

#### 4.014 Conservation of global plant diversity

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure:
  - (a) effective engagement on implementation of the GSPC across external sectors and programmes; and
  - (b) that the Species Programme, regional offices and the IUCN SSC plant networks work with and invigorate the GPPC in developing the GSPC beyond 2010.