

WCC-2012-Res-034-EN

Strengthening training and capacities for botanical gardens and arboreta staff for the *Global Strategy of Plant Conservation (GSPC) 2020* in East Asia

ACKNOWLEDGING that the East Asian region represents almost all biogeographical regions of subtropical and temperate, as well as cold temperate forests, including species diversity and habitat heterogeneity;

EXPRESSING CONCERN that in East Asia species and their habitats are dramatically degraded by high population density and rapid economic growth, and that overall public awareness of plant diversity conservation needs to be improved;

WELCOMING Decision X/17 of the 10th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) on adopting the consolidated update of the *Global Strategy of Plant Conservation (GSPC)* including the outcome-oriented global targets for 2011–2020 as a flexible framework within which national and/or regional targets may be developed, according to national priorities and capacities;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the GSPC is a vital tool to work together to halt the degradation trends of plant diversity in the region, by networking regionally and supporting national efforts in managing species and habitats in the respective countries;

AWARE that the loss of plant diversity, including habitat and genetic diversity, directly affects human well-being in the region, as well as cultural diversity which is among the oldest cultural heritage in the world;

RECOGNIZING the important contribution to GSPC implementation made by the East Asia Botanic Garden Network;

WELCOMING the active effort to review the implementation status of the GSPC in Asia by publication of the *Asian Plant Conservation Report 2010*;

RECALLING that overall progress at the 3rd Meeting of the East Asian Botanic Gardens Network in October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan emphasized the establishment of a network to prepare the candidate species list of the region, working together for the assessment of red-listing beyond political barriers; and

EMPHASIZING the need to widen the scope of activities of the botanic gardens and arboreta in implementation of the targets of GSPC 2011–2020;

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

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), Botanic Gardens Conservation International, and regional plant conservation bodies to undertake activities for plant conservation in East Asia that include, but are not limited to:
 - a. supporting the East Asia Botanic Gardens Network in its plant conservation work towards achieving the GSPC targets in countries of the region;
 - b. facilitating government-NGO collaboration towards the achievement of GSPC;
 - c. building capacity of both government and non-government organizations to implement the GSPC at regional, sub-regional and country scale; and

- d. supporting further collection and collation of information on ethnobotanical and sustainable use of plant resources in relation to cultural diversity;
2. CALLS ON the umbrella structure under the East Asia Botanic Gardens Network to facilitate the GSPC 2020 targets in the region by:
- a. supporting collaborative research on the conservation of species which are commonly endangered in the region;
 - b. promoting staff exchanges on a long-term and short-term basis;
 - c. implementing selected targets through botanical gardens and arboreta and showcasing their own achievable GSPC targets;
 - d. facilitating collaboration with relevant institutes outside botanic gardens to achieve GSPC targets IV, V, VI and X;
 - e. implementing periodic assessments of GSPC targets in countries within the region; and
 - f. supporting the assessment of capacity-building needs for plant conservation in the region; and
3. URGES all countries in the region to develop the East Asia Regional Strategy for Plant Conservation under the GSPC.

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.