

WCC-2012-Res-105-EN

Conserving cultures and nature for food security

MINDFUL of the fact that more than 13% of the world's population is malnourished;

NOTING that the global energy crisis is causing millions of hectares of fertile land and forest to be shifted to mono-cropping for the production of agrofuels, leading to a loss of biodiversity and of indigenous peoples' livelihoods and traditional cultures in the southern hemisphere;

OBSERVING that the effects of climate change, combined with changes in land use and the waste and contamination of water caused by extraction and agro-industrial companies along with consumption habits, are putting the poorest sectors of the planet's population in a position of increasing vulnerability;

RECOGNIZING the key relationship between ecosystems (biodiversity) and the livelihoods of those human populations that will be affected by climate change, for which reason adaptation and mitigation measures will be necessary; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the loss of biodiversity and local ancestral knowledge is gradually undermining knowledge bases concerning species management and, thus, food security;

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

URGES the Director General:

- a. in the 2013–2016 IUCN Programme Area *Deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges in climate, food and development*, to allocate financial, technical and institutional resources to promote comprehensive intervention measures aimed at reducing the vulnerability of livelihoods to the effects of land-use change and climate change, with the aim of improving food security and access to water on the part of the poorest sectors of society;
- b. in the 2013–2016 IUCN Programme Area *Valuing and conserving nature*, to allocate financial, technical and institutional resources to implement and promote applied research focused on recovering and enhancing ancestral and current knowledge of biodiversity management for food security, and to deepen, extend and disseminate knowledge on the importance of halting land-use change and protecting water for human consumption, food security and nature; and
- c. in the 2013–2016 IUCN Programme Area on *Effective and equitable governance of nature's use*:
 - i. to publicly condemn all attempts to transform forests or lands intended for food production over to the production of agro- or biofuels;
 - ii. to publicly denounce all activities on the part of transnational companies that may endanger safe water supply for local people; and
 - iii. to urge the world's governments to take all political and regulatory action necessary to prioritize food security over and above the production of agrofuels, and to prioritize water for human consumption, food security and nature over and above its industrial use.

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.