

WCC-2012-Rec-179-EN

Respecting ecologically sustainable use of abundant biological resources

RECOGNIZING that wild fauna and flora are vital to human survival and have significant cultural, biological and ecosystem service values, and that decisions on whether to use or not to use living natural resources should be consistent with the conservation of biological diversity;

ALSO RECOGNIZING the importance that the IUCN mission attaches to any use of resources being sustainable and that the international community has attached to achieving and supporting the sustainable use of renewable natural resources under such intergovernmental instruments and agreements as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Ramsar Convention, Agenda 21, the Global Environment Facility and other internationally endorsed policy and financial instruments;

RECALLING Recommendation 2.92 *Indigenous peoples, sustainable use of natural resources, and international trade* adopted at the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) which urges: “all national governments, without prejudice to their obligations under international law, to put their sustainable use principles into action in order to improve the viability of indigenous and local communities, which depend on the harvesting of renewable resources, by eliminating tariff, and nontariff barriers, which discourage the sustainable use of natural products derived from non-endangered species”;

NOTING that the 2nd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000) also adopted Resolution 2.29, *IUCN Policy Statement on Sustainable Use of Wild Living Resources*, which concluded that the sustainable use of wild living resources can be an important conservation tool and that “wild living resources have many cultural, ethical, ecological and economic values, which provide incentives for conservation”;

RECALLING that the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*, adopted at the 7th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (Kuala Lumpur, 2004), as a framework for advising governments, resource managers and other stakeholders, specifically Principle 1, which “allows sustainable use of a resource to proceed from collection or harvest through to final use without unnecessary impediment”;

AWARE that maintaining ecosystem functions is an essential consideration and that Addis Ababa Practical Principle 10 recognizes that “national policies should take into account intrinsic and other non-economic values of biological diversity”;

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 3.074, *Implementing the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for Sustainable Use of Biodiversity* adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) urged IUCN Members who are Parties to the CBD to honour the commitments they made through the *Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines*, which are fully congruent with Resolution 2.29;

RECOGNIZING that States have the legitimate right to take measures to promote the conservation and sustainable management of global biodiversity and societal values;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING, however, that where such measures impact on wild resources in other jurisdictions these measures could support or inadvertently undermine national or local biodiversity conservation and management strategies and their associated local and indigenous cultural and socio-economic benefits;

RECOGNIZING ALSO where use of wild species occurs, whether consumptive or non-consumptive, ecological sustainability and an ecosystem-based approach are essential to sound resource management; and

REAFFIRMING Recommendation 18.24 *Conservation of Wildlife Through Wise Use as a Renewable Natural Resource* of the 18th IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990) that the: “ethical, wise and sustainable use of wildlife can provide an alternative or supplementary means of productive land-use and can be consistent with and encourage conservation, where such use is in accordance with appropriate safeguards”;

The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Jeju, Republic of Korea, 6–15 September 2012:

URGES States within their existing legal framework and international obligations and without compromising their sovereign rights, if seeking to take measures for the use, conservation and sustainable management of resources that may negatively impact local/indigenous communities and conservation incentives within other States, whenever possible, to offer consultation with those States, and fully taking into account sound science and indigenous/traditional knowledge.

State and agency Members of the United States abstained during the vote on this Motion for reasons given in the US General Statement on the IUCN Resolutions Process.