

**WCC-2012-Res-038-EN**

**The Sydney VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress 2014**

RECALLING that the V<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress, entitled “Benefits Beyond Boundaries” was hosted by South Africa in 2003, and led to recommendations and outputs that made a significant impact on protected area management globally, through, amongst others, Decision VII/28 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) regarding the *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*;

NOTING that the Government of Australia and the State of New South Wales has offered to host the VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney, New South Wales, Australia in November 2014;

NOTING the excellent work already done by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and the World Protected Areas Leadership Forum in preparation for the VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress;

NOTING the Jeju Declaration on National Parks and Protected Areas adopted at the National Parks CEO Forum held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, on 8 September 2012;

NOTING also the preparatory work that is being undertaken by the Government of Japan towards the Asia Parks Congress to be held in 2013, whose outputs will feed into the VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress;

NOTING also the preparatory work that is being undertaken by the WILD Foundation in partnership with the Government of Spain for WILD10, the 10<sup>th</sup> World Wilderness Congress, in Salamanca, Spain in October, 2013, whose outputs will also link with the VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress;

ACKNOWLEDGING the support already given to IUCN in preparation of the VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress by Parks Australia; Parks Victoria, Australia; the Parks and Wildlife Service of Queensland, Australia; the US National Park Service; Parks Canada and Parques Nacionales Naturales de Colombia;

NOTING the Union’s orientation towards producing measurable progress in each of the three Programme Areas described in the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, all of which reference the role and function of protected areas in achieving knowledge products, results on the ground and policy influence;

ALSO NOTING that the VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress will review the global status of protected areas and the achievement of Aichi Target 11 of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, assess the critical issues facing them, and map out directions for both the remaining period of the *Strategic Plan*, and for the review of the Millennium Development Goals (Goal 7) for the next decade and beyond; and

FURTHER NOTING that it is expected that the VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress will focus on the central role of protected areas in valuing and conserving nature; effective and equitable governance of nature’s use; and deploying nature-based solutions to global challenges; all core programmatic elements of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016* that will also support the global community in meeting the Aichi Targets of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas*;

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

1. AGREES that the VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress to be held in Sydney, Australia should be a prominent feature of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*;
2. INVITES all within the IUCN family to participate actively in the Congress;
3. URGES IUCN Members and donors to give all possible financial, technical and intellectual support to ensure the success of the VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress, in particular to the Secretariat and WCPA in preparing for the event, through assistance to developing country participants, and in the preparation and dissemination of Congress outputs; and
4. CALLS on the Director General to mobilize all parts of the Secretariat to work in support of the VI<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Parks Congress.