

WCC-2012-Res-035-EN

Facilitating conservation through the establishment of protected areas as a basis for achieving Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*

RECOGNIZING the significance of the 20 Aichi Targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, and the renewed commitment embodied in Target 11: “By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes”:

ACKNOWLEDGING the invitation by the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP10) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to international organizations, including IUCN, to provide scientific information and to assist Parties to implement the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* and in particular, to develop national and regional targets, and to monitor progress towards the achievement of the Aichi Targets including Target 11;

RECOGNIZING IUCN’s responsibility to maintain the World Database on Protected Areas through its partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), and IUCN’s leadership role in setting conservation standards for determining sites of global biodiversity conservation significance to guide national gap analysis, protected area management categories, governance types and management effectiveness assessments;

AWARE also that Target 11 can only be met by including protected areas governed by government agencies, those under shared governance arrangements; areas in private ownership, and territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities, and by recognizing and supporting them in national and sectoral development, natural resource management programmes and through cooperation at all levels in an integrated manner including national, regional and international cooperation;

RECOGNIZING that effectively managed protected areas, when linked to critical migration corridors, can serve to anchor the conservation goals and biodiversity integrity of larger landscapes counted towards Target 11 goals;

CONSCIOUS that the expansion of protected area systems should only be pursued with full and effective participation of affected stakeholders, in full respect of their rights and cultural values, and in recognition of their responsibilities, cognizant of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; and

AWARE, however, that there is a need to interpret the implications of Target 11 at national and regional scales to enhance action and accountability and to clarify terms and measures, including the use of the term “other effective area-based conservation measures”;

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

1. REQUESTS the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership to analyze the extent to which existing protected area systems meet Target 11 at global, regional and national scales, and make this analysis available to Parties to the CBD for consideration in their planning and reporting;

2. RECOMMENDS that national governments acknowledge the IUCN definition of a protected area¹, including the full range of protected area management categories and governance types as a primary basis for the inclusion of protected areas to contribute towards meeting Target 11; and
3. REQUESTS the IUCN Commissions, IUCN Members, UNEP-WCMC, the ICCA Consortium and other organizations to collaborate in support of CBD Decision X/2 to:
 - a. review and where appropriate develop additional technical guidance for national governments to contribute towards meeting Target 11, focusing on aspects related to: “areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services”, “effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas” and “integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes”;
 - b. develop criteria for what constitutes “effective area-based conservation measures”, including for, *inter alia*, Private Protected Areas, Indigenous Peoples’ Conserved Territories and Areas Conserved by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (ICCAs), and Sacred Natural Sites (SNS);
 - c. draw upon existing social safeguard policies to propose guidance and tools that support the effective participation of indigenous peoples, local communities and other stakeholders regarding governance and management in systems of protected areas, and the recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples with regard to their territories, property or resources and the application of the principle of free, prior and informed consent;
 - d. develop guidance, disseminate information and provide assistance regarding the legal tools and mechanisms and decision-support systems for achieving the integration of protected area systems into land-use and marine spatial plans, and sectoral development plans;
 - e. promote guidance and training to expand regular assessment of management effectiveness to all protected areas and develop and implement a system for the voluntary appraisal of protected area management effectiveness and governance quality that will illuminate and communicate innovative and effective approaches to protected area management and governance (e.g. the IUCN Green List of Well-Governed and Well-Managed Protected Areas); and
 - f. further update, refine and develop the key datasets to support publication of regular editions of the Protected Planet Report that will monitor progress towards the achievement of Target 11 at global, regional and national scales.

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.

¹ A protected area is defined by IUCN as a “clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values”. Dudley, N. (Editor) (2008). *Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories*. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN. x + 86pp. <http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/PAPS-016.pdf>