

RES 3.078 Sturgeon (Acipenseriformes) conservation within the Caspian, and Azov and Black Sea Basins

CONSIDERING that the majority of the sturgeon (Acipenseriformes) populations within the Caspian Basin and the Azov and Black Sea Basin are of strong conservation concern;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the status of sturgeon populations depends directly on management of their resources;

REMEMBERING the major importance of sturgeon resources for sustainable development of the above-mentioned Basins;

RECOGNIZING the need for increasing the level and reliability of information about the status of sturgeon populations;

RECOGNIZING the work within the framework of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and more specifically the so-called Paris Agreement (2001), including a plan of action to assist the states of the Caspian Sea and Azov and Black Sea to build a science-based management system for the long-term conservation and sustainable use of sturgeon; and

RECOGNIZING the progress made by the Islamic Republic of Iran towards maintaining sturgeon populations at sustainable levels;

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

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General, with the assistance of IUCN's members, Commissions, and Council, to promote the conservation and sustainable use of sturgeons (Acipenseriformes) throughout their ranges, particularly in the Caspian, Azov and Black Sea Basins;
2. REQUESTS the IUCN Director General to appeal to the governments of littoral states surrounding the Caspian, Azov and Black Sea Basins to fulfil the requirements of CITES implementation for sturgeon species and, in particular, the improvement of science based sustainable management and the elimination of illegal harvest and illegal trade; and
3. CALLS on the governments of littoral states surrounding the Caspian Sea, Azov and Black Sea Basins:
 - (a) to prioritize the recovery of natural sturgeon populations through measures such as restoration and conservation of migratory routes and spawning and fattening grounds; and
 - (b) in collaboration with all stakeholders to enable local communities to participate in sturgeon resource management and conservation and to ensure they share the benefits of sustainable sturgeon exploitation.

The Department of State, United States, provided the following statement for the record:

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