

WCC-2012-Res-010-EN

Establishment of a strengthened programmatic presence of IUCN in Asia

ACKNOWLEDGING that Asia is home to over half of the world population with unique geographical, ecological and biological diversity characteristics;

NOTING that the biological diversity of Asia is threatened by socio-economic activities, causing coastal pollution, yellow sandstorms, desertification, radioactive contamination, climate change, nutrient overloading, land-use change, introduction of invasive species and over-exploitation;

ALSO NOTING that conservation of biological diversity in Asia presents unique challenges;

AWARE of the great strength of IUCN's governmental, non-governmental and Commission membership in Asia and their active participation in regional members' meetings, National Committees and networks;

RECALLING that IUCN's unique opportunities include provision of site- and/or region-specific and science-based knowledge and lessons which illustrate how food security and overall human welfare issues are supported by the conservation of biological diversity and ecosystem management; and

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT that the geographical, ecological and biological diversity of the Asia region requires special efforts to strengthen the programmatic presence of IUCN in all sub-regions, as well as regional management capacity, along with refinement of regional thematic expertise;

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

REQUESTS the Director General to:

- a. undertake a full assessment, in consultation with IUCN Members, of the need and mechanisms to strengthen IUCN's programmatic presence in Asia;
- b. strengthen sub-regional programmes to improve IUCN's effectiveness in Asia; and
- c. promote the unity, integration, synergy and continuity of the Asia Region under the Asia Regional Office particularly with regard to harmony between the statutory and programme dimensions so as to facilitate the achievement of the aims of the One Programme.

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.