

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

REQUESTS the Director General in consultation with SSC to:

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

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