight of the world’s 13 otter species have been categorised on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species as facing a high risk of extinction (Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable), including the giant otter (Pteronura brasiliensis), marine otter (Lontra felina), southern river otter (L. provocax), sea otter (Enhydra lutris), Asian small-clawed otter (Aonyx cinereus), smooth-coated otter (Lutrogale perspicillata) and hairy-nosed otter (Lutra sumatrana), that four other species could become threatened with extinction in the absence of concerted global conservation efforts, and that only the North American river otter (Lontra canadensis) has been categorised as Least Concern;

ALSO NOTING that six otter species (and populations of others) are on Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) where international trade is regulated and monitored for sustainability, and that seven otter species are on CITES Appendix I, where all international commercial trade is banned, with the latter including smooth-coated otter and the Asian small-clawed otter, which were transferred to CITES Appendix I in August 2019;

ACKNOWLEDGING the Species Survival Commission (SSC) Otter Specialist Group’s leadership in otter conservation, including its 2019 Global Otter Conservation Strategy, which highlights the need for governments, the private sector, conservation funders, scientists, and local and indigenous communities to work together to reduce threats to otters and to recover their populations;

CONCERNED that existing global and domestic conservation measures are inadequate to reverse the decline of most otter populations and that habitat loss, and the emerging Asian online trade in live otters for use as pets and attractions, could drive several otter species to extinction without urgent decisive action;

NOTING the intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) 2019 Global Assessment’s dire warning that about one million species could go extinct in the next few decades in the absence of transformative changes in global biodiversity policy; and

INSPIRED by the resiliency of otters which, when provided with protection from illegal and unsustainable exploitation, and given effective conservation management, and suitable habitats, can flourish in a wide range of natural, near-natural and human-altered habitats;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES Members, otter range states and other stakeholders to support the goals and objectives of the IUCN/SSC Global Otter Conservation Strategy and other efforts to address threats to otters by:
   a. maintaining and enhancing otter habitats and eliminating illegal and unsustainable capture or killing of live otters;
   b. developing and applying national wildlife protection legislation and international law to protect otters, including by monitoring, regulating or prohibiting their capture and sale for local and international trade;
   c. eliminating the illegal trade in otters by increasing law-enforcement effectiveness in range and consumer countries, ensuring compliance with obligations and national regulatory frameworks, and reducing market demand for illegally collected otters or their parts and products;
   d. engaging in scientific research and otter population surveys, as well as educational and awareness activities;
   e. increasing societal support for otters and their environment and facilitating peaceful co-existence between otters and people;
   f. ensuring that the management of all captive-bred otters is integrated with conservation interventions for wild populations; and
   g. providing funding for activities outlined in the SSC Otter Specialist Group’s Global Otter Conservation Strategy;

2. URGES SSC and Members to work with otter range states to prepare and submit a proposal to the CITES Conference of the Parties to transfer the hairy-nosed otter (Lutra sumatrana) from CITES Appendix II to CITES Appendix I as soon as possible, along with future proposals to transfer other otter species that meet the criteria to Appendix I, if necessary;

3. URGES governments to prohibit the import, breeding and use of live otters as pets and attractions, and to work with online platforms to stop the demand for live juvenile otters; and

4. FURTHER URGES governments to ensure that any trade (domestic or global) is legal, sustainable, and takes into account local livelihoods and is consistent with conservation principles.
ACKNOWLEDGING that the seven species of great apes, our closest relatives, native to 21 countries in Africa and two countries in Southeast Asia, are all ranked as Endangered or Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, that all are listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and that gorillas and chimpanzees are included in Appendix I of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS); RECOGNISING their intrinsic value and their role as flagship, umbrella and keystone species for biodiversity conservation; CONCERNED by the 70% decline of the great ape populations since 1980 and by the numerous threats, varying in each country in their nature, extent and magnitude, but all caused by habitat loss and fragmentation due to industrial agriculture, mining, logging and major infrastructure projects, human-wildlife conflict, poaching for bushmeat, illegal live animal trade and diseases; RECOGNISING that wild great apes living in their natural habitats can provide significant benefits to national economies of the range states, and to indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs), and that their principal habitat – tropical forest – is one of the most important reservoirs of biodiversity and plays a major role in mitigating global climate change; FURTHER RECOGNISING the role of the Species Survival Commission Primate Specialist Group (SSC PSG) and the existence of the United Nations Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP); CONSIDERING that Aichi Biodiversity Target 12 under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) aims to prevent by 2020 the extinction of known threatened species, and to improve and maintain their conservation status, particularly of those experiencing the greatest declines; RECALLING that the New York Declaration on Forests (2014) and the Amsterdam Declarations on deforestation and palm oil (2015) engaged states and private companies to support, by 2020, a fully sustainable production chain by stopping illegal deforestation and forest loss associated with agricultural production such as that for palm oil and paper; and RECOGNISING that, except for the mountain gorilla (Gorilla beringei ssp. beringei), conservation efforts for great apes have failed to prevent continuing declines, and that, as such, the 2020 commitments have yet to be achieved; The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS FOR the creation, by 2022, of Pan-African and Southeast Asian networks based on local non-governmental organisations, IPLCs and local researchers, similar to the Alliance for the Conservation of Great Apes in Central Africa (A-GSAC);

2. REQUESTS that these networks protect great apes in and outside of protected areas, develop long-term surveys of great ape populations (monitoring their size and viability), and contribute to local development;

3. CALLS ON all countries and the private sector, including lending banks, to avoid initiating/financing/supporting/promoting agricultural, mining, forestry and infrastructure projects that impact great ape habitat and to establish and implement policies against trade of products deriving from deforestation;

4. REQUESTS states with wild or captive great apes, states that are involved in the transit of meat or live apes, and states that are the final destination of meat or live apes, to take immediate measures, including appropriate domestic regulations, to stop all illegal trade and to prohibit the capture of wild great apes;

5. CALLS ON the great ape range states and the international community to ensure that the governance of great ape conservation involves local actors and that they are technically and financially supported in their conservation actions through an increase of public and private funds and through the development of innovative financing systems; and

6. ASKS FOR collaboration between the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWCC), CMS, SSC PSG, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to organise, in 2021, a high-level meeting, back-to-back with the 5th United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-5), to aid all range states to implement, by 2022, an international action plan for great ape conservation, together with the aforementioned network of local actors.
RECALLING Recommendation 5.151 Safeguarding Madagascar’s unique and highly threatened natural heritage (Jeju, 2012);

EMPHASISING that Madagascar’s extraordinary concentration of endemic animal and plant species makes the country a global conservation priority;

THANKFUL for the enormous efforts of the government of Madagascar and non-governmental organisations to conserve the country’s biodiversity despite limited resources;

ALARMED that invasive alien species (IAS) are a major and growing threat to Madagascar’s biodiversity;

NOTING that IAS of concern include the house sparrow (Passer domesticus) and the Asian common toad (Bufo javanensis) which, in 1975 and around 2010 respectively, were both accidentally introduced to Toamasina, Madagascar, and now both number well over seven million individuals;

FEARING that the eradication of both species is likely unachievable due to technical and/or economic constraints, and that control or mitigation methods to reduce environmental and economic impacts will be expensive and will need to be applied in perpetuity;

ACKNOWLEDGING that such costs seriously challenge Madagascar’s limited financial resources;

NOTING that these costs could have been avoided through adequate preventive actions or through rapid action to remove these IAS soon after their arrival in the country;

ENCOURAGED that decisive steps are being taken to control the Asian common toad and to eradicate the invasive house crow (Corvus splendens) from Madagascar;

RECOGNISING the existing Malagasy phytosanitary, veterinary, human health, and international trade legislation and procedures that aim to reduce the import of non-native animals, animal and human diseases, and agricultural pests;

NOTING that Madagascar’s growing connections with international trading partners and limited biosecurity and capacity will increase its vulnerability to IAS; and

RECALLING that Resolution 5.021 Implementing the provisions on invasive alien species of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, (Jeju, 2012) called for development of strong national programmes to counter growing threats to biodiversity and human livelihoods from IAS;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS that:
   a. the IUCN Environmental Law Centre and the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) support the Malagasy Government to strengthen existing legislation to further protect against IAS;
   b. the Species Survival Commission (SSC) and other experts provide critical data and advice to key decision makers on Madagascar’s priority IAS (current and potential), pathways of introduction, and sensitive or susceptible sites, in order to inform policy and procedures; and
   c. SSC and donors help raise funds to build capacity within Madagascar to develop and implement a country-wide programme to counter IAS; and

2. CALLS ON the government of Madagascar to establish a country-wide programme to counter the growing threat from IAS, with the following suggested components:
   a. a lead government agency (lead agency) specifically tasked and legally empowered to tackle invasive species and biosecurity issues;
   b. improvement of existing legislation to regulate the import (accidental and intentional) of IAS into Madagascar, including a framework for the management of IAS that includes, when possible, their control and eradication;
   c. a cross-sectoral national invasive species committee comprised of government, private sector and non-governmental organisation members to support the lead agency;
   d. a country-wide invasive species reporting and learning network that links to regional networks such as the Western Indian Ocean Network on Invasive Species (WIONIS);
   e. a national database of IAS species in Madagascar;
   f. a national invasive species strategy with clear objectives; and
   g. a rapid-response capability within the lead agency to implement measures to remove newly detected IAS without delay.
WCC-2020-Res-101-EN
Addressing human-wildlife conflict: fostering a safe and beneficial coexistence of people and wildlife

NOTING that although humans have coexisted with terrestrial and marine fauna (wildlife) for millennia, growing competition over space and resources means that Human Wildlife Conflict (HWC) is a complex and escalating global challenge;

RECOGNISING that humans and wildlife (terrestrial and marine fauna) are integrated into socio-ecological systems, and that HWC is a complex and escalating global challenge due to changing relationships among people about resources and wild animals that are mediated by local, national, and international economic and cultural trends;

FURTHER NOTING that HWC can be defined as ‘negative interactions between people and wild animals, with consequences for both people and their resources and wildlife and their habitats’;

CONCERNED that HWC is a significant risk to the survival of many threatened species, and the integrity of ecosystems and protected areas, as well as eroding people’s appreciation of the value of wildlife and their support for associated conservation and resource-management measures that can drive wildlife or nature-based economies;

ALSO CONCERNED that HWC involves many wildlife species that are recognised as keystone species and/or ecosystem engineers, whose removal due to HWC irreversibly changes ecosystems, leads to loss of ecological integrity, and cannot be replaced by other species from similar functional groups;

ALARMED that despite IUCN recommendations dating back to 2003 (e.g. World Parks Congress Recommendation V.20 Preventing and Mitigating Human-Wildlife Conflicts [Durban, 2003]) HWC still leads to avoidable negative impacts on people’s livelihoods, personal safety and well-being, with many of those affected among the world’s most marginalised and vulnerable peoples;

CONCERNED that in a corporate context HWC has an impact on yields, profits and worker safety, and in the developing world, HWC impacts food security, local and national economic growth, and opportunities for achieving sustainable development;

FURTHER CONCERNED about the scarcity of mechanisms that provide wildlife-derived benefits to, and secure livelihoods for indigenous peoples and local communities most affected by HWC;

RECOGNISING that escalating HWC will hinder achievement of many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), inter alia SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 12, 14 and 15;

ACKNOWLEDGING that HWC needs to be addressed at relevant scales that often transcend jurisdictional boundaries, and that there is an urgent need to create a global enabling environment that ensures a safer and more beneficial coexistence of people and wildlife, and to empower affected communities, ensuring that they have the knowledge, skills, resources, resolve and capacity to protect their own lives and their property; and

WELCOMING the establishment of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) Task Force on Human-Wildlife Conflict;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General and Members to support explicit recognition of HWC as a conservation and livelihood concern in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework of the Convention on Biodiversity and to ensure broad and active participation of IUCN Members in its Task Force on HWC, including the mapping of HWC hotspots and promoting an integrated approach to HWC management (e.g. by applying the SAFE Systems Approach to achieve dual human development and biodiversity objectives without exacerbating HWC);

2. CALLS ON the global community to:
   a. recognise Human Wildlife Conflict as a rapidly growing cause of wildlife declines and population disruptions in freshwater, marine and terrestrial environments, as well as a threat to sustainable development, food security, public safety, the rights of wildlife to exist in the landscape, and biodiversity conservation; and
   b. develop holistic responses at the necessary scale, co-created and co-implemented by multiple stakeholders, including the local and indigenous communities most affected, and supported by the best-available information and systematically collected and credible evidence;

3. URGES governments to:
   a. incorporate the needs of both wildlife and human populations (including HWC risks) into well-informed spatial and temporal plans that form part of holistic cross-sectoral national and sub-national development plans, and which maintain functional, ecological connectivity, minimise HWC, and optimise opportunities for benefit creation from sustainable wildlife management;
   b. develop specific laws, regulations and incentives, underpinned by good governance, that buffer affected people and businesses from the impacts of HWC, foster wildlife-based benefits and enable those benefits to accrue equitably, with emphasis on incentives to include mitigation of HWCs as part of local or regionally appropriate regulations;
   c. address HWC in the framework of relevant fora, including the post-2020 global biodiversity framework; and
   d. identify and engage with public and private conservation agencies and organisations as a component of HWC programmes, when appropriate;

4. URGES the private sector to:
   a. develop and adopt innovative technologies, strategies, and approaches to foster wildlife-based economies, such as ecotourism in the agricultural and industrial sectors, which can have positive impacts on wildlife if an integrated landscape approach is followed; and
   b. adopt best management practices to minimise HWC, ensure safe working conditions, conserve agro-biodiversity, and maintain and restore natural habitat connectivity and ecological processes across production sites;

5. URGES donor agencies to address HWC in their programmes and to adopt safeguards to avoid exacerbating HWC; and

6. URGES civil society organisations to undertake active roles in reducing HWC and promoting respectful coexistence of people and wildlife.
RECALLING that, in line with international conventions on the conservation and protection of marine mammals, notably the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), states have made commitments to ensure the conservation and protection of these species in their countries;

NOTING the existence of regional agreements such as the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS), the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas (ASCOBANS), and regional sea conventions such as those of Nairobi and Cartagena, which recognize the need for cooperation between all stakeholders on the adoption of measures to conserve cetaceans;

HIGHLIGHTING with concern that, despite the existence of these regional and international commitments and agreements, a large proportion of marine mammal species are globally, regionally and locally threatened by anthropogenic activities, due to the continued existence of major impacts notably due to bycatch in active and abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear, collisions with vessels, anthropogenic underwater noise, habitat loss and overfishing;

SPECIFYING that the migratory nature of numerous marine mammal species and/or their very extensive distribution range covering several states and international waters require protection at different levels, which needs cooperation between states with the appropriate means of surveillance and protection; and

RECALLING IUCN's support for the creation of cetacean sanctuaries in the South Atlantic (Resolution 6.091 South Atlantic Whale Sanctuary (Hawaii), 2016), and for sanctuaries in the Indian Ocean and the Southern Ocean (Recommendation 18.34 Cetacean conservation and the International Whaling Commission Moratorium (Perth, 1990) and Recommendation 19.64 Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary (Buenos Aires, 1994));

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. ASKS states to reinforce the protection of marine mammals by:

a. identifying the marine zones and regions with significant conservation issues for marine mammals (e.g. the breeding, feeding, migration or resting areas with a high level of potentially harmful human activities);

b. reinforcing existing agreements and commitments in these marine zones, regions, and nations, and by establishing new agreements and commitments in the marine zones, regions, and nations that have significant marine mammal conservation issues but have yet to enter into agreements or commitments;

c. providing these agreements with operational action plans, identifying major impacts for the region in question, giving priority to the most effective measures for controlling them, proposing indicators to monitor these measures, and allocating sufficient financial, human and logistical means to deal with the issues identified;

d. creating, within these regions, reinforced protected areas for the most highly threatened marine mammal populations, based on the areas that have already been identified as responding to the marine mammals' conservation and protection needs (e.g. marine protected areas, Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs), etc.) and on existing effective mitigation measures (for example, seasonal closures, the reduction in vessel speed, etc.);

e. identifying relevant scientific bodies and supporting them in their programme of research and knowledge exchange (e.g. financially, logistically and in human resources);

f. identifying managers of these zones and supporting them in their knowledge exchange (e.g. financially, logistically and in human resources);

g. associating regional networks of marine protected area managers in the definition and implementation of strategies for the protection of marine mammals, in order to allow for an effective and consistent management at a biogeographic level, including migratory corridors; and

h. urging states and regional fisheries management organizations to establish mitigation measures in order to achieve a substantial reduction in bycatches, the main cause of the non-natural mortality of cetaceans; and

2. URGES the CMS and the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling to support states and other competent authorities (e.g. regional fisheries management organisations) in the implementation of regional agreements and national commitments, ensuring that in the short term this support allows for a significant reduction in the main threats facing marine mammals.
WCC-2020-Res-102-EN
Improving process and action to identify and recover ‘Extinct in the Wild’ species

RECALLING Aichi Biodiversity Target 12 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), that ‘By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained’;

ALSO RECALLING Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 to ‘conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development’, and SDG 15 to ‘protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss’;

NOTING the United Nations General Assembly declared 2021–2030 as the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration;

RECOGNISING that the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (version 2019.2) has 873 species listed as Extinct, 6,127 species listed as Critically Endangered, and only 73 species listed as Extinct in the Wild despite extensive collections of ex situ populations for highly imperiled species of animal, plants and fungi globally;

ACKNOWLEDGING the vital role of the world’s zoological institutions and botanical gardens in providing valuable care for these ‘Extinct in the Wild’ species;

RECOGNISING that some species previously listed as Extinct in the Wild have been downlisted in the IUCN Red List as the result of effectively integrated and implemented reintroduction programmes as well as additional ex situ roles that are stated in the IUCN Species Survival Commission Guidelines on the Use of Ex situ Management for Species Conservation;

RECOGNISING that Red List status is important in prioritising conservation strategies and actions; and

CONCERNED that some species listed as Critically Endangered and lacking the tag ‘Possibly Extinct in the wild’, should now be tagged as such or reclassified as ‘Extinct in the Wild’, and concerned that the lack of such classification may preclude focused attention on such species before ex situ populations dwindle or become unsuitable for reintroduction into the wild;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Species Survival Commission (SSC) to continue valuable efforts to assess species that might warrant listing as Extinct in the Wild or Critically Endangered (Possibly Extinct in the Wild) according to the guidelines in IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria, and to recognise the role of populations outside historic ranges resulting from assisted colonisation, as defined in the Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations in these assessments;

2. ENCOURAGES Members, in particular government agencies and non-governmental organisations, and Commissions to develop collaborative and ambitious strategies, action plans and targets to initiate the responsible re-establishment of Extinct in the Wild’ species in the wild by 2030, with significant demonstrable progress by 2024, as a significant contribution towards achieving a post-2020 strategy for biodiversity;

3. URGES that conservation translocation efforts of ‘Extinct in the Wild’ species be conducted in strict accordance with the IUCN Guidelines for Reintroductions and Other Conservation Translocations;

4. URGES zoological and botanical gardens, government agencies and other relevant institutions serving as custodians for ‘Extinct in the Wild’ species to lead public awareness of their plight, to help develop collaborative conservation translocation strategies, and to contribute individuals for releases while minimising the generations of species kept in such institutions prior to translocation; and

5. CALLS ON donors to support efforts that aim to assess the status of species according to the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria, and especially to help resource efforts that work to re-establish species in the wild.
WCC-2020-Res-103-EN
Action against Asian songbird trafficking

NOTING the multiple severe threats posed by the global trade in songbird species;

RECALLING that the 2016 update of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species moved many Asian songbird species into increasingly endangered status categories, largely as a result of excessive trapping for trade, and that this group is thus most in need of focused action;

ARE\n
AWARE that 2018 reports show that even more Asian songbird species are under threat;

RECOGNISING that despite European Union (EU) legislation banning the importation of wild-caught songbirds, specifically the Birds Directive and Commission Regulation 139/2013, the high numbers and species of birds being offered for sale in the EU indicate that Europe is still a consumer destination;

CONCERNED that derogations to Regulation 139/2013, such as the exemption for facilities with a zoo licence to import birds, or for private people to import a limited number of birds as pets, could be misused and may provide opportunities for exploitation via onward sale into trade;

FURTHER CONCERNED that Regulation 139/2013 does not recognise the status of country-of-origin export regulations, which provides further potential loopholes for trade that threatens species;

ENCOURAGED by the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking (COM/2016/87) as a means to prevent wildlife trafficking and addressing its root causes, to implement and enforce existing rules to combat organised wildlife crime more effectively, and to strengthen the global partnership of source, consumer and transit countries against wildlife trafficking;

AWARE OF the good groundwork that IUCN General Assembly Resolution 14.25 international trade in animals caught in the wild for the pet trade (Ashkhabad, 1978) and Recommendation 19.49 international trade in Wild Birds (Buenos Aires, 1994) have provided for addressing concerns relating to international trade in animals caught in the wild for the pet trade and international trade in wild birds respectively; and

CONCERNED that many traded Asian songbird species, including threatened species, are not listed in the Appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and are thus not protected by actions relating to Recommendation 19.49;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON State, Government Agency and Non-governmental Organisation Members to strengthen regulation and enforcement of existing legislation relating to trade in Asian songbirds by collaboratively developing and implementing systems to:
   a. gain current information on distribution and status in the wild via increased cooperation with countries of origin;
   b. provide technical and financial support for efforts to collect evidence to monitor trade, including online trade;
   c. provide technical and financial support for enforcement efforts at international borders;
   d. share with enforcement authorities scientific expertise on the identification, current status in the wild, and human care of songbird species;
   e. provide advice on suitable facilities for confiscations;
   f. where practical and possible, establish agreements and means to return confiscated specimens to the natural environment of the country of origin; and
   g. develop partnerships with genuine scientifically-run conservation breeding programmes for species on the brink of extinction, to buy time, so that additional conservation measures can be put in place to aid recovery and prevent extinction events;

2. ENCOURAGES those listed above to monitor the effectiveness of the systems developed and to share good practice examples;

3. CALLS ON State, Government Agency and Non-governmental Organisation Members, as well as non-Member Parties to CITES to facilitate improved control of trade in existing CITES-listed Asian songbird species, as well as to support the development of proposals for listing of new species in CITES Appendices where available evidence indicates that these species meet the relevant CITES listing criteria, and to support research to gather such evidence;

4. URGES EU institutions and Member State national authorities to develop tighter controls on licensing of facilities and derogations to private people permitted to import and hold Asian songbirds; and

5. REQUESTS states and government agencies, donors and funding agencies to make more funding available to improve regulation and enforcement of existing legislation relating to trade in Asian songbirds.
RECALLING the long and successful history of IUCN World Parks Congresses convened by IUCN and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), and held in the United States of America (1962, 1972), Indonesia (1982), Venezuela (1992), South Africa (2003) and Australia (2014);

RECALLING *The Promise of Sydney* concluded at the IUCN World Parks Congress 2014, hosted by Australia in Sydney; and

ACKNOWLEDGING the significant influence that these Congresses have had on the development of policies, programmes and approaches to governance and management of protected and conserved areas and their contribution to nature conservation and human well-being;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and the Chair of WCPA to monitor and report on progress of the implementation of *The Promise of Sydney*;

2. DECIDES to convene the next IUCN World Parks Congress during the inter-sessional period between the 2024 and 2028 World Conservation Congresses;

3. REQUESTS the Director General to call for proposals from suitably qualified countries to host the next IUCN World Parks Congress;

4. REQUESTS the Director General and the Chair of WCPA to establish, at an appropriate time, an International Steering Committee to determine the theme and scope of the Congress; and

5. INVITES the Council, Members, Commissions and partners of IUCN to support the preparation and delivery of the next IUCN World Parks Congress.
Converting and protecting coral reefs through the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

Noting that coral reefs are found in more than 100 countries, cover only 0.2% of the sea floor, but support at least 25% of marine species and underpin the wellbeing, food and economic security of hundreds of millions of people;

Furthermore noting the unique vulnerability of coral reefs to anthropogenic impacts, including global threats from climate change and ocean acidification, as well as local impacts from land-based and maritime pollution, overfishing and destructive fishing practices;

Concerned that global assessments have found that live coral cover has declined by almost 50% since 1870, and that this decline is accelerating;

Furthermore concerned that Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) have not achieved Aichi Target 10, which seeks to maintain the "integrity and functioning" of coral reefs, and that the 6th Global Environment Outlook (GEO-6) report advised governments to prepare for the decline and possible collapse of coral-reef ecosystems;

Welcoming the efforts of CBD Parties and other stakeholders, including the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) in developing a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, within the context of the 2050 vision, that considers coral reefs;

Recalling Recommendation 6.106 Cooperation for the conservation and protection of coral reefs worldwide (Hawaii, 2016) which asks states to "develop and strengthen international, regional and national initiatives on the conservation of coral reefs...", as well as Resolution UNEP/EA.4/RES.13 Sustainable coral reefs management adopted by the 4th session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4, Nairobi, 2019), which calls for "...enhanced streamlining and coordination of the numerous international policy instruments" related to coral-reef conservation; and

Welcoming the commitment of G7 Environment Ministers and IUCN Government Members to "continue strengthening the conservation/protection of coral reefs...", and to promote and contribute to the work on the development of "a new coral reef target as part of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework";

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. Calls on IUCN Members, government agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations to:

   a. explicitly recognise and incorporate the unique contribution of coral reefs in efforts to achieve existing international goals, including the CBD Aichi Targets, the Paris Climate Agreement and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to strengthen regional and global cooperation in this regard;

   b. work towards the prominent inclusion of coral-reef ecosystems in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, noting this may be as a measurable, outcome-based 2030 target, as well as in the monitoring frameworks or any other elements of the framework, and to prioritise coral-reef integrity and functioning, including the provision of ecosystem services;

   c. engage in ICRI's Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network, including through participation in regional networks and the application of indicators and best practice identified through the Network, to strengthen local and global monitoring capacity; and

   d. encourage and support the identification of financing mechanisms for coral-reef ecosystems, to support remedial measures, monitor coral reef status, improve governance mechanisms, and implement resilience-based management for coral reefs with a view to achieving relevant global goals; and

2. Requests the Director General and Secretariat, to promote all elements of paragraph 1 above, and most urgently paragraph 1b, in IUCN's provision of advice to CBD Parties relevant to the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
WCC-2020-Res-106-EN
Protection of Kakadu World Heritage Site and rehabilitation of the Ranger uranium mine and Ranger Project Area

RECALLING Recommendations 18.67 Kakadu National Park, Australia (Perth, 1990), 19.87 Conservation of Kakadu World Heritage Site, Australia (Buenos Aires, 1994), 1.104 Conservation of Kakadu World Heritage Site, Australia (Montreal, 1996) and 6.102 Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development (Hawai'i, 2016);

NOTING the International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) position statement of September 2003, which commits member companies to: “Not explore or mine in World Heritage properties. All possible steps will be taken to ensure that existing and future operations adjacent to World Heritage properties are not incompatible with the outstanding universal value for which these properties are listed and do not put the integrity of these properties at risk”;

NOTING commitments in the ICMM Good Practice Guide on ‘Integrated Mine Closure’ to a high degree of community participation in planning and implementing successful mine closures;

AWARE that recent archaeological work at Madjedbebe, on Mirarr lands, shows people have been living in the Kakadu area for at least 65,000 years and that the Ranger uranium mine exists in an enclave, which is ecologically connected to the Kakadu World Heritage area;

FURTHER AWARE that Ranger uranium mine has ceased mining, that milling of stock-piled ore will cease by January 2021 and that rehabilitation will be undertaken for a period of years thereafter;

RECOGNISING that mine rehabilitation has failed at many Australian sites, e.g. uranium mines at Mary Kathleen and Rum Jungle; and

EMPHASISING that given the Outstanding Universal Values of this location, and that Kakadu is one of the first World Heritage sites listed for both natural and cultural values, it is imperative that the highest level of rehabilitation is undertaken to ensure long-term maintenance of cultural values and ecological integrity of this internationally significant landscape;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Australian and Northern Territory (NT) Governments, Energy Resources Australia (ERA) and Rio Tinto to implement the Statutory Environmental Requirements requiring rehabilitation of the Ranger Project Area (RPA) to a state that could be incorporated into the adjacent Kakadu National Park, and to ensure that all tailings and contaminants are isolated from the environment for at least 10,000 years;

2. CALLS ON the above parties to ensure that the Mine Closure Plan (MCP) adequately addresses:

   a. remediation of the site in line with Supervising Scientist Branch research work;
   
   b. impacts of climate change on rehabilitation;
   
   c. social impacts of mine closure;
   
   d. enhanced modelling of contaminant pathways; and
   
   e. credible worst-case scenario modelling;

3. EMPHASISES the need for the Australian and NT Governments to revise regulatory and rehabilitation frameworks to meet industry best practice and community expectations, especially with regard to the:

   a. requirement that ERA make key documents public, including MCP, rehabilitation monitoring plan and detailed monitoring plan for the rehabilitated RPA, including water quality and topology;
   
   b. commitment to formal public consultation on ‘stand-alone’ applications;
   
   c. post-closure plan for ongoing maintenance and isolation of mine tailings, including assurance systems; and
   
   d. independent assessment of post-closure financial provision, financial management plans and governance structures; and

4. REQUESTS IUCN to undertake periodic monitoring of the rehabilitation processes at the Ranger uranium mine.

Note: The adoption of this decision by IUCN Members shall be without prejudice to IUCN’s role to provide independent technical evaluation of nominated sites for World Heritage Listing.
WCC-2020-Res-107-EN
Reducing the impact of fisheries on marine biodiversity

CONSCIOUS that ocean health depends on thriving biodiversity;

MINDFUL that Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 recognises the importance of ocean conservation and sustainable use;

EMPHASISING that fisheries can exert significant, growing and proximate pressure on biodiversity;

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the high incidence of inadequate fisheries management, over-fishing, destructive fishing, catch of non-target marine life and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, contravening Article 61 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS);

NOTING that negative impacts can extend far beyond those on fish and biodiversity, into social and economic spheres;

MINDFUL that the effects of fisheries on biodiversity are linked to realities such as livelihoods and culture, and exacerbated by corruption, human-rights violations, global markets and perverse incentives;

DEEPLY CONCERNED that Aichi Biodiversity Target 6 has been largely unsuccessful in stemming the adverse impacts of fisheries on biodiversity or in achieving recovery of depleted species;

ACKNOWLEDGING work by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and other organisations such as regional fisheries management bodies (RFMOs), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) – to promote sustainable, responsible fisheries;

CONCERNED about the increasing number of imperiled marine species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, potentially requiring action from CITES and CMS;

ACKNOWLEDGING that applying Resolution 6.021 Monitoring and management of unselective, unsustainable and unmonitored (UUU) fisheries (Hawaii, 2016) is an important part of curbing fisheries impacts;

CONCERNED that ecosystem-based management of fisheries, as recognised by Recommendation 5.169 Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) (Jeju, 2012), is rarely applied;

AWARE that fishing affects thousands of species that are caught in a targeted or incidental manner, many with poor scientific information and without precise regulation and control;

NOTING that applying Resolution 6.050 Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation (Hawaii, 2016) to protect the ocean would significantly limit fisheries impacts;

CONCERNED that reconciling fisheries and conservation requires a comprehensive integrated approach, including consideration of small-scale fisheries, artisanal fisheries, women’s fisheries, indiscriminate fisheries, habitat destructive fishing (e.g. bottom trawling, dynamite), non-fish fisheries (e.g. fisheries for invertebrates, reptiles), extraction for non-food purposes (e.g. aquarium, medicinal), fisheries flawed by perverse incentives, and distant-water fisheries; and

RECOGNISING that marine biodiversity is also influenced by many other factors, both anthropogenic and natural, that are not directly linked to fishing;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and Commission Chairs to:
a. establish, in 2021, a Task Force to reconcile fisheries and conservation that:
   i. involves all IUCN Commissions and all IUCN Regions;
   ii. takes account of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean; and
   iii. draws on relevant reports from peer organisations (e.g. IPCC Special Report on the Oceans and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate);
b. produce, by 2022, a scientific and technical Situational Analysis on the effects of fisheries on biodiversity, involving a Consultative Workshop, and taking an inclusive approach, to cover:
   i. diverse fisheries (e.g. small-scale, artisanal, women’s, indigenous, non-selective, invertebrate, distant-water); and
   ii. diverse issues (e.g. spatial management, efficacy of legal instruments, perverse incentives, economic dependencies, human well-being and rights, climate change impacts); and
c. convene, in 2023, a second Consultative Workshop to consider the findings of the Situational Analysis and to propose policy to IUCN and implementing parties; and

2. ENTREAPS all IUCN State and Government Agency Members and other competent authorities to:
a. establish/strengthen a national ministry/department/agency with an explicit mandate for marine biodiversity conservation;
b. ensure that national Red List assessments and national, regional, or global biodiversity reports include marine fishes and invertebrates;
c. ensure that all fisheries management, including distant-water permitting, is compatible with conservation of threatened marine species (across entire ranges), vulnerable habitats and human well-being;
d. constrain destructive and non-selective fisheries practices, respecting Resolution 6.021;
e. ensure, when implementing Resolution 6.050, that marine protected areas help avoid and mitigate the negative impacts of fisheries on biodiversity; and
f. remove perverse incentives for fisheries, including harmful subsidies.
WCC-2020-Res-127-EN
Strengthening the protection of primary and old-growth forests in Europe and facilitating their restoration where possible

RECALLING that primary, virgin or old-growth forests are a keystone element of conservation worldwide, because of both natural and cultural values for humankind, as previously stated by IUCN, e.g. Resolution 6.045 Protection of primary forests, including intact forest landscapes (Hawaii, 2016);

FURTHER RECALLING that in Europe primary and old-growth forest includes virgin, near-virgin, long-untouched forests and those dominated by natural processes – all relating to the notion of primary forest, they are characterised by old trees, uneven-aged stand structure and a large quantity of deadwood, and they play a crucial role in maintaining thousands of species, often rare or endangered, some of them unlisted in European nature policies;

ALSO RECALLING the guidelines promoted by the Resolution of the European Parliament of 3 February 2009 on wilderness areas in Europe, which fully apply here;

NOTING the lack of mutual understanding of European citizens about what is a primary and old-growth forest in the context of Europe, despite the clarifications provided by the European Commission Guidelines for the Management of Wilderness and Wild Areas in the Natura 2000 Network (2013);

NOTING the gaps in mapping of the last remaining primary and old-growth forests in Europe, despite the recent efforts by Sabatini et al. (2018, 2021) who show that old-growth forest remnants cover less than 1% of Europe’s forest area, and that most are not yet strictly protected;

EMPHASISING that, beyond a priceless existence value, primary and old-growth forests provide essential ecosystem services, contribute to climate change mitigation and support biodiversity;

GRAVELY CONCERNED by the continuous degradation of primary and old-growth forests in Europe due to harmful activities, sometimes despite site protection;

NOTING that protection of remaining patches of primary and old-growth forest is essential for the restoration of primary and old-growth forest-dwelling species; and

EMPHASISING that primary and old-growth forest characteristics develop over long timescales, often requiring more than a century, and that the urgent strict protection of these forests is therefore crucial to fully understanding the natural dynamics of the ecosystem;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General to develop a favourable context for conservation by:
   a. securing an agreement on a practical understanding relevant for all regions of Europe; and
   b. catalysing completion of a comprehensive map of primary and old-growth forests across Europe showing location, natural habitats, maturity level and protective status;

2. ENCOURAGES State Members in Europe to promote a legal framework in favour of the conservation and restoration of primary and old-growth forests, with actions to:
   a. set the strict protection of primary and old-growth forests as a goal for the European Green Deal, and promote its implementation through the Biodiversity Strategy of the European Union (EU), the European Forest Strategy, the Natura 2000 network, the UNESCO World Heritage Convention, national forest strategies and regional initiatives;
   b. support the creation of warning systems, for identifying and preventing new threats as soon as they emerge; and
   c. assess and promote protection in perpetuity, namely through protected areas, as well as through other tools such as tax rules, payment for ecosystem services, land purchase, long leasehold and easement opportunities; and

3. ENCOURAGES State Members and forest managers in Europe to save primary and old-growth forests, even the small ones, by:
   a. prohibiting timber sourcing from primary and old-growth forests, with the exception of ancient forests only as defined by Resolution 6.046 Assessing the global applicability of the concept of ancient forests as understood in European forest policy and management (Hawaii, 2016) and ensuring the protection of these forests preferentially through regulatory means possibly based on the due diligence mechanism; and
   b. catalysing protection and restoration efforts for primary and old-growth forests, including focusing on the expansion and linkage/reconnection of long-untouched forests.
WCC-2020-Res-128-EN
Acting for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in the ocean beyond national jurisdiction

RECOGNISING that the ocean in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) is a common concern of humankind and it should be protected as one ocean;
NOTING that marine areas beyond national jurisdiction comprise nearly two-thirds of the world’s ocean and provide incalculable ecological, economic, social, cultural, scientific and food-security benefits to humanity;
CONCERNED about rising threats to marine biodiversity in ABNJ, including climate change, ocean acidification, deoxygenation, overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, deep-ocean mining, habitat destruction, noise, and chemical and plastic pollution;
NOTING that highly protected marine protected areas (MPAs) and prior environmental impact assessments (EIAs) are critical tools for safeguarding marine biodiversity, but that less than 1% of the ocean in ABNJ is highly protected and that uniform EIA requirements are lacking for ABNJ;
WELCOMING the decision by the United Nations General Assembly (Resolution 72/249, 2017) to convene an intergovernmental conference from 2018 to 2020 to elaborate the text of, and conclude in 2020, an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in ABNJ;
RECALLING relevant IUCN Resolutions and outcome documents, including Resolutions 6.047 Advancing conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction and 6.050 Increasing marine protected area coverage for effective marine biodiversity conservation (both adopted in Hawai‘i, 2016), which called on states to support a robust new Agreement and designate and implement at least 30% of each marine habitat in a network of highly protected marine protected areas (MPAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures by 2030; and
RECOGNISING that international law, as reflected in UNCLOS, provides the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES states to expeditiously conclude the negotiation of a new and ambitious international legally binding instrument, under UNCLOS, on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of ABNJ, to:
   a. complete their work at the earliest possible date in March 2022; and
   b. ensure that the final text provides for:
      i. expeditious identification, establishment and management of an ecologically representative, well-connected, well-managed network of effective MPAs, including a substantial portion of which are highly and fully protected, and other area-based management tools (ABMT) in ABNJ through a transparent, science-based process;
      ii. rigorous, integrated, independent, science-based assessment, management and monitoring of the individual and cumulative effects of human activities, and climate change on marine biological diversity in ABNJ;
      iii. acquisition of scientific data necessary to the achievement of its objectives;
      iv. a decision-making body, a scientific advisory body and effective decision-making and dispute-resolution provisions;
      v. strategic environmental assessments;
      vi. ensuring that, if environmental assessments find that an activity poses significant adverse effects to ABNJ, such activity is managed to prevent such impacts or not permitted to proceed;
      vii. effective monitoring, compliance and enforcement, and best environmental standards, including transparency best practices;
      viii. effective capacity building and transfer of marine technology; and
      ix. fair and equitable sharing of benefits, which may include monetary and non-monetary, from marine genetic resources from ABNJ;

2. CALLS on the Director General, Commissions and Secretariat to provide technical support and to promote and support these actions; and

3. ENCOURAGES IUCN and its Members to promote these objectives and to actively support rapid conclusion, adoption and early ratification and implementation of the instrument once adopted.
WCC-2020-Res-108-EN
Deforestation and agricultural commodity supply chains

EXPRESSING DEEP CONCERN over the ongoing loss and degradation of forests, about 80% of which is due to the conversion of forests to agricultural land, with severe impacts on biodiversity and climate and large socio-economic costs;

STRESSING that forests provide essential ecosystem services, play a crucial role in soil quality and water-cycle regulation, host up to 80% of the world’s terrestrial biodiversity, and are vital to the livelihoods of more than 1.6 billion people, including 60 million indigenous people;

NOTING that illegal logging and illegal timber trade are significant contributors to global deforestation and that the International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL) has estimated that the total illegal trade in timber is worth between USD 51 and 152 billion a year;

AFFIRMING the continuing relevance of Aichi Biodiversity Target 3 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which states that: “By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio-economic conditions”;

RECALLING Article 5 of the Paris Climate Agreement, concerning reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and Aichi Biodiversity Target 5 on sharply reducing the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, by 2020;

WELCOMING the work of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its major role, notably in the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests;

FURTHER RECALLING decision XIII/3 of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (Cancun, 2016), welcoming initiatives from the private sector and financial institutions to eliminate deforestation from the production of agricultural commodities and operations across their supply chains;

ALSO RECALLING commitments to combat deforestation made by some major commodity-consuming countries, including the New York Declaration on Forests and the Amsterdam Declaration on Deforestation, the Bonn Challenge, and the 2019 G7 Environment Declaration on halting deforestation, including through sustainable agricultural commodity supply chains, as well as ‘zero deforestation’ agriculture plans in some producing countries and policies of some major groups of the private sector;

EMPHASISING the urgent need to conserve and enhance, as appropriate, sinks and reservoirs of greenhouse gases, including forests and timber; and

RECOGNISING that combating deforestation and natural ecosystem conversion nested in agricultural commodity supply chains requires international cooperation;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REAFFIRMS its commitment to achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 15, as well as other UN commitments on forest conservation, sustainable management and use, restoration and halting deforestation and biodiversity loss and degradation, and ending trafficking in endangered tree species, and CALLS FOR timely implementation;

2. STRESSES the urgent need to eliminate the loss, degradation and fragmentation of forests and other natural ecosystems, especially that linked with agricultural commodity supply chains, while achieving food security;

3. URGES states to:
   a. assess the impact of their domestic agricultural commodity production and consumption on deforestation and other natural ecosystems and to take measures to halt and reverse those impacts accordingly;
   b. promote due diligence and enhance the transparency and traceability of supply chains using standard tools and techniques such as satellite imagery;
   c. support consumer education and combat illegal logging and associated trade, including by supporting, protecting and rewarding whistleblowers reporting illegal trade;
   d. facilitate investment for sustainable agriculture, including through private-sector financing;
   e. provide financial and technical assistance and to help build capacity of all farmers, including smallholder farmers, to practice economically viable, deforestation-free agriculture;
   f. implement, where appropriate, sustainable and integrated land-use practices; and
   g. combat corruption in the forest sector contributing to deforestation and illicit forest financial flows;

4. INVITES and STRESSES THE NEED FOR the private sector linked to agricultural commodity supply chains, including the finance sector and development finance institutions, to:
   a. fulfill and strengthen existing pledges and commitments, for example by inviting the private sector to follow relevant initiatives to increase supply chain transparency, such as (but not limited to) the guidance of the Accountability Framework Initiative and other relevant initiatives;
   b. implement:
      i. initiatives to eliminate deforestation and natural ecosystem conversion from supply chains;
      ii. deforestation-free procurement practices, taking into account, as appropriate, resources such as the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains; and
      iii. safeguards against environmental and social risks associated with production or finance and investment of production of agricultural and forestry commodities and products; and
   c. improve transparency and reporting practices, including to consumers, on the impacts of agricultural commodity supply chains on forests and other natural ecosystems;

5. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions to work with FAO, the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to contribute to combating illegal timber trade and promoting legal and transparent supply chains; and

6. URGES the Director General and the Commissions, especially the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), to assess and make recommendations on the adverse impacts of agricultural, mining (extractive minerals) and fossil-fuel subsidies on deforestation, ecosystem conversion and degradation and biodiversity loss, and the lives of indigenous peoples, as well as their incentivisation of corruption.

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WCC-2020-Rec-109-EN
Increasing funding for biodiversity in developing countries

NOTING that the joint annual funding requirements for nature conservation are estimated at between 300 and 400 billion USD, much higher than the amounts currently available, which are estimated at around 52 billion USD per year;

RECALLING that the Aichi Target 20, which provided for a considerable increase in the mobilisation of the financial resources necessary for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, will only be met partially according to the assessment in the Global Biodiversity Outlook 5;

FURTHER RECALLING the decision adopted at the 11th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Hyderabad, to double the international financial support for biological diversity in developing countries by 2015, in particular for the least advanced countries and Small Island Developing States, as well countries with economies in transition, and to at least maintain it at this level until 2020;

CONSIDERING MOREOVER the lack of funding available for biodiversity in developing countries, where the needs are great;

CONSIDERING that biodiversity conservation in developing countries is conditioned by the availability of accessible, sufficient and sustainable funding, both for states and for civil society players;

NOTING that a high percentage of protected areas and other conservation mechanisms in developing countries currently have insufficient financial resources to allow them to ensure efficient management, that the Protected Planet Report 2014 indicates that 27% of the sites have major deficiencies and that 13% of the sites were judged to be deficient during the assessment of the efficiency of their management, and sustainable finance remains the main subject of concern for 31.7% of the sites (i.e. 118 sites) according to the IUCN World Heritage Outlook 2 report (2017);

NOTING that the funding strategies of different donors would benefit from being better coordinated and implemented in synergy; and

RECALLING Recommendation 4.109 Funding programmes for small-scale civil society projects for global biodiversity conservation (Barcelona, 2008), supporting the implementation of funding programmes for biodiversity conservation;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. RECOMMENDS bilateral and multilateral donors of public funding to:
   a. increase the share of grants devoted exclusively to biodiversity in developing countries;
   b. integrate these issues more fully into their funding strategies;
   c. make greater use of innovative and complementary funding mechanisms in developing countries, such as charges based on fast-moving consumer goods or trust funds;
   d. adapt, if relevant, the duration of the funding allocated to the time required for obtaining results for biodiversity conservation and restoration;
   e. reinforce the joint governance of the allocated funding in order to improve its use, and do more to report back on its effectiveness and the results obtained; and
   f. increase the coordination of their funding so as to prioritise synergies of action, on a territorial scale in particular;

2. ASKS the signatory states to the CBD to:
   a. report in a transparent, regular and detailed manner on their funding that is mobilised respecting the biodiversity commitments made both nationally and globally; and
   b. establish appropriate legal frameworks to systematise environmental mitigation (Avoid, Minimise, Compensate);

3. RECOMMENDS that states rely more on civil society organisations and stakeholders at a local level and support their actions by long-term structured finance; and

4. CALLS ON the mobilisation of the financial sector – bankers, investors, insurers – to make investments in order to conserve biodiversity.
Avoiding the point of no return in the Amazon protecting 80% by 2025

REGRETTING the deaths of thousands of indigenous people and their leaders in the Amazon during the pandemic, and those defenders consistently killed for protecting their territories and their livelihoods;

RECOGNISING the on-going legacy of dispossession of indigenous peoples and local communities through the imposition of some protected areas without their free, prior and informed consent;

AWARE that there have been claims by indigenous leaders that the dismantling of environmental policies and/or violations of indigenous rights amount to either crimes against humanity or ecocide;

RECALLING Resolution 5.097 Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Jeju, 2012), which calls for ensuring that the principles of UNDRIP are observed in the work of the Union;

CONSIDERING that fires in the Amazon in 2019 and 2020 alone burned at least 3 million hectares of forest, causing serious damage to the integrity of the ecosystems;

DEEPLY CONCERNED about the increase in deforestation since, during the 2020 pandemic, at least 2.3 million hectares of primary forest were lost in nine countries in the Amazon Basin, which means a 17% increase in deforestation compared to 2019;

RECOGNISING that the latest scientific consensus established the point of no return for the Amazon within a range of between 20–25% of deforestation and degradation combined;

OBSERVING that the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (IPCC 2018, IPCC 2019, IPBES–IPCC 2021 and IPCC 2021) emphasise the fact that the climate crisis and biodiversity loss are accelerating rapidly and are closely interlinked;

CONSIDERING that the IUCN Programme 2021–2024 recognises that the trends in biodiversity loss are still reversible through urgent transformative change;

RECOGNISING that maintaining the ecosystem integrity of the Amazon biome is vital in order to prevent catastrophic biodiversity loss and climate change;

REITERATING that over half of the Amazon Basin is subject to some kind of pressure – fixed or continuous – on land-use change, direct or indirect, including, inter alia, as a result of top-down industrial development, road and energy infrastructure, the expansion of extractive industries and the agro-industrial frontier, as well as illicit and criminal activities;

RECOGNISING that the Amazon is home to at least 178 indigenous groups living in isolation, whose territories of life include some of highest biodiversity areas on the planet, some of which are categorised as protected areas or legally recognised indigenous territories; that some states in the Amazon have already established national policies that confirm their duties to protect their isolation, respect their integrity and well-being; and that these groups are highly vulnerable and increasingly threatened by many pressures. It is urgent that the measures, policies and actions throughout the Amazon Basin are introduced to effectively protect their rights in full;

CONSIDERING that the data published in the peer-reviewed study “A Global Safety Net” indicate the need for a regional target of 85% for the protection of the Amazon biome by 2030;

HIGHLIGHTING the fact that in 2007 WWF projected for 2030 that “Current trends in agriculture and livestock expansion, fire, drought and logging could clear or severely damage 55% of the Amazon rainforest by 2030”, making the 2030 horizon too late for the Amazon; and

RECOGNISING that the UN-backed Science Panel for the Amazon (SPA), which included 200 scientists, has found that 18% of the Amazon Basin’s forests has been deforested, with an additional 17% undergoing degradation; that the SPA warns that in crossing the 20–25% threshold of deforestation and degradation the system will reach an irreversible tipping point that can translate into the dieback of the entire ecosystem; and that this would result in massive carbon dioxide emissions with rapid and catastrophic consequences for global climate stability;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General and Members to support the area-based conservation targets, in order to protect, conserve and sustainably manage at least 80% of the Amazon by 2025, in partnership with and recognising the leadership of indigenous peoples in the Amazon, ensuring their free, prior and informed consent, and with the full recognition of their rights, as set out in UNDRIP, to their lands, territories and waters, as a measure to ensure ecosystem integrity, halt deforestation, biodiversity loss and land-use change, and prevent the point of no return being reached;

2. URGES State and Government Agency Members to ensure the full implementation of the Durban Accord adopted by IUCN in 2003 and the Promise of Sydney adopted by IUCN in 2014, in particular its recommendations on quality and diversity of governance of protected and conserved areas;

3. CALLS ON State and Government Agency Members in the Amazon to work with indigenous peoples’ authorities and governance structures to fully recognise and delimit all the ancestral land and territories belonging to indigenous peoples and local communities, and recognising their local governance authorities by 2025;

4. ENCOURAGES State and Government Agency Members in the Amazon to promote efforts to restore at least half of the degraded forest areas in the Amazon Basin by 2025;

5. FURTHER CALLS ON State and Government Agency Members to enact moratoria on industrial activities that are carried out in primary forests;

6. ENCOURAGES governments, the funding agencies, and other resource mobilisation mechanisms, to increase support for direct, sustained and equitable financial and technical support, at least at a level equal to that invested in protected areas, to indigenous peoples to conserve and sustainably manage their territories, including for indigenous-led initiatives for forest protection and just ecological transition such as the Amazon Sacred Headwaters Initiative; and

7. CALLS ON all IUCN Members to support efforts to achieve the actions described above.
WCC-2020-Res-120-EN
Strengthening sustainable tourism's role in biodiversity conservation and community resilience

CELEBRATING the value of wildlife and nature-based tourism in supporting communities around the world and its important role in biodiversity conservation, conservation funding, environmental literacy and spiritual and cultural uses of nature;

CONCERNED for the communities and countries reliant on nature-based tourism operations, whose health and livelihoods have been severely impacted by the pandemic;

EMPATHETIC to the welfare crisis communities face due to the pandemic and economic loss from the halt of tourism, which has increased habitat encroachment, poaching, illegal wildlife trade and unregulated harvesting, and thereby created greater risk for zoonotic disease transmission;

RECOGNISING that more effective implementation of sustainable nature-based tourism strategies and benefit-sharing programmes is an integral part of community recovery to strengthen resilience during future adverse events and to build a more sustainable future for people and wildlife;

CONSIDERING the efforts of the UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), World Bank, World Economic Forum, World Trade and Tourism Council (WTTC), and IUCN Member organisations to develop programmes that support sustainable nature-based tourism in the aftermath of this pandemic crisis;

NOTING Resolution 6.060 Improving standards in ecotourism (Haiti), 2016 and previous resolutions by the UN General Assembly and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) reminding us of the significant contributions of nature-based tourism to the protection of biodiversity and the added benefits to community development and poverty eradication;

DETERMINED to use this pivotal moment to help governments, businesses and NGOs establish better global awareness about the loss of biodiversity, the vulnerability of communities that rely on tourism and the positive opportunities sustainable tourism can facilitate;

ENCOURAGED that the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) has established a COVID-19 Task Force and Call for Action to support Rescue, Recovery and Rebuilding protected and conserved areas; and

RECOGNISING that IUCN can provide urgent help for vulnerable communities and endangered species by building more capacity and actions for sustainable nature-based tourism and calling on its Members to support private-sector partnerships that bolster recovery and resilience beyond protected areas;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS on the Director General to commit dedicated attention for nature-based tourism by:
   a. including Sustainable Tourism as a topic; and
   b. integrating nature-based tourism events and activities into future Congresses and IUCN conferences;

2. CALLS on the Commissions to consider creating an inter-commission working group focused on sustainable tourism's role in biodiversity conservation and community resilience;

3. URGES the WCPA COVID Task Force, in collaboration with other Specialist Groups and Task Forces, to strengthen its Call to Action for Rescue, Recovery and Rebuilding by:
   a. producing memoranda for equitable benefit-sharing programmes and emergency strategies for communities and protected areas reliant on nature-based tourism; and
   b. developing resources to support local, equal-access outdoor recreation and wildlife tourism programmes in developing countries to increase opportunities for natural heritage experiences that improve health, well-being and conservation values; and

4. CALLS on Members and affiliates to:
   a. support development of diversified sustainable livelihood activities, skill-training programmes and alternative protein-sourcing markets in tourism-dependent communities to bolster community resilience against current and future adverse events;
   b. establish enterprise-based partnerships to incorporate conservation and biodiversity monitoring across the tourism supply chain; and
   c. establish more sustainable financing campaigns, including endowment funds, to support key biodiversity assets during tourism industry recessions.
WCC-2020-Res-131-EN
Ensuring adequate funding for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

RECALLING that the importance of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (Red List) has been emphasised by Members several times (e.g., Resolutions 3.013 The uses of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (Bangkok, 2004), 4.018 Increased participation of scientists from relevant countries in the preparation of the IUCN Red List (Barcelona, 2008), 5.017 Enhancing the usefulness of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (Jeju, 2012) and 6.016 The IUCN Red List Index for monitoring extinction risk (Hawaii, 2016));

NOTING that Red List data are of critical importance in monitoring the achievement of biodiversity outcomes, including those set by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);

ANTICIPATING that the Red List will play a critical role in monitoring and guiding the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

FURTHER NOTING the wide use and application of the Red List for conservation planning and management, including by donors to help guide resource allocation and financial institutions to ensure investments do not jeopardise the survival of threatened species;

THANKFUL to the members of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) who give their time voluntarily by contributing to the Red List;

GRATEFUL to the 13 Red List Partner organisations for their extensive contributions to the Red List both in cash and in kind;

ESPECIALLY GRATEFUL to the staff of the IUCN Red List Unit (RLU) for their meticulous work in processing Red List assessments, maintaining the database and website, and in quality assurance;

AWARE that annual submissions of assessments to the RLU are increasing;

WELCOMING the new Red List Strategic Plan (RLSP) which aims to add 129,000 assessments and 137,000 reassessments by 2030;

CONCERNED that staffing reductions in the RLU in 2021 by one-third due to funding shortfalls are causing a backlog of assessments in the submission queue;

EMPHASISING that delays in the publication of assessments mean that relevant authorities may be unaware that particular places and species need urgent conservation attention, thus delaying conservation actions and the prevention of damaging developments; and

STRESSING, moreover, that backlogs could undermine donor confidence in the Red List and hinder other initiatives, such as identification of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Patrons of Nature and the Chair of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) to collaborate closely with the Director General on fundraising for the Red List;

2. CALLS ON donors, especially those that are IUCN Members, including State Members, to respond generously to the Director General’s fundraising initiative for the Red List;

3. ENCOURAGES donors, in addition to ensuring the stability and viability of the RLU, to help ensure that funding is available to support the work of the Species Survival Commission and Red List Partners in delivering the RLSP, noting that funding has hitherto proven hard to raise for the reassessment of species, and yet reassessments are essential to track changes in status over time through the IUCN Red List Index; and

4. FURTHER REQUESTS the Director General to ensure, within available resources, that the RLU has the capacity to process species assessments in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish.
WCC-2020-Res-132-EN

Controlling and monitoring trade in croaker swim bladders to protect target croakers and reduce incidental catches of threatened marine megafauna

AWARE that the increasing demand for swim bladders (or maws) of the Vulnerable totoaba croaker (Totoaba macdonaldi) is the primary factor driving a gillnet fishery in the upper Gulf of California that threatens not only the totoaba but has also resulted in the imminent extinction of the vaquita (Phocoena sinus) due to incidental catch, and that similar demand for the maws from other large croaker species may threaten target species and exacerbate the risk of incidental catches of many other globally threatened marine megafauna including small cetaceans, sharks, rays, and marine turtles;

RECALLING that Resolution 6.017 Actions to avert the extinction of the vaquita porpoise (Phocoena sinus) (Hawaii, 2016) expressed concern that the demand for and illegal trade in totoaba swim bladders drive fisheries that kill vaquitas, yet these fisheries continue unabated and the vaquita population has declined from about 60 individuals in 2016, when Resolution 6.017 was adopted, to only about 10 individuals in 2021;

RECALLING Resolution 19.61 By-Catch of Non-Target Species (Buenos Aires, 1994) which expressed concern that bycatch threatens the vaquita’s survival, Resolution 7.023 Reducing impacts of incidental capture on threatened marine species (Marseille, 2020) which expressed concern that that even small-scale fisheries are cumulatively adding substantial pressure to marine species, and Resolution 6.021 that called for Monitoring and management of unselective, unsustainable and unmonitored (UUU) fisheries (Hawaii, 2016);

NOTING recent news from Bangladesh, India, Papua New Guinea and French Guiana (France) indicating that very high prices are being paid for croaker (family Sciaenidae) maws for export, leading to concerns about impacts on the target croaker populations as well as on Vulnerable, Endangered and Critically Endangered marine megafauna bycaught incidentally in the gillnet fisheries for croakers; and

CONCERNED that the demand for croakers may also be increasing in other areas of the world resulting in intensifying small-scale fisheries, particularly gillnets, that threaten vulnerable croakers and many globally threatened marine megafauna, including small cetaceans, sharks, rays and marine turtles, already facing a high risk of extinction from incidental capture and other factors such as pollution and climate change, as well as contributing to the overexploitation of coastal fisheries vital to local livelihoods, food security and national economies;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. REQUESTS the Director General and the Species Survival Commission (SSC) to:

   a. by 2023 produce an analysis on the impacts of the demand for and trade in fish maws on croaker species and threatened marine megafauna and evaluate the effectiveness of listing croakers in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); and

   b. promote the consideration of incidental catches of marine megafauna in developing effective policies that specifically address this problem as a targeted subset of Resolution 7.027 that urges all IUCN Members to act to reduce the pressure on threatened species from non-selective fishing gears and methods;

2. CALLS ON Members to support the establishment of trade regulations on fish maws through national laws and regulations, and taking account as appropriate of the analysis referred to in paragraph 1.a., to support a potential proposal to list further croaker species highly valued for their maws in CITES Appendix I or II, depending on their conservation status and where the criteria according to CITES Resolution 9.24 (Rev. COP17) are met;

3. URGES Members to document catches of croakers and exports of fish maws from major source countries by volume, species and value as well as incidental catches;

4. REQUESTS the World Customs Organization (WCO) to mandate that harmonised codes be used for fish maw exports and imports at least at the family level; and

5. ENCOURAGES states that support one or more Critically endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable populations or species of marine megafauna known to be caught in fisheries that catch croakers highly valued for their maws, and that are not included in a conservation action or recovery plan which incorporates specific provisions regulating these fisheries, to ban fish maw exports until such conservation action or recovery plans are developed and implemented.
NOTING that the Wadden Sea is a N2000 area as well as a transboundary UNESCO World Heritage site (WHS);

NOTING that the mining of fossil fuels underneath WHS Wadden Sea will lead to both short- and long-term subsidence of the seabed;

RECALLING that the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Wadden Sea are caused by and closely related to the exposure of the seabed at low tides;

MINDFUL that numerous protected native and migratory bird species depend on the exposure of the seabed during low tides to obtain their staple foods;

NOTING that the use of fossil fuels will lead to an increase of greenhouse gases CO2 and CH4 in the global atmosphere which will lead to a rise in sea level both globally as well as in WHS Wadden Sea;

RECALLING that the updated IUCN World Heritage Outlook (2020) found that climate change is now the number one threat to all natural World Heritage properties, impacting one third of all sites;

RECALLING that the precautionary principle is a leading principle within both European and national legislation for the protection of nature;

RECOGNISING that a rise in sea level as well as subsidence of the seabed are strong interrelated factors in limiting the exposure of the seabed in both time and surface;

NOTING that the Wadden Sea is one of the shallowest coastal areas in the Netherlands and therefore extremely vulnerable to the effects of climate change among which are rises in seawater temperature and sea level, and

CONCERNED that the Netherlands’ Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Change issued a draft permit on 27 August 2021 for the mining of fossil fuel (natural gas) underneath World Heritage Wadden Sea;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

REQUESTS the government of the Netherlands to withdraw the draft permit for fossil fuel mining in recognition of the global need to protect and preserve the Wadden Sea as a UNESCO World Heritage site, a critical stop-over in the East-Atlantic Flyway, as well as the global need to prevent damage to critical habitats from greenhouse gas emissions.

Disclaimer: The adoption of this decision by IUCN’s Members shall be without prejudice to IUCN’s role to provide independent technical advice to the World Heritage Committee.
WCC-2020-Res-134-EN
Protecting the Lower Congo River from large hydro-electric dam developments

AWARE that the World Commission on Dams (WCD) (2000) provided seven strategic priorities and related policy principles for future development of dams that include: gaining public acceptance, comprehensive options assessment, sustaining rivers and livelihoods;

NOTING the poor implementation of the WCD recommendations, with almost 500 million river-dependent people potentially impacted by large dams, the need for more comprehensive assessments of dam costs and benefits, and the social inequities between dam beneficiaries and those disadvantaged by dams;

NOTING that large dams have already displaced ca. 80 million people and compromised the livelihoods of 472 million more;

RECOGNISING that Resolution 5.089 dams and hydraulic infrastructure (Jeju, 2012) called for IUCN Members and Commissions to provide advice on plans for hydraulic infrastructure options and to join formal processes around dam and hydraulic infrastructure options;

ALARMED that large hydropower schemes continue to be proposed as ‘green’ or ‘clean’ energy, despite aforementioned studies showing that their benefits are far outweighed by their negative impacts on the environment, people and climate;

RECOGNISING that hydropower can bring significant environmental load in terms of aquatic and riparian ecosystem and species loss, as well as loss of livelihoods dependent on those resources;

NOTING that a recent call (Rivers for Recovery, 2020) recommends upgrades to existing hydropower projects to increase efficiency instead of building new dams, and development of green infrastructure that protects and restores freshwater ecosystems, biodiversity and livelihoods;

NOTING a new example of hydropower development (Inga 3, Grand Inga - Inga 4-8, Pioka and Matadi) that could substantially impact one of the world’s largest river catchments, in the region of the Lower Congo;

RECOGNISING that legal, socially beneficial and responsibly operated activities such as the construction of large infrastructure can nonetheless cause, or are likely to cause, severe and either widespread or long-term damage to the environment;

ALARMED that development could be detrimental to the Lower Congo’s rich freshwater biodiversity, displace ca. 6,300 people (International Rivers, 2014) and disturb the ecology of the marine Congo canyon; and

CONCERNED that the development plans for the Congo could bypass procedures to ensure that projects are awarded transparently and via competitive bidding (CDNP, 2021);

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON Commissions and Members to review the recommendations of the WCD and other more recent documents and synthesise this into a contemporary set of recommendations for good practice;

2. CALLS on the Director General to send a memo to the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo encouraging him to:
   a. support protection and restoration of Lower Congo ecosystems;
   b. balance development by enacting legal protections and governance for the Lower Congo; and
   c. ensure that all contracts involving major infrastructure projects impacting the Lower Congo include a provision for local stakeholders to be included in planning, and have their concerns incorporated into further discussions, according to Resolution 7.008 Protecting rivers and their associated ecosystems as corridors in a changing climate (Marseille, 2020), and require all investors to adhere to the performance standards of the International Finance Corporation; and

3. ASKS the Species Survival Commission (SSC) to send a memo to the President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo urgently informing him on the potential threats to the ecosystems of the Lower Congo that could be caused by the development plans for the dams.
WCC-2020-Res-125-EN
Promoting human, animal and environmental health, and preventing pandemics through the One Health approach and by addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss

CONSIDERING that pandemics prevention – a cross-border emergency once again highlighted by the COVID-19 crisis – calls for an urgent, multilateral and ambitious mobilisation, involving all actors concerned;

NOTING Resolution 3.011 Addressing the linkages between conservation, human and animal health, and security (Bangkok, 2004);

NOTING the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) workshop report on biodiversity and pandemics and RECOGNISING the growing body of literature addressing the linkages between biodiversity loss and its drivers and pandemics and notably its finding that pandemics risk can be significantly reduced by addressing the main causes and drivers of biodiversity loss;

NOTING that, despite growing awareness of the importance of the One Health approach, the international community’s action has not been able to stem the rapid loss of biodiversity or prevent the COVID-19 pandemic – which has far-reaching impact for human health, ecosystems and economies – or other sanitary crises related to infectious diseases or antimicrobial resistance;

BELIEVING that the One Health approach, involving human health, animal well-being (both domestic and wildlife), and plant and ecosystem health, will at the same time guarantee better human and animal health; contribute to preventing pandemics, and tackle the biodiversity crisis in the context of climate change;

NOTING that human health is defined as “a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity” (World Health Organization – WHO) and that ecosystem conservation is a prerequisite of this;

FURTHER NOTING the guidance produced by WHO, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on Reducing public health risks associated with the sale of live wild animals of mammalian species in traditional food markets;

WELCOMING the Rome Declaration and the launch of the One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP) by the Tripartite Plus aiming at enhancing scientific information on the links between human, animal and environmental health, for better public decision making to prevent and respond to future sanitary crises, and to inform the public;

NOTING WITH APPRECIATION the growing number of initiatives and discussions on the One Health approach aiming at preventing risks of zoonotic emergences and pandemics by combining research, operational action and participatory approaches involving communities, e.g. the Preventing Zoonotic Disease Emergence (PREZODE) international initiative, the G20 Declaration (September 2021), ZODIAC, the International Alliance against Health Risks in Wildlife Trade;

NOTING the recognition by the Species Survival Commission (SSC) Wildlife Health Specialist Group that ‘the integral connections between human, animal and environmental health require a coordinated One Health approach to help protect the health and survival of wild populations’;

NOTING that the wildlife trade – including all parts of the trade chain, from source to destination – as well as land-use change, agricultural expansion and intensification, and wildlife consumption play an important role in the spillover and transmission of zoonotic diseases which undermine human, animal (both domestic and wildlife) and ecosystem health; and

EMPHASISING that the economic cost of preventing and reducing pandemic risks is estimated to be one hundred times lower than the cost of facing such crises;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS on Members and INVITES relevant United Nations (UN) and other international bodies to promote that national, regional and global policies, plans, approaches and potential future instruments and mechanisms not only improve preparedness and response but prioritise the need to prevent future pandemics arising from zoones by addressing the drivers of biodiversity decline;

2. URGES Members to promote urgent action on an ambitious One Health approach in key international events and processes, notably in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework at the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), at the 28th Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the upcoming discussions on a potential international treaty on pandemics;

3. INVITES Members to consider future OHHLEP recommendations as appropriate, e.g. through strategies and action plans for biodiversity and health;

4. CALLS ON Members to take a One Health approach so that wildlife trade does not pose a significant risk to ecosystems, human or animal health;

5. URGES Members to introduce and/or strengthen measures to reduce the potential of pathogen spillover in human-animal interactions (both domestic and wildlife) especially with species and human activities in ecosystems considered as higher-risk according to the latest scientific findings;

6. CALLS ON Members and INVITES other governments and relevant stakeholders to urgently address the drivers (according to the latest science) causing significant risk of pathogen spillover, where relevant, including (i) land-use change causing habitat fragmentation and degradation, ii) agricultural expansion and intensification, (iii) unsanitary and other food production systems and practices that increase the risk of pathogen spillover, and iv) unsafe wildlife trade and consumption; and

7. URGES Members and stakeholders involved in human, animal and ecosystem health to:
   a. develop pathogen spillover prevention strategies that include reversing ecosystem loss and degradation and the recovery of ecosystem functions;
   b. where appropriate, develop and further strengthen One Health networks dedicated to the health of humans, domestic and farm animals, wild fauna and flora and ecosystems, i.e. initiatives that holistically address direct and indirect drivers of pathogen spillovers and further enhance participation of communities, the private sector and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in such networks;
   c. enhance participation of communities, the private sector and NGOs in such networks, notably in vulnerable countries located in the inter-tropical area;
   d. promote sustainable and safe food production systems and practices to reduce risk of pathogen spillover;
   e. further develop and strengthen existing bio-safety and bio-security measures related to domestic and wild animal management;
   f. develop and strengthen relevant impact assessment procedures, as appropriate, to include the study of both potential pathogen spillovers and measures available to prevent spillovers;
   g. further enhance efforts to stem the illegal trade in wildlife;
   h. strengthen synergies among all components of One Health at all levels through training, interoperable monitoring systems, data sharing and scientific cooperation, between and during crises;
i. foster scientific research on the links between biodiversity loss and pathogen spillover and ecosystem health, animal well-being (both domestic and wildlife) and human health;

j. improve technological capacities to monitor and prevent pathogen spillover, outbreaks of zoonotic diseases and antimicrobial resistance; and

k. strengthen awareness raising and education on the interconnectivity of life forms, habitats and human activities underlying pathogen spillover events, and foster understanding of the impact and contribution of individual and collective human behaviour in order to avoid such events.
WCC-2020-Res-136-EN
Protecting the Okavango from oil and gas exploitation

RECOGNISING that the Working Group 1 contribution to the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warns that human influence due primarily to fossil fuels has warmed the atmosphere, oceans and land and that many changes due to past and future greenhouse gas emissions are irreversible for centuries to millennia;

RECALLING that the International Energy Agency (IEA) has stated that "No new oil and natural gas fields are needed in the net zero pathway [...]";

RECOGNISING that the Okavango Delta is a UNESCO World Heritage site, the world's largest Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention, and part of the five-nation Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA);

NOTING the ecosystem diversity of the Okavango region and the KAZA TFCA, which is home to many Indigenous peoples and other local communities, as well as many endangered species of fauna and flora;

RECOGNISING that the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights guarantees the rights to a healthy environment and free, prior and informed consent (FPIC);

RECALLING Recommendation 6.102 Protected areas and other areas important for biodiversity in relation to environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure development (Hawai‘i, 2016) in which Members recognised protected areas as no-go zones for industrial activities, including oil and gas exploitation;

ACKNOWLEDGING the decisions of the World Heritage Committee (WHC) that environmentally damaging industrial activities and infrastructure developments are incompatible with World Heritage status and that states should avoid negative impacts on World Heritage sites from such activities outside their boundaries (e.g. Decisions 39 COM 7A.4 and 34 COM 7A.2); and

RECALLING Decision 44 COM 7B.80 of the World Heritage Committee: "[E]xpress concern about the granting of oil exploration licenses in environmentally sensitive areas within the Okavango river basin [...]" and "[U]rge ... States Parties ... to ensure that potential further steps to develop the oil project ... are subject to rigorous and critical prior review, including through Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that corresponds to international standards [...]";

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. URGES all Member States to ensure that human rights and other international law obligations are a primary consideration in all policies and decisions regarding oil and gas exploration and development, and other extractive activities;

2. URGES all Member States to ensure that decisions regarding oil and gas exploration and development and other extractive activities respect the right to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) and that consent processes include comprehensive consultation on the adverse impacts of climate change, the impacts of the proposed activities on the climate, and risks to water resources, flora and fauna, forests, food security, livelihoods and culture, inter alia; and

3. CALLS on the governments of Botswana and Namibia to ensure, in line with Decision 44 COM 7B.80 of the World Heritage Committee, that strategic and comprehensive environmental impact assessments adhere to international standards, are subject to rigorous and critical prior review and are conducted prior to any further exploration and any future development of oil and gas resources and other extractive activities in and/or affecting the Okavango River basin and its people.
WCC-2020-Res-137-EN
Affirming the right of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to sustainably manage and utilise wild resources in the context of COVID-19

NOTING that since the publication of the World Conservation Strategy in 1980, IUCN has promoted understanding of sustainable use (as defined by CBD art. 2 and the IUCN policy on sustainable use of wild living resources, 2000) of wild species as a tool to benefit both conservation of nature and human development;

RECOGNISING that the COVID-19 global pandemic has wreaked enormous and unprecedented social, economic and environmental damages across the world and that the most probable scenario of its origins is a zoonotic spillover from an intermediate animal host;

UNDERLINING in response to the pandemic any calls or decisions for the closure of markets where wildlife is sold or the halt of all consumptive use of wildlife must consider the socio-economic, food security, cultural and environmental impacts of these actions;

AWARE that it is critically important that utilisation, trade and consumption of wild species is legal and effectively managed, sustainable, and poses no significant risk of pathogen spillover, both to reduce the risk of future zoonotic disease outbreaks and to reduce biodiversity loss;

ACKNOWLEDGING that millions of people worldwide – but particularly Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in vulnerable conditions – depend on the harvest, hunting, trading and consumption of wild species, and any policy decisions must be in accordance with relevant international conventions and must support their food security, food sovereignty, their cultural traditions, customary use and their right to use and manage their natural resources in ways that they determine themselves; and

MINDFUL that sustainable use is one of the three key objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework includes a focus on the fair and equitable sharing of benefits through sustainable management of wild species and protecting customary sustainable use by IPLCs;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General, Council and all constituents of IUCN to recognise the right of Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) to sustainably use and manage their natural resources, wild species of animals, plants and fungi, within the framework of wildlife and nature conservation laws of their respective countries;

2. URGES the Director General, Council and all constituents of IUCN to ensure that responses to COVID-19 (and any future pandemics) should be well-considered and socially, economically and environmentally just, so as not to disadvantage the world’s most vulnerable people, particularly IPLCs who depend upon wild resources for their food security, food sovereignty, livelihoods, cultural traditions and customary use;

3. FURTHER URGES the Director General, Council and all constituents of IUCN to work to ensure that the utilisation of wild species is legal and effectively managed, sustainable, and poses no significant risk of pathogen spillover;

4. REQUESTS the IUCN Council and relevant Commissions to work on guidance as appropriate to assessments and policies designed to ensure that the use, consumption and trade of wild species is legal and effectively managed, sustainable, and poses no significant risk of pathogen spillover, with particular regard for the rights and needs of IPLCs;

5. ENCOURAGES all Members (State and non-State) to apply rights-based approaches to conservation and to advocate for conservation and public health measures and policies that consider the socio-economic, food security, cultural and ecological impacts of those actions, for IPLCs in their own states or within other states; and

6. FURTHER URGES Members (State and non-State) to ensure that investments and implementation of post-COVID-19 economic recovery initiatives are nature-positive and fully consider the rights of IPLCs to manage and benefit from natural resources.
The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:
Adopts the following amendments to the IUCN Statutes, the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress and the Regulations:

(i) Amend Article 4 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

Categories
The Members of IUCN shall be:

Category A: (a) States, and government agencies and subnational governments;
(b) political and/or economic integration organisations;

Category B: (c) national non-governmental organisations;
(d) international non-governmental organisations;

Category C: (e) indigenous peoples’ organisations; and

Category D: (f) affiliates.

(ii) Amend Article 5 of the IUCN Statutes by inserting a new paragraph (c) as follows and renumber all subsequent paragraphs accordingly: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

In these Statutes:
(a) States shall be those which are Members of the United Nations or any of its Specialized Agencies, or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, or parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice;

(b) government agencies shall be organisations, institutions and, when applicable, government departments, which form part of the machinery of government in a State, including those agencies of the components of federal States or of States having an analogous structure;

(c) subnational governments are governmental entities at the state, provincial, local, territories or regional level that have been elected and have:

(i) competences to adhere to the Statutes of IUCN;

(ii) effective decision-making authority in the field of conservation of nature; and/or

(iii) competences to provide for the equitable and ecologically sustainable use of natural resources;

(d) political and/or economic integration organisations shall be organisations constituted solely by States to which those States have conferred legal competence in respect of matters within the objectives of IUCN;

(e) national non-governmental organisations shall be institutions and associations incorporated within a State;

(f) international non-governmental organisations shall be institutions and associations organized in two or more States;

(g) indigenous peoples’ organisations shall be institutions and associations established by indigenous peoples for the advancement of indigenous communities; and

(h) Affiliate Members shall be government agencies, national and international non-governmental organisations, which are not in Categories A, B or C.

(iii) Amend Article 7 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

Government agencies, subnational governments, national and international non-governmental organisations, indigenous peoples’ organisations and affiliates shall become Members of IUCN when the Council has determined that:

(a) the applicant shares and supports the objectives of IUCN;

(b) the applicant has as one of its central purposes the achievement of IUCN’s objectives and a substantial record of activity in the conservation of nature and natural resources;

(c) the objectives and track record of the applicant embody to a substantial extent:

(i) the conservation of the integrity and diversity of nature; and, either or both:

(ii) the aim to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable;

(iii) dedication to influencing, encouraging and assisting societies to meet the objectives of IUCN;

(d) the applicant does not pursue objectives or carry out activities that conflict with the objectives or activities of IUCN; and

(e) the applicant meets the other qualifications for membership as prescribed in the Regulations.
Part V – The World Conservation Congress

Voting

Governmental Members shall have voting rights as follows:

(a) Each State Member shall have three votes, one of which shall be exercised collectively by the Government Agency Members, if any, of that State;

(b) Government Agency Members of IUCN within a State which is not a State Member of IUCN shall collectively have one vote;

(c) Subnational Government Members within a State shall collectively have one vote, regardless of whether or not they are from a State which is a State Member.

d) Where one or more member States of a political and/or economic integration organisation, and that organisation itself are Members of IUCN, the organisation and its member States shall decide on the mode of exercising their voting rights which shall not in total exceed those of the State Members of IUCN belonging to that organisation.

Part VIII – Methods of Voting

Methods of Voting on Motions

Rule 66bis of the Rules of Procedure

A Government Agency Member holding the collective vote for the Government Agency Members in a country shall obtain the agreement of the other Government Agencies before giving proxy to another IUCN Member except that during Congress the agreement of only those other Government Agencies of the country concerned present at the Congress shall be obtained.

Part III – Members

Government Agencies and Subnational Governments

A government agency or subnational government seeking membership of IUCN shall submit an application for admission to the Director General supported by a statement by the head of the agency or subnational government, setting forth its competence to adhere to the Statutes.

Part X – Electronic Ballot

Where a mail ballot is required under the Statutes, an electronic ballot shall be carried out in accordance with the following procedure:

[e] The Government Agency Member that cast the Government Agencies' collective vote at the previous IUCN Congress shall cast the vote for the electronic ballot, unless the Government Agency Members duly notify the Secretariat in writing, at the latest one week before the date/time of the opening of the electronic ballot, of their agreement to designate a different Member to cast their collective vote. The Agency casting the collective vote during an electronic ballot will cast the collective vote at every subsequent electronic vote unless the Secretariat receives notification of a different agreement among the Members concerned.

[f] The IUCN Legal Adviser shall monitor and ensure the accuracy of the electronic voting process; and

[g] Consistent with the requirement under Rule of Procedure 71bis, the complete voting record of each IUCN Member shall be made available to all IUCN Members within two weeks following the close of the electronic ballot. Consistent with the requirement under Rule of Procedure 72, this voting record shall also include the written statements of any Members explaining their vote, which the Secretariat shall have received by electronic communication before the closing date/time of the electronic ballot.
WCC-2020-Dec-139-EN

Election of Regional Councillors resident in dependent territories

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

B - Election of Regional Councillors resident in dependent territories

The IUCN World Conservation Congress, at its session in Marseille, France:

Adopts the following amendments to the IUCN Statutes, the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress and the Regulations:

(i) Amend Article 40 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part IV - The Council

Composition

(a) Only one Each Region shall have no more than one Regional Councillor, and only two Chairs of Commissions, shall be from the same from any one State. This does not preclude a Regional Councillor from the same State resident in a dependent territory of her/his State from being elected as Regional Councillor for a Region other than that of her/his State, or that s/he is elected for the same Region as her/his State but nominated by Members of part of a Region in which the dependent territory is located. There shall however be no more than two Regional Councillors from any state including their dependent territories in Council.

(b) No more than two Chairs of Commissions shall be from the same State.

(ii) Amend Rule 81 of the Rules of Procedure as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part IX - Elections

Nominations and Method of Voting in Elections

Where there is more than one candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillor or Commission Chair:

[...]

(c) where three or more persons are to be elected from among four or more candidates to serve as Regional Councillors for a Region, the vote shall be cast by placing an ‘X’ against the names of preferred candidates up to the maximum number of the candidates to be elected for that Region. Where more than one candidate is nominated from the same State, only the candidate receiving the greater number of votes may be elected. This does not apply to candidates from the same State resident in dependent territories as defined in Article 40 of the Statutes. Where more than one candidate has been nominated from the same State and the same dependent territory, only the candidate receiving the greater number of votes may be elected.

(iii) Amend Article 38 of the Regulations as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part IV - The World Conservation Congress

Elections: Regional Councillors

Nominations for candidates from a Region for election as Regional Councillors shall be made by five Members eligible to vote or ten per cent of all such Members in that Region, whichever is lower, in both cases drawn from more than one State. Nominations for candidates resident in dependent territories as defined in Article 40 of the Statutes, shall be made by five Members eligible to vote or ten per cent of all such Members in the Region for which they wish to be elected, where the dependent territory is located, whichever is lower, drawn from more than one State. For the purpose of nomination, an international non-governmental organisation whose constituency covers more than one Region shall be regarded as being located in the Region where its principal office is located. All nominations shall be submitted together with an abbreviated curriculum vitae for each candidate, supplied by that candidate. Each candidate shall declare in writing a willingness to serve if elected. The deadline for nominations shall be determined on each occasion by the Council.

(iv) Amend Article 39 of the Regulations as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Candidates for election as Regional Councillors shall be nationals of a State in the Region concerned, and shall be resident in that Region. Candidates for election as Regional Councillors for a Region, or part of a Region covered by a recognised Regional Committee, other than that of their State, referred to in Article 40 of the Statutes, shall be resident in the Region concerned and be nationals of the State to which the dependent territory belongs.
Establishment of an elected Indigenous Councillor position

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:
Adopts the following amendments to the IUCN Statutes, the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress and the Regulations:

(i) Amend Article 12 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part III – Members
Rights and Obligations of Members
(a) Members shall have the right inter alia:

(b) Members in Categories A, B and C shall also have the right:
(i) to propose to the Council candidates for President, Treasurer and Chairs of the Commissions to be elected by the World Congress;
(ii) to nominate candidates directly to the World Congress for election as President;
(iii) to nominate to the World Congress candidates for election as Regional Councillors and the Indigenous Councillor;
(iv) to submit motions to the World Congress; and
(v) to vote in sessions of the World Congress or by mail ballot.

(c) Members shall have the obligation inter alia: [...] 

(ii) Amend Article 20 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part V – The World Conservation Congress
Functions
The functions of the World Congress shall be inter alia:

(h) to elect the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors, Indigenous Councillor and Chairs of Commissions;

Elections
The Regional Councillors and the Indigenous Councillor shall be elected by the World Congress in accordance with Article 39 and the Regulations.

(iii) Amend Article 28 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part VI – The Council
Composition
The members of the Council are:
(a) the President;
(b) the Treasurer;
(c) the Chairs of the Commissions;
(d) the Regional Councillors;
(e) the Indigenous Councillor;
(f) a Councillor from the State in which IUCN has its seat, appointed by the Council, provided that one from that State has not been elected Regional Councillor; and

(g) one additional appointed Councillor, chosen by the Council on the basis of appropriate qualifications, interests and skills.

(iv) Amend Article 38 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

The terms of office of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors, Indigenous Councillor and Chairs of Commissions shall extend from the close of the ordinary session of the World Congress at which they are elected, until the close of the next ordinary session of the World Congress. The appointed Councillors shall serve for the remainder of the term for which the other Councillors are elected.
(vi) Amend Rule 78 of the Rules of Procedure as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

Part IX – Elections

Nominations and Method of Voting in Elections

The elections of the President, the Treasurer, and each of the Chairs of the Commissions and the Indigenous Councillor shall be conducted separately and as follows:

(a) the President and the Treasurer may be elected by acclamation;

(b) where a vote is required and there is only one candidate for a post, if that candidate does not receive a simple majority of votes cast by Members eligible to vote in Category A and in Categories B and C combined, the post shall be filled by the World Congress or, failing a decision by the closure of the session, by the new Council; and

(c) where there is more than one candidate for any of these posts a vote shall be taken in accordance with Rule 81.

(vii) Amend Rule 79 of the Rules of Procedure as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

Should a sole candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, or Chair of Commission or Indigenous Councillor withdraw or become ineligible, the Council shall meet in extraordinary session and, having considered the views of the Members of IUCN, shall propose a new candidate to the World Congress.

(viii) Amend Rule 81 of the Rules of Procedure as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

Where there is more than one candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillor, Indigenous Councillor or Commission Chair:

(a) the ballot paper or the electronic election system shall list candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random;

(b) where one person is to be elected from two or more candidates for the post of President, Treasurer, or Chair of a Commission or Indigenous Councillor, the vote shall be cast by placing an 'X' against the name of the preferred candidate;

[ix] Amend Article 37 of the Regulations as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

Part IV – The World Conservation Congress

Elections: Regional Councillors and Indigenous Councillor

At least nine months before each ordinary session of the World Congress the Members in Categories A and B and C shall be invited by the Director General to submit to the Election Officer, the names of candidates for election as Regional Councillors and Indigenous Councillor. Such invitation shall be accompanied by a list of the Regional Councillors and Indigenous Councillor in office, indicating those who are eligible for re-election.

(x) Amend Article 38 of the Regulations as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

Nominations for candidates from a Region for election as Regional Councillors shall be made by five Members eligible to vote or ten per cent of all such Members in that Region, whichever is lower, in both cases drawn from more than one State. For the purpose of nomination, an international nongovernmental organisation whose constituency covers more than one Region shall be regarded as being located in the Region where its principal office is located.

Regulation 38bis

Nominations of indigenous persons for candidates for the Indigenous Councillor position shall be made by five Members eligible to vote of which at least two are Members of Category C, drawn from more than one State.

Regulation 38ter

All nominations shall be submitted together with an abbreviated curriculum vitae for each candidate, supplied by that candidate. Each candidate shall declare in writing a willingness to serve if elected. The deadline for nominations shall be determined on each occasion by the Council.

(xi) Amend Article 40 of the Regulations as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

Nominations received from Members within a Region for election as Regional Councillors from that Region as well as nominations received for election as Indigenous Councillor shall be communicated via the IUCN Intranet and when they are declared by the Election Officer as meeting the requirements established in the Statutes and the present Regulations. Before taking a definitive decision to reject a nomination, the Election Officer shall allow the individuals whose nomination does not meet the requirements a period of three weeks following the deadline in case they wish to bring
evidence that the nomination(s) received were valid at the time of the deadline. Nominations that meet the requirements shall be submitted by the Election Officer with appropriate background information to each ordinary session of the World Congress. The Election Officer shall list the candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random, with an indication of the number of nominations received per candidate.
WCC-2020-Dec-141-EN
Modification of the term “Regional Councillor”

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:
Adopts the following amendments to the IUCN Statutes, the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress and the Regulations:

(i) Amend Article 12 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part III – Members

Rights and Obligations of Members

(b) Members in Categories A, B and C shall also have the right:

[...]

(iii) to nominate to the World Congress candidates for election as Regional Councillors elected from the Regions;

[...]

(ii) Amend Article 20 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part V – The World Conservation Congress

Functions

The functions of the World Congress shall be inter alia:

[...]

(h) to elect the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors elected from the Regions and Chairs of Commissions;

[...]

(iii) Amend Article 28 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Elections

The Regional Councillors elected from the Regions shall be elected by the World Congress in accordance with Article 39 and the Regulations.

(iv) Amend Article 38 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part VI – The Council

Composition

The members of the Council are:

(a) the President;
(b) the Treasurer;
(c) the Chairs of the Commissions;
(d) the other Regional Councillors as follows;

(i) Councillors elected from the Regions;

(ii) a Councillor from the State in which IUCN has its seat, appointed by the Council, provided that one from that State has not been elected Regional Councillor from the concerned Region;

(iii) one additional appointed Councillor, chosen by the Council on the basis of appropriate qualifications, interests and skills.

(v) Amend Article 39 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

There shall be a total of twenty-eight Regional Councillors elected from the Regions. The number of elected Councillors for each Region shall be as follows: four (4) for Africa; four (4) for Meso and South America; three (3) for North America and the Caribbean; five (5) for South and East Asia; three (3) for West Asia; three (3) for Oceania; three (3) from West Europe, and three (3) from East Europe, North and Central Asia.

(vi) Amend Article 40 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Only one Regional Councillor elected from the Regions, and only two Chairs of Commissions, shall be from the same State.

(vii) Amend Article 41 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)
The terms of office of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors elected from the Regions and Chairs of Commissions shall extend from the close of the ordinary session of the World Congress at which they are elected, until the close of the next ordinary session of the World Congress. The appointed Councillors shall serve for the remainder of the term for which the other Councillors are elected.

(viii) Amend Article 43 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

The Council may fill any vacancies for the President, Treasurer, Councillors and Chairs of Commissions and other Councillors that may occur, for the balance of the term concerned.

(xi) Amend Rule 72 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part VII – The National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora

Regional Councillors elected from the Regions and other members of the Council resident in a State or Region where such Committees and Regional Fora have been established, shall be invited to participate in the meetings and activities of the corresponding National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora. Members of the Commissions resident in such State or Region, may be invited to participate in meetings and activities of the National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora.

(x) Amend Rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part IX – Elections

Nominations and Method of Voting in Elections

Where the number of candidates for Regional Councillors elected from the Regions is the same or less than the number of vacancies in the Region for which they are nominated, each candidate shall be voted on individually. Should a candidate not receive a simple majority of votes cast by Members eligible to vote in Category A and in Categories B and C combined, the position of the Regional “Councillor elected from the Regions” shall be filled by the new Council.

(ix) Amend Rule 81 of the Rules of Procedure as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Where there is more than one candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors elected from the Regions or Commission Chair: [...] (c) where three or more persons are to be elected from among four or more candidates to serve as Regional “Councillors elected from the Regions” for a Region, the vote shall be cast by placing an ’X’ against the names of preferred candidates up to the maximum number of the candidates to be elected for that Region. Where more than one candidate is nominated from the same State, only the candidate receiving the greater number of votes may be elected; [...]
Amend Article 40 of the Regulations as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Nominations received from Members within a Region for election as Regional “Councillors elected from the Regions” from that Region shall be communicated via the IUCN Intranet as and when they are declared by the Election Officer as meeting the requirements established in the Statutes and the present Regulations. Before taking a definitive decision to reject a nomination, the Election Officer shall allow the individuals whose nomination does not meet the requirements a period of three weeks following the deadline in case they wish to bring evidence that the nomination(s) received were valid at the time of the deadline. Nominations that meet the requirements shall be submitted by the Election Officer with appropriate background information to each ordinary session of the World Congress. The Election Officer shall list the candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random, with an indication of the number of nominations received per candidate.

Amend Article 45 of the Regulations as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part V – The Council

Appointments and Vacancies

The elected members of the Council shall appoint as soon as practicable after their election, and for a term to run concurrently with their own:

[...]

(b) a Councillor from Switzerland, chosen after consultation with the Swiss authorities, if a Regional “Councillor elected from the Regions” from Switzerland has not been elected;

[...]

Amend Article 57 of the Regulations as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Functions and Composition of the Bureau

The Bureau shall act on behalf of Council on any matters that Council may assign to it from time to time and any matters that may arise under Article 45 (b) to (g) of the Statutes. In addition, the Bureau shall decide directly on those specific matters assigned to it by the Council as provided for in the list annexed to the Rules of Procedure of the Bureau. The list shall be reviewed from time to time by Council and may be modified.

(a) The Bureau shall consist of the President as Chair, two Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer, one Commission Chair, two Regional Councillors elected from the Regions, and the Chairs of the Programme and Policy Committee, the Finance and Audit Committee and the Governance and Constituency Committee.

[...]

(c) The two Vice-Presidents and two Regional Councillors elected from the Regions shall serve only through the first half of the term, and for the second half of the term shall be replaced by Councillors from other Regions and the two other Vice-Presidents.

[...]
To protect the intellectual independence of the knowledge-based and evidence-based work carried out by the Commissions and Secretariat of IUCN

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

Adopts the following amendments to the IUCN Statutes to protect the intellectual independence of the knowledge-based and evidence-based work carried out by the Commissions and Secretariat of IUCN:

1. Amend Article 3 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

To attain these objectives, IUCN:

[...]

(f) develops expert networks and information systems to support its Members and components;

(g) provides scientific and other authoritative information, including traditional ecological knowledge, in the form of assessments, analysis, and advice on the status and trends of nature and natural resources, including on threats, human behaviour, conservation measures and future scenarios;

[...]

2. NEW Article 3bis of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strikethrough; proposed new text in bold)

In working towards the objectives outlined in Article 3 (g) of the Statutes, the IUCN Secretariat and the IUCN Commissions are required to uphold high standards of scientific work and other knowledge systems and will be free from undue influence or conflict of interest in this regard.
WCC-2020-Dec-143-EN
Role of Commissions in National and Regional Committees

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:
Adopts the following amendment to the IUCN Statutes:

(/) Amend Article 72 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike-through, proposed new text in bold)

Part VII – The National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora

Regional Councillors and other members of the Council resident in a State or Region where such Committees and Regional Fora have been established, shall be invited to participate in the meetings and activities of the corresponding National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora. Members of the Commissions resident in such State or Region, may be invited to participate in meetings and activities of the National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora. Each Commission may nominate an official representative of the Commission, resident in such a State or Region who may attend, and speak at, meetings of the governing bodies of the National and Regional Committees, without a right to vote.
WCC-2020-Dec-144-EN
Clarification of conditions for readmission of former State Members
The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:
Adopts the following amendments to the IUCN Statutes and Regulations:

(i) Amend Article 14 of the IUCN Statutes as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part III – Members
Readmission

(a) States or political and/or economic integration organisations shall re-join IUCN by notifying the Director General of their adhesion to these Statutes, effective upon payment of the first year’s membership dues

(b) Any former Member of IUCN, Government agency, national and international non-governmental organisation, indigenous peoples’ organisation and affiliate meeting the qualifications for membership may be readmitted by the Council, in accordance with the Regulations.

(ii) Amend Article 26 of the Regulations as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike through; proposed new text in bold)

Part III – Members
Membership dues

If a former Member a Government agency, a national and international non-governmental organisation, an indigenous peoples’ organisation or an affiliate, which is deemed to have withdrawn from IUCN, seeks readmission to membership within three years of its withdrawal, all membership dues outstanding shall be paid before the Member is readmitted. Applications for admission three years or more after withdrawal shall be treated in the same way as new applications for membership.
Establishment, operating rules and oversight of National, Regional and Interregional Committees

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

Is requested to:

Thank and acknowledge the outgoing IUCN Council for its reflections on the requirements for establishing National Committees, Regional Committees and Interregional Committees, including proposed actions to strengthen Council’s oversight of Committees to ensure their transparency, independence and integrity;

Recognise the value of the National, Regional and Interregional Committees within the Union;

Request the next IUCN Council to study these reflections, in consultation with representatives from Members, National/Regional/Interregional Committees and the Global Group for National and Regional Committee Development, taking into account the comments received from Members during the online discussion and at Congress, as summarised in the report of the Governance Committee of the Congress; and

Authorise the next IUCN Council, in consultation with representatives from Members, National/Regional/Interregional Committees and the Global Group for National and Regional Committee Development, to develop proposals for consultation with the Members and submission to an electronic vote by IUCN Members during the intersessional period.
Part V - The World Conservation Congress

Functions

20. The functions of the World Congress shall be inter alia:

(...)

(c) to receive and consider the reports of:

(i) the Director General on the activities and the financial affairs of IUCN during the period since the preceding session of the World Congress;

(ii) the Director General with the Treasurer on the financial affairs of IUCN;

(...)

Part IX - Finance

88. The Director General shall:

(...)

(d) with the Treasurer, submit to each ordinary session of the World Congress, a report on the consolidated accounts of IUCN together with the auditors' reports for the relevant years;

(e) submit to each ordinary session of the World Congress for approval, a draft programme and financial plan for the period until the next ordinary session of the World Congress, together with the comments of the Treasurer and the Council;

(...)

(g) keep the Treasurer informed in the event of unforeseen expenses and important variations from the projected income inform the Council and, if necessary, submit amended budgets to the Council for approval in agreement with the Treasurer.

89. The Treasurer may object on financial grounds to any proposed alteration of the budget, and shall inform the Council of such objection; shall:

(a) provide advice on the financial affairs of IUCN and report to the World Congress and the Council as described in the Regulations;

(b) be kept informed by the Director General about IUCN's financial situation between sessions of the Council.

Part IX - Finance

Financial Powers of the Director General

88. The Director General, in consultation with the Treasurer, shall:

(a) as necessary, establish detailed financial policies and procedures, which may differ according to the requirements of the States in which IUCN is operating;

(b) have the power to accept grants, donations and other payments on behalf of IUCN, subject to any instruction by the Council;

(c) designate the banks in which the funds of IUCN shall be kept;

(d) be responsible for ensuring that the legal requirements of business operation are met in all States where IUCN is operating;

(e) maintain an appropriate level of reserves; and

(f) implement appropriate risk management strategies.

...
90. In keeping IUCN accounts and controlling expenditure, the Director General shall:

(…)

(d) confer in person with the Treasurer and external auditors each year on the annual audit of the financial statements of IUCN.

NEW Article 90bis of the IUCN Regulations as follows: (existing text, if any, to be removed in strike-through; proposed new text in bold)

The Treasurer

90bis (a) The Treasurer shall provide advice and report to the World Congress, in particular on the financial health of IUCN, the audited financial statements and the draft financial plan.

(b) The Treasurer shall assist the Council in its oversight function regarding the financial affairs of IUCN and in particular, shall:

(i) provide advice and comments to the Council on the draft annual budget submitted by the Director General for approval;

(ii) provide advice on reserves and risk management strategies;

(iii) confer with the external auditors each year on the annual audit of the financial statements of IUCN.
Development of a new 20-year Strategic Vision, inclusive of a Financial Strategy, and Strategic Plan for the Union

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

REQUESTS the IUCN Council, as a matter of priority, to establish an intersessional Council working group including IUCN Members to lead and work with the Director General:

a. to define a consultative process to undertake the following:

i. undertake a global situational analysis of IUCN that takes into account all points raised in the external review;

ii. develop options to address the points raised in the External Review of Aspects of IUCN’s Governance, including strengthening Council’s capacity to carry out its oversight and governance roles, and if needed, reviewing its membership models and any other needed organisational change;

iii. develop a long-term (20 years) integrated Strategic Vision that includes a Financial Strategy, and Strategic Plan and other implementation plans, as needed, that follow the four-year planning process of the Union; and

iv. establish a clear roadmap to ensure that the Union effectively and efficiently fulfils its mandated objectives, including by actively engaging its membership, while ensuring financial sustainability;

b. to consult with the IUCN membership during the process, including sharing the proposed process, the composition of the working group, and the situational analysis and the outcomes of that strategic planning process and options developed in a.ii; and

c. to submit the Strategic Vision, Financial Strategy and Strategic Plan and options developed in a.ii. to a vote by the Members before the end of the next World Conservation Congress.

WCC-2020-Dec-148-EN

Enabling effective attendance and participation of Members in future sessions of the World Conservation Congress

RECALLING that IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (also known as International Union for Conservation of Nature), is an international association of governmental, non-governmental Members and indigenous peoples organisations;

FURTHER RECALLING that the World Conservation Congress is the highest organ of IUCN;

REAFFIRMING that the rights of Members to participate in the World Conservation Congress and to vote in sessions of the World Conservation Congress or by mail ballot as stated in the Statutes are sacrosanct, and are the cornerstone of the governance of the Union;

RECALLING that the IUCN World Congress Rules of Procedure give the possibility to all Members to vote on motions in person or by proxy, as stated in Rule 66(d);

RECOGNISING the critical importance of facilitating the active and safe participation of Member organisations at the IUCN World Conservation Congress;

RECALLING Article 21 (a) of the IUCN Statutes;

MINDFUL that in the current COVID-19 pandemic situation, the unequal access to vaccination created unacceptable inequalities in Members’ participation;

CONCERNED that a large number of IUCN Member organisations were unable, or not permitted due to the health situation, to participate in person at the current session of the World Conservation Congress;

FURTHER CONCERNED that IUCN Council rejected the various requests by a large number of IUCN Members to vote online on motions and decisions during the World Conservation Congress and that voting by proxy was the only option available to Members that could not attend the Congress, when many Members might also have been limited in their choice of proxy holder as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;

AWARE of the advances in virtual conferencing technologies which provide new opportunities for effective remote participation of Members and in particular online voting; and

MINDFUL that future congresses are more likely to have both virtual and in-person attendance, with corresponding relevant impact on carbon footprint;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. CALLS ON the Director General, the President and the Council to ensure that more emphasis is put on implementation of Article 21 (a) in the organisation of the future sessions of the World Conservation Congress;

2. REQUESTS the Council to ensure that the financial support of Member organisations for the next session of the World Conservation Congress (2024/2025) is not conditioned by their vote in the current session of the Congress;

3. URGES the Director General to make all necessary efforts to raise funds to support the participation of Members that would not otherwise be able to attend the Congress and exercise their voting rights;

4. REQUESTS the Council to prepare draft revisions to the IUCN Statutes and formulate proposals to be presented to Members with a view to enhancing the remote participation of Members and the use of online votes during Congress, and to ensure that IUCN is more agile in its response to extraordinary circumstances;

5. ESTABLISHES an “Advisory Group for the Revision of the Statutes” (hereinafter, “Advisory Group”), comprising a maximum of eight members to work with Council in this task;

6. DIRECTS the Council to call for nominations to the Advisory Group in the three months following the close of the World Conservation Congress;

7. REQUESTS the Council, following receipt of nominations, to determine the composition of the Advisory Group taking into consideration experience with the modalities of IUCN, relevant knowledge, geographical representation and diversity, gender and generational balance;

8. FURTHER REQUESTS the Council to announce the composition of the Advisory Group within no more than three months after the receipt of nominations;

9. CHARGES the Council to communicate proposals for revisions of the Statutes to Members, organise an online discussion and revise the proposals as per the result of these discussions; and

10. REQUIRES that each individual proposal be voted on by electronic ballot with the aim of ensuring that the suggested changes are applicable in time to be effective during the preparation of the next World Conservation Congress.
IUCN Programme 2021-2024

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

On the proposal of the IUCN Director General and with the approval of the Council in accordance with Article 88 (e) of the Statutes,

APPROVE the IUCN Programme 2021-2024.
IUCN Financial Plan 2021-2024

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

*On the proposal of the IUCN Director General and with the approval of the Council in accordance with Article 88 (e) of the Statutes and Article 91 of the Regulations,*

**APPROVE** the IUCN Financial Plan 2021–2024.
Proposal for Membership Dues

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

On the proposal of the IUCN Council,

1. **ADOPT** the proposal for membership dues, according to Article 20(f) of IUCN Statutes (Annex 1); and

2. **MANDATE** the 2021–2024 Council to:
   - **CONTINUE THE WORK** achieved by the 2016–2020 Council on:
     - a. the issue of dues for venue-based organisations and government agencies;
     - b. the issue of the value of membership and Members facing difficult financial situations and not being able to pay their dues; and to
   - **SUBMIT both proposals** to IUCN Members by electronic vote before the next Congress.
Rescission of Members’ rights whose dues are in arrears

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

CONSIDERED the list of IUCN Members whose membership dues are two or more years in arrears, and

VOTE to rescind all the remaining rights of those Members.

Background information

Under the provision of the IUCN Statutes, the payment of the annual membership dues is a statutory obligation (IUCN Statutes, Article 12 (c) (iii)).

Furthermore, the Statutes stipulate that “if the dues of a Member are two years in arrears, the matter shall be referred to the World Congress which may rescind all the remaining rights of the Member concerned. Such rescission shall be on such terms as the World Congress may determine” (IUCN Statutes, Article 13 (a)).

Following decision C100/3 (https://www.iucn.org/sites/dev/files/decisions_of_the_100th_meeting_of_the_iucn_council_by_conference_call_on_14_september_2020_with_annex_1-5.pdf) of the IUCN Council to submit a number of decision items including the Rescission of Members’ rights to an electronic vote at the beginning of 2021 in order to ensure continuity of IUCN’s global operations, please find below a link to the list of Members with arrears.

These Members may still pay their outstanding dues up to and including 2019, until 13 January 2021. If they fail to do so by this date, their name will be included in the rescission list to be voted on and, depending on the result of the vote, their remaining rights may be rescinded. Members who pay before 13 January 2021 will be removed from the list.

If the rescission is approved, Members whose rights have been rescinded will have one year within which they may pay their outstanding dues. In case of non-payment, they will be considered as having withdrawn from IUCN (Article 13(b)).
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<td>East Europe, North and</td>
<td>Niue</td>
<td>Niue Island United Association of Non Government Organisations</td>
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</table>

Members who have paid their outstanding dues during the e-vote. Their rights are reinstated immediately.
Membres qui ont payé leurs cotisations en suspens pendant le vote électronique. Leurs droits sont rétablis avec effet immédiat.
Miembros que han pagado sus cuotas pendientes durante la votación electrónica. Sus derechos han sido restablecidos de inmediato.
Appointment of External Auditors

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

At the recommendation of the IUCN Council,

APPOINT PricewaterhouseCoopers as IUCN External Auditors for the years 2021 to 2022, and REQUESTS that Council appoint the External Auditors for the years 2023 to 2024 following a competitive selection process.
Audited Financial Statements for the period 2016-2019

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

APPROVE the audited Financial Statements for the years 2016 to 2019 submitted by the Director General.
Proposed Mandate for the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC)

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

As proposed by the IUCN Council,

APPROVE the mandate for the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication for the period 2021–2024.
Proposed Mandate for the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM)

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

As proposed by the IUCN Council,

APPROVE the mandate for the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management for the period 2021–2024.
Proposed Mandate for the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP)

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

As proposed by the IUCN Council,

APPROVE the mandate for the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) for the period 2021–2024.
Proposed Mandate for the Species Survival Commission (SSC)

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

As proposed by the IUCN Council,

APPROVE the mandate for the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) for the period 2021–2024.
Proposed Mandate for the World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL)

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

*As proposed by the IUCN Council,*

**APPROVE** the mandate for the IUCN World Commission on Environment Law (WCEL) for the period 2021–2024.
Proposed Mandate for the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

The IUCN Membership, by electronic vote taking place from 27 January to 10 February 2021:

*As proposed by the IUCN Council,*

APPROVE the mandate for the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) for the period 2021–2024.
### Annex 1 -- Explanation of votes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Resolution / Recommendation</th>
<th>Explanation of votes</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Développement international</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-117-EN</td>
<td>For France, the references to the UNDROP are interpreted on the basis of the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-119-EN</td>
<td>With regard to the right to discovery, France notes that such as notion is rarely invoked in international law.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>WCC-2020-Res-121-EN</td>
<td>It also notes that the contours of this right are not the subject of a consensual definition.</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-122-EN</td>
<td>Thus, it considers that the language used by the resolution risks adding a level of complexity to the international law of possession, which is moreover almost always based on a legal title or an international convention.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>France is in favour of this motion, which aims to regulate extractive activity and make more efficient use of primary resources.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>These provisions are already implemented at national level. In 2015, France took up the issue of the optimisation of resources and recycling.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>However, recommendation no. 7 of this motion cannot be supported as it stands. The use of recycling and alternative materials will not stop the production of primary raw materials. The available alternative technologies provide limited solutions.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Finally, France has adopted a national strategy for the exploration and exploitation of the deep seabed, and is taking part in the international work by the ISA to consider the rational exploitation of these resources.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>France is concerned about the issues of the protection of deep-ocean ecosystems and biodiversity. It calls for greater development of knowledge of the long-term environmental impact of the exploitation of deep-sea mineral</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
resources, an impact that is currently too poorly known, by the application of the precautionary principle. However, France is not in favour of the adoption of a moratorium on the exploitation of marine mineral resources because it would slow down work on the acquisition of scientific and technical knowledge of the seabed and would weaken the existing multilateral framework within the International Seabed Authority to the benefit of unilateral actions. On the other hand, France calls on the international community to work towards an international ban on deep-sea mining within Marine Protected Areas.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Eco Foundation Global</th>
<th>China</th>
<th>WCC-2020-Res-118-EN</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1. We support this motion. This motion highlights the importance of participation in local governance by indigenous peoples and the local community. We think it corresponds to reality. Indigenous peoples and local communities have lived on their land for a long time, they have their own cultural heritage and way of life, which are often well integrated and adapted to the natural environment. Otherwise, they would not be sustainable. 2. At the same time, this motion does not emphasise the fact that indigenous peoples and local communities should be managed autonomously in all circumstances. In some cases, we must help them through communication and education, in order to avoid them being influenced by external temptations and strong cultures. For example, these influences can lead the entire community to gradually change into ways of life and production cultures that are not adapted to the local environment. Or else, large companies provide incentives and other methods that encourage indigenous peoples to sell them the wildlife at high prices. Therefore, we believe that this proposal also takes into account the needs and requirements to avoid such scenarios, and it is thus appropriate and worthy of being supported.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                       |       | WCC-2020-Res-120-EN |
|                       |       | 1. We support this motion. In particular, what is described in Principle 13 is excellent: it reflects exactly the principles and priorities to follow when humans coexist with nature. 2. At present, natural capital is an important area that needs to be studied by humans. The development of the theory and the practice will not be achieved overnight, but requires repeated practice, discussion and |

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As indicated in Principle 6 of this motion: Continuous learning and adaptive management. If we continue to progress with this correct principle, we shall undoubtedly obtain the right theory that will be able to guide the practice of ecological conservation.

1. We support this motion. This proposal takes into account the real needs of the economy and society, whilst at the same time calling for a reduction in the impact of the mining industry on the environment, which is exactly what our world needs right now. It is a motion that corresponds to sustainable development and Eco-civilisation.

2. In this motion, the proposal to create independent international coordination organisations is very inspiring. In reality, new structures can often draw the best practices from existing organisations such as OPEC and ISA (International Seabed Authority), etc., and can avoid their shortcomings. This guarantees the results of ecological conservation, by coordinating the formulation of a global plan for the production of mines in the medium and long term, whilst reinforcing the transparency of information and public oversight.

3. There may be some concerns that there are already many international organisations participating in the coordination of this subject, and doubts about whether is it really necessary for IUCN to intervene. We think of these arguments or principles for responses: if the problem continues to worsen, or no improvement is seen in the short term, this means that we have not invested sufficiently in means or resources to solve these problems. IUCN's intervention is not duplicative or wasteful. On the contrary, IUCN will play a more useful role and will better promote the solutions to the problems. IUCN’s mission, vision, professionalism, science and inclusiveness will help find a more objective, effective, balanced and beneficial solution for everyone.

The United Kingdom supports the critical role that the IUCN plays in bringing members together from diverse areas to have the space to discuss, share knowledge and experiences on conservation issues we are all currently facing. The UK has been actively involved in the Conference this year with officials taking part both in Marseilles and in the virtual contact groups and events. We applaud the efforts of the IUCN on
organising such a hybrid event that allows for wide and diverse participation of members, making sure that those that cannot travel, still have a voice in discussions. These are of course difficult and sensitive topics to discuss and of the utmost importance in getting right, if we are to bend the curve of biodiversity loss starting now. With that in mind the UK would like to make a statement on Motion 126 – Acting for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in the ocean beyond national jurisdiction. This motion focuses on a topic of the utmost importance to the UK, concluding negotiations of a new implementing agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction as soon as possible in 2022. Given the importance of these negotiations, it is imperative that the text within this motion is right and reflective of current discussions. However, a key part of the text on marine protected areas (OP1.b.i) was unclear and included language that could have implications for other international negotiations taking place. The timing between publication of the revised text online in the late evening and the vote the following morning did not allow enough time to consider that text, and wider consequences, in full. That is why the UK took the position to abstain in voting on this motion. However, our abstention must not detract from our ambition for the ocean, calling for at least 30% of the global ocean to be protected through effective marine protected areas by 2030 and for concluding negotiations on the BBNJ Agreement as soon as possible – both of which were central in the outcome documents from the UK’s G7 presidency this year. We will continue to maintain momentum during this intersessional period, working with others, to ensure we arrive at the final BBNJ intergovernmental conference next year in the best possible place. The UK would like to thank the Congress for the opportunity to share this statement. We request that this statement be entered in full for the record in the report of this Congress.
| Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment | South Africa | Motion 008 (WCC-2020-Res-007-EN); 036 (WCC-2020-Res-031-EN); 073 (WCC-2020-Res-060-EN); 078 (WCC-2020-Res-064-EN) (Vote results October 2020) | The Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment also noted with serious concerns the use of Nature Based Solutions in most of the approved motion including motion 008; 036; 073; and 078. This term is not an approved term under the UN structures and there is no consensus on the definition. The Ministry also note with disappointment that IUCN continue to set-up structures which works in parallel with the UN Structures. The formation of the new Climate Change Commission as the 7th IUCN Commission is not encouraged since there are well established bodies (i.e. IPCC and IPBES) that support the mandated Rio Conventions to deal with the challenge of climate change, biodiversity and ecosystems. In addition, the Climate Change activities are embedded in the 6 Commissions, therefore the creation of the new structure will unnecessarily duplicate work. Motion 34 may assist with achieving the same objectives instead of establishing a new structure. The Ministry does not support this motion in its entirety. |
| Pro Natura | Switzerland | WCC-2020-Res-123-EN | I am making this statement also on behalf of la Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN), Friends of the Earth Hungary, the German League for Nature, Animal Protection and Environment and POLLINIS. We are of the opinion that the process |
leading up to the wording of the motion and the work in the contact group was flawed.

Firstly, the IUCN Task Force and Technical Sub-Group on Synthetic Biology and Biodiversity Conservation produced an unbalanced report that failed to address social, cultural and ethical considerations. It failed to address risks properly, did not address a range of uncertainties and unknowns about synthetic biology and its implications, and failed to name that most applications of synthetic biology are genetic modification and other new forms of genetic engineering.

Secondly the composition of the Sub-Group of the Task Force was inappropriate in two ways:
1. while not the fault of its members, many had a financial interest in the development and use of Synthetic Biology.
2. it did not draw on the full and broad range of expertise necessary for such a report, including anthropology, ecology, sociology, value risk assessment and the direct input of Indigenous people and other guardians of nature.

Furthermore, the result of consultations on this report undertaken with IUCN members introduced important elements to take into consideration, but these elements were not integrated in the motion draft.

Several key paragraphs in the motion failed to represent the range of issues that needed to be addressed in developing a meaningful policy and inclusive process.

Consequently, this led to a conflict of positions in the contact group, as well as in the drafting group, that could not be overcome.

We would like to stress the importance for a balanced process in the elaboration of policy on a subject with so many unknowns as it is the case for Synthetic biology that takes into consideration the whole scale of views in our Union.

As a result, the motion that is now presented to the Congress has crucial text still bracketed. For us the inclusion of the bracketed text is necessary to enable the development of a policy that is in line with different positions in the IUCN constituency and previous resolutions.
We call on IUCN members present to support the inclusion of the text in the brackets and to vote for option 1. Faced with the potentially severe impacts of gene drive technology, IUCN should refrain from supporting further development and field trials on gene drives for conservation or other purposes until an IUCN policy supported by all is adopted.

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<td>It is clear from all of the statistics that we are losing the war to conserve the world’s biodiversity. Our current tools are helping us win some battles, and we would be worse off without them. But it is clear -- they are insufficient. We need to explore all potential additional technologies to help us. As a conservation community, we are at the cutting edge on use of remote sensing and tracking technologies. But to turn the tide, we also need to remain open minded to other potential tools -- which might include one or more tools in the genetic realm [through synthetic biology]. Motion 75 is calling for IUCN to develop a policy to guide us as we do that. Recognizing the complexities of the rapidly-evolving field, such a policy is critically important if we are indeed to explore all potential new tools to conserve species -- the potential benefits of such tools, as well as their potential risks. This policy can only be truly useful to IUCN’s members if it is neutral, open-minded, and based on the best possible knowledge and science -- as is IUCN’s greatest strength. Thus, WCS encourages members to vote for the motion, and for all options within it that would maintain the open-minded neutral approach to the pros and cons. That will be critical if the policy’s outcome will be to support biodiversity conservation in our rapidly-changing and challenging world.</td>
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<td>International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) made the following statement for the record, speaking also on behalf of Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre – ARCAS (Guatemala), Born Free Foundation (UK), Natural Resources Defense Council (USA) Re:Wild (USA), Sharkproject Austria e.V., Sharkproject Germany, Sharkproject International e.V. (Switzerland), Wildlife Conservation Society – WCS (USA), The Wilderness Foundation (USA), and The WILD Foundation (USA):</td>
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Members from among our organisations participated in the contact group on Motion 135. We welcomed the efforts and spirit of engagement among the participants, which have largely improved this motion.

We are fully supportive of a call to countries to adopt a One Health approach to prevent future pandemics, including many of the related actions highlighted in this motion. Therefore, we will support this motion.

However, as with amendments made yesterday to the Addendum to the programme and in Motion 137, we regret the insertion of dangerous qualifiers around the word risk. These are subjective, open to wide interpretation, and limit ambition in terms of truly tackling pathogen spillover and preventing the next pandemic.

We should, of course, focus our initial prevention activities in areas that we know to pose the most significant risk. However, are we, as the conservation community, really willing to tolerate even a small amount of risk if the outcome would be another global pandemic that, once again, costs the lives of millions of people and trillions of dollars in economic damage?

Our goal should be to prevent ANY pathogen spillover, and we should work tirelessly to attain this goal. All efforts must be taken to prevent pandemics at source—which is in most cases the human/wildlife/environment interface.

We will support this motion. But we urge Members to reflect carefully on their ambitions, and on what level of risk they are willing to tolerate, if we truly intend to avoid ever again seeing a pandemic of zoonotic origin that takes such a devastating toll on human lives, livelihoods and economies.

| Kilimanjaro Animal Centre for Rescue, Education and Wildlife (C.R.E.W.) | United Republic of Tanzania | WCC-2020-Res-135-EN | Noting the causes of pandemics, like this one, it is undeniably associated with how society treats animals, including wildlife held in captivity (ex situ) and wet market. Recognizing that animals are sentient beings that require our respect and protection, their mental, physiological and physical health encompasses the concept of their 'well-being'. Bringing attention to the internationally recognized five freedoms of animals and specifically captive wildlife; |
namely the freedom from thirst, hunger and malnutrition, freedom from unnatural discomfort, freedom from unnatural pain, injury and disease, freedom to express and maintain natural behaviour and freedom from fear, distress, abuse and neglect. With the aim to decrease transfer of zoonotic diseases through the one health motion 135 there should be societal responsibility and commitment towards the individual animals' well-being.

Calling attention to some governments struggling to recover from the pandemic, they begin to look to new avenues of wildlife tourism/utilization in the form of wildlife ranches, farms and zoos.

It is concerning that sometimes wildlife policies and decision-making focuses on benefiting from wildlife utilization without addressing, regulating and monitoring the humane care and handling of wildlife in ex situ. Reference to wildlife trade must also consider the actual well-being of the animals who are innocent victims and deserve our advocacy and committed protection.

We believe human health and animal well-being are equally important, and one does not necessarily supersede the other. Empathy towards and subsequent protection of wildlife, especially those victims of wildlife trade, is a human responsibility and needs to be included in this motion.

We request an intervention in the text of motion 135 to include the text: in paragraph 6 adding ‘well-being’ after the word ‘animal’; and in section 7 i adding ‘well-being’ behind ‘animal’.

We are new members. We ask for dialogue among members as well as non-members to find common ground and collaborative mission to be inclusive to the concept of wildlife protection and well-being. Let us join the herd of humanity living in respect and harmony with the world’s wildlife, their ecosystem and the planet we humans share with nature One nature one future.

Please accept the request to add the word ‘well-being’ in two places of the motion. Thank you.

The United States strongly supports efforts to study and mitigate the adverse effects of anthropogenic
sound on marine life. We have clearly demonstrated this commitment through significant international investments, for example in the International Maritime Organization and the Arctic Council, in work that seeks to better understand and reduce noise impacts on marine animals from incidental exposure to anthropogenic sources of noise. We thus express our support for the overall intention of this motion to reduce deleterious effects of noise through global partnerships and technological advance. However, we feel that some of the language prejudices ongoing negotiations that the United States is actively involved in, particularly with respect to the negotiation of a legally binding agreement on biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Therefore, the United States abstained.

The United States voted for Motion 39 in recognition of our strong supports for calls to uphold and promote human rights, and efforts to protect environmental and human rights defenders and whistleblowers. While we voted in favor of this motion, we note that the United States understands “environmental rights” only to refer to those rights recognized by parties to instruments that establish such rights. In addition, we note that the United States would interpret free, prior, informed consent and the rights to land, territories and resources as we laid out in the United States’ 2010 statement of support for the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The United States is committed to developing an ambitious Global Biodiversity Framework that promotes enhanced on-the-ground conservation and sustainable use of nature. We believe the framework should reflect science-based, practical targets, including a greater reliance on the 2019 Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) Report on the Global Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. The United States strongly supports a global goal to conserve 30 percent of our land and waters by 2030 for the sake of nature, climate and the ocean. We encourage other countries to pursue similar domestic goals, and believe that individual countries should be held accountable for contributing to the global targets, including through both specific non-binding country commitments as well as reporting and
review. We believe the Framework should encourage enhanced spending for nature conservation and restoration at the national, regional, and international levels, from all sources. Among our most important goals is to ensure the framework provides for expanded inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in decision-making and implementation processes and strengthened respect for and protection of Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK). We note that the United States would interpret free, prior, informed consent and the rights to land, territories and resources as we laid out in the United States’ 2010 statement of support for the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The United States supports the spirit of the objectives of this motion. We note the motion touches on issues that are the topic of ongoing international negotiations; therefore, the United States abstained.

The United States is strongly committed at the highest levels to working as part of a collaborative global effort centered on country-led processes to enhance food security, so that food is available, accessible, stable, and usable to people everywhere, including indigenous peoples and farming communities. The United States recognizes that individuals in rural communities continue to face barriers to attaining improved well-being and quality of life, including disproportionate levels of poverty and access to infrastructure. The United States is a strong proponent of human rights. We recognize that indigenous peoples possess collective rights, such as those recognized in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. However, we do not believe that vaguely defined or undefined groupings, such as, for example, local communities, possess collective rights recognized by the international community in the manner that indigenous peoples possess such rights. The rights of indigenous peoples developed in a unique context, and have been accepted in the specific context of the UNDRIP, and they cannot be transposed over to this potentially much broader group. The United States is also concerned that the concept of “food sovereignty” could justify protectionism or other restrictive import or export policies that will have negative consequences for
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<td>United States</td>
<td>food security, sustainability, and income growth. Improved access to local, regional, and global markets helps ensure food is available to the people who need it most and smooths price volatility. Food security depends on appropriate domestic action by governments, including regulatory and market reforms, that is consistent with international commitments. The United States strongly supports the objectives of this motion and calls to uphold and promote human rights, and efforts to protect the rights of indigenous peoples. However, the United States abstained from voting on this motion as it includes issues that are the topic of ongoing international policy debate. In addition, we note that the United States would interpret free, prior, informed consent and the rights to land, territories and resources as we laid out in the United States’ 2010 statement of support for the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The United States supports the goal to develop a balanced, science-based IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation. However, we are concerned that the terms of reference and guiding criteria for a policy development process outlined in this motion strays beyond IUCN’s area of expertise and core mandate and established international law. The United States supports a global goal of conserving at least thirty percent of lands and waters by 2030 (“30x30”) for the sake of biodiversity, climate, and our terrestrial, freshwater, and ocean ecosystems. We encourage other countries to pursue similar domestic goals and to support science-based high seas marine protected areas. The United States strongly supports the calls to uphold and promote human rights, and efforts to protect the rights of indigenous peoples and enhanced participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. While we support the objectives of this motion, we note that, as with all science, the scientific evidence to support conservation goals in excess of 30 percent is evolving and still under review. We also note the motion touches on issues that are the topic of ongoing international negotiation; therefore, the United States abstained.</td>
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WCC-2020-Res-118-EN

WCC-2020-Res-123-EN

WCC-2020-Res-125-EN
In 2022, the United States marks the 50th anniversary of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, the U.S. domestic law responsible for the conservation and protection of marine mammals not only in U.S. waters, but worldwide. This ambitious law outlines U.S. policy towards the conservation and management of marine mammals. The United States strongly supports the effective conservation and management of marine mammals and believes that working with partners at State, regional, and local levels is essential to further conservation efforts. Therefore, the United States supports this motion to encourage critical transboundary cooperation globally on marine mammal conservation. We look forward to working with others to achieve these goals.

The United States supports national and international efforts to conserve biodiversity, including in areas beyond national jurisdiction. We note President Biden's ambitious commitments to tackle the climate crisis, a key driver of biodiversity loss, by re-joining the Paris Agreement and committing to slash U.S. emissions by 50-52% by 2030. We also note the President's pledge to seek to conserve 30% of our lands and waters by 2030. The United States is actively engaged in the negotiation of a legally binding agreement on biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, and we are committed to its timely completion. We support the call for the IUCN Director General, Commissions and Secretariat to provide technical support to Members. However, we feel that some of the language prejudges ongoing negotiations that the United States is actively involved in, particularly with respect to the negotiation of a legally binding agreement on biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction. Therefore, the United States abstained.

The United States is concerned that the ever-growing demand in international trade for the swim bladder of fish species in the croaker family is leading to their overharvest and threatening other marine species that are caught as bycatch, including small cetaceans, sharks, rays and marine turtles. Without proper management, we are concerned that fisheries targeting croakers could result in their decline, similar to the totoaba. However, since the motion recommendation addresses a pending
The United States is a strong supporter of a One Health approach that addresses the links between the health of humans, animals, plants, and their shared environment. We support the goals of this motion, and agree that preventing requires addressing the fundamental drivers of zoonotic disease risk, among them increased human-wildlife-livestock contact from the drivers described here. However, we regard it as important not to predetermine the outcome of WHO Member State discussions regarding a potential WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument. Therefore, the United States abstained.

The United States is committed to supporting the sustainable management and utilization of wild resources and strongly supports calls to uphold and promote human rights. However, The United States recognizes that indigenous peoples possess collective rights, such as those recognized in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. However, we do not believe that “local communities,” a vaguely defined or undefined grouping, possess collective rights recognized by the international community in the manner that indigenous peoples possess such rights. The rights of indigenous peoples developed in a unique context, and have been accepted in the specific context of the UNDRIP, and they cannot be transposed over to potentially much broader groups. We note the motion touches on issues that are the topic of ongoing international negotiation; therefore, the United States abstained.

United States Government United States of America

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<td>WCC-2020-Res-135-EN</td>
<td>proposal that would be negotiated and considered under CITES, the United States abstained.</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-137-EN</td>
<td>The United States is a strong supporter of a One Health approach that addresses the links between the health of humans, animals, plants, and their shared environment. We support the goals of this motion, and agree that preventing requires addressing the fundamental drivers of zoonotic disease risk, among them increased human-wildlife-livestock contact from the drivers described here. However, we regard it as important not to predetermine the outcome of WHO Member State discussions regarding a potential WHO convention, agreement or other international instrument. Therefore, the United States abstained.</td>
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<td>WCC-2020-Res-111-EN</td>
<td>State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on these motions.</td>
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United States Government

United States of America

WCC-2020-Res-117-EN
WCC-2020-Res-123-EN (-1, -2, -4)

State and agency Members of the United States voted against these motions.

International Council of Environmental Law

United States of America

WCC-2020-Res-114-EN

The Contact Group on Motion 034 had a consensus. The Resolutions Committee sent a new text back to the contact group delegating parts of the consensus. This undermines the voice and the role of IUCN Members in their good faith participation in contact groups, and needs to be viewed by Council as one of the problems of the World Conservation Congress. The link to the Center for Environmental Legal Studies consensus text is here.

The WILD Foundation

United States of America

Motion M (Motion calling for an online vote on all motions following the Congress) -- NOT ADOPTED

I am reading this statement on behalf of 27 member organizations' from Algeria, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Namibia, New Zealand, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uruguay.

Respectfully, understanding the extraordinary circumstance in which our colleagues planned this Congress -- yet after deep consideration, discussion with members, and consultation with legal counsel -- we would like to register our concern about numerous inconsistencies on procedures at this Congress, and specifically on Motion M, which called for a post-Congress on-line vote accessible by all Members. We will submit this text to be included in the permanent record and report of the Congress.

We are extremely concerned by the overreach of the Congress Steering Committee in sending an email to members only a few days after the entire Council decided to propose Motion M to the Members’ Assembly, an action that we consider to be an inappropriate attempt to influence the vote on a substantive matter before the Members. Also, the scheduling of an unexpected second contact group (after the first contact group had reached consensus agreement) resulted in some of us missing discussions on other important motions.

We are dismayed that the Legal Advisor of IUCN ruled that Motion M required a two-thirds majority. Our considered opinion, after legal counsel on interpretation of the statutes, is that it should have only needed a simple
Chair, we are deeply concerned that the handling and the outcome of Motion M has further strengthened the feeling of disenfranchisement and exclusion by many members of our Union. This must be addressed. While one can have a narrow reading that the motion failed because of a tie in the government house, we urge the new Council to consider and respect that the motion represented the true feelings of members. The motion had a majority in the NGO and IPO house, and half of the Category A members represented here voted in favour. We note that many of the members not represented in Marseille chose not to give their proxies, and were given no opportunity to voice their views at all because members joining virtually in a supposedly hybrid Congress had NO means to intervene and have their voices heard during any session of the Members’ Assembly.

At this Congress, we have created a grave precedent of disregarding key principles of our democratic governance. However, we celebrate and congratulate Members on the results of our elections, in which all Members could vote, and urge the new Council and officers to deeply reflect on what has happened in this Congress and to move decisively to heal our Union. We have much work to do, and the voice of our Union must be clear and united.

*Submitted on behalf of: Wild Foundation, USA; Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment, Tunisia; Association Tunisienne de Taxonomie ATUTAX, Tunisia; Explorialis, Tunisia; Association pour la Protection de l’Environnement et du Développement Durable de Bizerte, Tunisia; Notre Grand Bleu, Tunisia; Association ‘Les Amis des Oiseaux’, Tunisia; Mouvement Ecologique Algérien, Algeria; The Shouf Cedar Society, Lebanon; Center for Environmental Ethics and Law, USA; Natural Resources Defense Council, USA; A Rocha International, UK; Ministerio de Vivienda Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente, Uruguay; CORDIO East Africa, Kenya; Resource Africa, South Africa; Resource Africa, UK; African Wildlife Foundation, Kenya; Wilderness Foundation, South Africa; Environment and Conservation Organisations, New Zealand; Stop Ecocide International,
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<td>Canada</td>
<td>Canada is in a federal election period. As such, its Caretaker Convention applies and policy positions cannot be confirmed. Therefore, Canada has abstained on all policy motions at this time.</td>
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<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>Firstly, I would like to thank this congress for allowing me to bring the voice of the indigenous peoples of the Amazon basin. We are nine countries, 511 indigenous peoples. This proposal comes from the heart of the indigenous territories. I ask this congress and this European country, France, to support the indigenous peoples and the Amazon basin. Today, a strong, collective voice must come out to save the planet, to save the Amazon basin and the indigenous peoples. We want to say thank you for the consensus to avoid future pandemics of crises involving water, food and the rights of indigenous peoples. Today, we want to celebrate with you the approval of our motion for those who have left, for those who have been assassinated, for those who continue to be persecuted in the defence of our territory that gives life to the planet. However, we leave you a challenge, brothers, a vote is not enough, approval is not enough, we need an implementation plan, we need the support of all countries of the world, we need the support of all of you: States, governments, companies. An urgent action plan and political will to change this reality of fires, death and blood, but of an Amazon that is alive and wants to continue to exist for the planet. Jose Gregorio Diaz Mirabal, general coordinator of COICA.</td>
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José Gregorio Díaz Mirabal, general coordinator of COICA.