

## **WCC-2012-Res-112-EN**

### **Developing the concept of biodiversity security**

NOTING that many States are taking steps to secure their supplies of essential commodities such as food, water and energy through mechanisms such as trading arrangements, new technologies, infrastructure development and others;

AWARE that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* promotes nature-based solutions to global challenges, with a major emphasis on the relationships between biodiversity conservation, food production, water supplies and human security;

NOTING that the project on *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity* (TEEB) has shown that ecosystem services provide benefits of vast value, comprising those that can be quantified and those that cannot;

CONCERNED that while all people depend on ecosystems and biodiversity, those communities that are poor and most reliant on natural products and processes are especially vulnerable to the disruption of ecosystems and loss of biodiversity;

AWARE that species richness, abundance, distribution and presence in functioning communities underlie all ecosystem services;

ALSO AWARE that remedial or preventive actions taken now against ecosystem deterioration and biodiversity loss will prove less costly than future restoration of ecosystem services;

NOTING that the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* cites evidence that halting the loss and degradation of natural systems has the potential to contribute more than one-third of the projected necessary mitigation to reduce the impacts of climate change by 2030; and

RECOGNIZING that biodiversity is an essential element for securing supplies of food, water and energy, but that additional scientific research is needed to better understand the relationship between biodiversity and secure ecosystems and their services;

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

1. RECOGNIZES that biodiversity is the basis for all ecosystem services, and is essential for efforts to achieve security in food and water and often in energy;
2. CALLS ON IUCN Members, Council, Commissions and the Director General to develop the concept of biodiversity security because of its direct relevance to the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, and to identify practical ways to incorporate the concept of biodiversity security within the overall goal of environmental security; and
3. REQUESTS the Director General to report to the next IUCN World Conservation Congress on progress of the abovementioned process and its contribution to meeting the Aichi Targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and to disseminate results to other agencies as appropriate.