

**WCC-2012-Res-130-EN**  
**ECOLEX – the gateway to environmental law**

RECALLING IUCN Resolution 4.092 *Maintenance of ECOLEX: the gateway to environmental law* adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008);

AWARE of the progress made in the development of ECOLEX since then, including the improvement of the system software, as well as the expansion of the various data sets by their respective custodian partners;

WELCOMING the decision and action taken by IUCN to recognize ECOLEX as one of its flagship Knowledge Products;

NOTING the inclusion of ECOLEX in the list of Voluntary Partnerships for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD 'Rio+20'); and

CONVINCED that ECOLEX is a unique tool from which essential legal information can be obtained to assess the state of environmental and natural-resource law development globally, and that can inform individual research, plans and programmes with data on governance, policy and law;

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

1. REQUESTS the ECOLEX partners to intensify their efforts to promote the use of ECOLEX significantly beyond what has already been achieved, in particular by:
  - a. increasing online access of users, especially in developing countries and universities globally;
  - b. collaborating with institutions, programmes and projects which would benefit from cross-pollination with legal data, such as scientific/technical data on species and protected areas;
  - c. contributing to the efforts of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to develop information systems and platforms to share information facilitating synergies in their implementation, such as InforMEA, by establishing links from such systems directly to ECOLEX and vice versa;
  - d. developing products based on ECOLEX data to produce analytical information, subject-based (e.g. wildlife law) or country-based (i.e. country profiles); and
  - e. seeking collaboration with publishers of regularly updated specialized electronic environmental law series; and
2. INVITES the Director General to continue and increase, as appropriate, IUCN support and contribution to ECOLEX, in particular by:
  - a. maintaining the role of IUCN as a key partner in ECOLEX, as custodian of two databases (treaties; policy and law literature);
  - b. maintaining the IUCN Environmental Law Centre's (IUCN ELC) function as the ECOLEX Management Unit (MU) and enlarging its capacity; and

- c. enlarging the capacity of the ELC and/or MU to take the lead in developing a node of biodiversity-related information on governance, policy and law for use by international institutions including the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), now co-located at the ELC, in Bonn (Germany).