

WCC-2012-Res-001-EN

Strengthening the motions process and enhancing implementation of IUCN Resolutions

CONSIDERING that the strength and commitment underpinning IUCN comes from its Members, and that this strength and commitment are expressed every four years, when Members convene at the World Conservation Congress to debate motions focused on addressing environmental issues worldwide;

RECOGNIZING that the motions process and the implementation of resulting Resolutions is an important contribution to IUCN's policies, intersessional objectives and Programme;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that Resolutions must be coherent and mutually reinforcing;

RECALLING Resolutions from previous IUCN World Conservation Congresses relevant to the motions process, including Resolutions 4.001, 4.002, 4.003, 4.009, 4.010, and 4.011 (listed in the Annex);

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that all Members have an interest in the form and function of Resolutions approved by the Congress, as well as how they are presented and applied;

AWARE of IUCN Members' right to propose motions and mindful of the need for effective implementation and attaining verifiable results;

CONCERNED that a lack of precise language in the operative paragraphs of motions can lead to delayed implementation and consume already limited resources;

NOTING the analysis undertaken by the Governance Committee of Council 2008–2012 to identify issues related to the motions process, those that need to be addressed and the purpose of improving implementation of Resolutions;

BEARING IN MIND the report by the Spanish National Committee of IUCN Members, "Diagnosis and Assessment of the Status of Implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations of IUCN Approved in the 4th World Conservation Congress in Barcelona 2008" dated December 2011 in collaboration with Spanish and Latin American Members, the Secretariat and the IUCN Commissions;

ALSO NOTING that the Spanish report:

- a. highlights some weaknesses in the way that the Union works; and
- b. draws conclusions that substantial reform is needed, especially with regard to the motions system;

NOTING that the success of the implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations in Spain during the period between World Conservation Congresses (2008–2012) was limited for various reasons, including the lack of:

- a. an IUCN organization chart to facilitate contact regarding specific issues and improve the understanding of the internal organization;
- b. two-way cooperation between the Secretariat and the constituents;
- c. complementarity in the actions carried out by both parties in terms of the implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations;

- d. communication due to the absence of the appropriate, agreed channels;
- e. an action plan to accompany each motion and facilitate its launching and monitoring, as well as the actions that each party engages to carry out; and
- f. relevant information in the Members' Portal;

CONVINCED that all constituent parts of IUCN – Members, Commissions, National and Regional Committees and Secretariat – as one Union, have an investment in the implementation of IUCN Resolutions adopted by the World Conservation Congress;

RESOLVED that the success of Resolutions is dependent upon the participation of sponsors and/or supporters of motions in implementation, but;

RECOGNIZING that there is a lack of clarity on the financial implications of particular motions for the budget of IUCN;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the efficient allocation of resources enhances IUCN's effectiveness;

APPRECIATING the efforts made by the IUCN Secretariat to implement Resolution 4.011 *Development of an automated system to record members' actions on Resolutions and Recommendations to improve reporting at, and between, World Conservation Congresses* adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which calls for the design and implementation of a monitoring system for motions, based on information sent by IUCN Members via an automated online system;

NOTING that these efforts by the IUCN Secretariat have increased the need to inform its Members about actions taken to implement approved motions; and

AWARE of the fact that the automated interactive system for the monitoring of motions is still underutilized and despite the implementation of Resolution 4.011, there is still limited systematized information on the implementation of Resolutions available at the interactive website;

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

1. CALLS ON the Director General to improve cooperation and communication, amongst all components, in the implementation of Resolutions through the appropriate and agreed channels;
2. URGES the Director General to:
 - a. promote the implementation role of the National and Regional Committees, where they are active; and
 - b. review and monitor the implementation of Resolutions to assist coordination of efforts to implement Resolutions and avoid duplication of effort;
3. ESTABLISHES the “Advisory Group on Motions and Implementation of Resolutions” (hereinafter, “Advisory Group”), comprising a maximum of nine members to review current practices and formulate proposals to be presented to IUCN Members with a view

to strengthening the motions process and enhancing implementation of IUCN Resolutions;

4. URGES the Director General to:

- a. strengthen the automated interactive monitoring system to ensure more effective monitoring of the implementation of motions taking into account recommendations of the Advisory Group; and
- b. inform Members annually about the actions taken to implement these motions through, among others, the Members' Portal presenting the results obtained in the process of the implementation of Resolutions;

5. MANDATES the Advisory Group to:

- a. build on the existing body of analysis directed toward improving the motions process, including previous consultations with IUCN Members;
- b. further analyze the issues of the motions process including, but not limited to:
 - i. how motions relate to the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* for the next intersessional period;
 - ii. whether proposed motions should be accompanied by suggested steps to be taken to implement the actions identified in the motion;
 - iii. the extent to which proponents should be required to estimate the potential costs of implementing the actions;
 - iv. whether proposed motions should express the role that sponsors, co-sponsors and other stakeholders will have to play in implementation;
 - v. the benefits and/or drawbacks of increasing the time period in which motions should be submitted to the Director General before the opening of the World Conservation Congress;
 - vi. whether Paragraph 54 of the Rules of Procedures relating to repeating decisions of prior sessions of the World Conservation Congress should be revised;
 - vii. how Members can make best use of the motions process to support their work;
 - viii. whether the effective period of motions should be time-bound;
 - ix. whether there should be a word limit established for the Preamble;
 - x. whether motions, where possible, should be discussed in the Regional Conservation Fora with a view to coordinating the submission of motions at the regional level; and
 - xi. how to address the issue of the increasing number of motions;
- c. consider further measures to strengthen the implementation and monitoring of Resolutions adopted by the World Conservation Congress; and

- d. analyze the causes of non-implementation;
- 6. DIRECTS the President to call for nominations to the Advisory Group immediately upon adoption of this motion;
- 7. REQUESTS Members to electronically submit nominations for the Advisory Group, not exceeding one page, to the President by the deadline of 12:00, 14 September 2012;
- 8. REQUESTS the President, following receipt of nominations, to determine the composition of the Advisory Group taking into consideration experience with the modalities of IUCN, relevant knowledge, geographical representation, gender and generational balance;
- 9. FURTHER REQUESTS the President to announce the composition of the Advisory Group at the last sitting of the 2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress;
- 10. VESTS the President with oversight of the functioning of the Advisory Group;
- 11. WELCOMES all constituent parts of IUCN to actively provide their input, as they feel necessary, to the work of the Advisory Group;
- 12. CHARGES Council, with the assistance of the Director General, to ensure that the work of the Advisory Group is communicated to Members for comment and revised in the light of comments received; and
- 13. REQUIRES that each individual proposal be voted on by electronic ballot by the end of 2014 with the aim of ensuring that a revised motions process and enhanced implementation of Resolutions is applicable in time to be effective during the preparation of the 2016 World Conservation Congress.

Annex:

Resolution 4.001 *Strengthening the links between IUCN members, Commissions and Secretariat*

Resolution 4.002 *Coordination of the IUCN Programme*

Resolution 4.003 *Strengthening IUCN's National and Regional Committees*

Resolution 4.009 *Transparency of the IUCN Council*

Resolution 4.010 *Implementation of Congress Resolutions*

Resolution 4.011 *Development of an automated system to record members' actions on Resolutions and Recommendations to improve reporting at, and between, World Conservation Congresses*