

## **WCC-2012-Res-120-EN**

### **Biodiversity conservation for development in the South through South-South cooperation**

ACKNOWLEDGING that biodiversity is critical for economic and social development as well as poverty reduction and that the loss of biodiversity undermines sustainable growth of developing countries;

NOTING that the South hosts the majority of the Earth's biodiversity while facing significant sustainable development challenges and an urgent need for increased investment and new interventions to conserve biodiversity;

ALSO NOTING that an integral vision for South-South cooperation on biodiversity conservation for development is urgently necessary;

RECALLING Decision 25 of the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), encouraging developing country Parties to engage in South-South cooperation on the issue of biodiversity, complemented and supported by North-South cooperation, and to incorporate biodiversity concerns in regional and sub-regional cooperation agreements and associated activities, and encourage Parties to establish, as appropriate, multi-stakeholder collaborative partnerships among Parties to address biodiversity concerns at regional, sub-regional, national and sub-national levels;

WELCOMING CBD Decision X/23 encouraging Parties, including governments, regional and international organizations to further contribute to the development of an Action Plan for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development and establishment of multi-stakeholder collaborative partnerships;

RECOGNIZING the support of the G-77 and China in preparing a *Multi-Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development*, and the support of the Republic of Korea, through its National Institute of Biological Resources, to host an expert meeting, May 18–20, 2011, to further discuss the modalities of South-South and triangular cooperation and the roadmap towards the possible adoption of a Plan at CBD COP11; and

CONSIDERING that South-South cooperation is necessary for the implementation of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and that countries in the South need to enhance South-South and triangular cooperation with appropriate solutions intended for developing countries' economic development as a complementary approach to traditional North-South cooperation;

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

1. CALLS on all developing nations to recognize the importance of strengthening policies linking cooperation with national development and planning processes by enhancing and expanding their mechanisms to share experience, information and technologies and mobilize resources among themselves;
2. REQUESTS developed nations in the North to enhance investment on transfer of technology and capacity building in developing nations in the South;
3. URGES all stakeholders to implement CBD Decision X/23 *Multi-Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development* in the context of nationally determined priorities, capacities and needs;

4. CALLS on the scientific community to step up research on effective approaches to biodiversity conservation and to make their findings more accessible to policy makers and the general public particularly in the developing world;
5. ENCOURAGES bilateral and multilateral agencies to strengthen their support for biodiversity conservation through their respective policies and operational programmes; and
6. REQUESTS the Director General of IUCN to strategically commit to:
  - a. initiating the formation of an Expert Group to develop innovative modalities on how IUCN can be mobilized to support the implementation of the *Multi-Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity Conservation for Development* as a priority action to realize the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the Aichi Targets;
  - b. supporting the establishment of the South-South cooperation network/platform to engage IUCN Members and other stakeholders in facilitating multi-stakeholder collaborative partnerships, in exchanging knowledge on culturally and ecologically appropriate technologies and positioning IUCN as the knowledge clearing house to foster further cooperation within its constituency;
  - c. initiating the formation of an expert team to formulate and develop methodologies to evaluate, measure and report on the benefit and value of South-South cooperation in biodiversity conservation taking into account economic, social and cultural aspects in furtherance of regional, sub-regional and inter-regional South-South cooperation and collaboration;
  - d. facilitating raising of funds through different international funding mechanisms and in triangular cooperation with Members from developed countries to support effective programmes on South-South cooperation and improve on-ground activities; and
  - e. supporting the efforts of other parties in implementing South-South cooperation on biodiversity conservation for development.

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.