

WCC-2012-Res-042-EN

Proposing goals for the coverage of protected areas based on management certification and assessment systems

RECOGNIZING the importance of the 20 Aichi Targets included in the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*, and the renewed commitment embodied in Target 11 to protect “at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water” and that these areas should form part of “areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystems services” and that these systems are “ecologically representative and well connected” and that they are also “effectively and equitably managed”;

BEARING IN MIND the invitation made by the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP10, Nagoya, Japan, October 2010) to international organizations, including IUCN, to provide scientific information and help the Parties to implement the CBD *Programme of Work on Protected Areas* and, in particular, to develop national and regional targets and to monitor the progress towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including Target 11;

RECOGNIZING that Decision X/31 of CBD COP10 invites Parties to improve the management effectiveness of protected areas and use international standard criteria for the evaluation, extension and improvement of national protected area systems;

RECOGNIZING Strategic Direction 2 of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Strategic Plan 2009–2012, on knowledge, science and the management of protected areas, alerting and promoting the certified improvement of the efficiency of the management of protected areas on a global level;

RECOGNIZING IUCN's responsibility to maintain the World Database on Protected Areas, in partnership with the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), to guide national gap analysis, the management categories for protected areas, governance types, and management effectiveness assessments;

AWARE also that the above-mentioned goals can only be met by including the protected areas governed by government agencies; those under shared governance agreements; conserved areas in private ownership; and land and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities; and through the recognition of and support for the latter in national and sectoral development plans and in natural resource management programmes, and through transboundary and regional cooperation;

RECOGNIZING the urgent need to improve the performance of protected areas in order to comply with global conservation goals, including a decrease in the extinction rate and the inclusion of endangered species in protected area networks;

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

AWARE that it is only possible to improve the efficiency of the management of protected area systems with the full and effective participation of affected stakeholders, in full respect of their rights and cultural values, and in recognition of their responsibilities, bearing in mind the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*; and

ALSO AWARE, however, that there is a need to clarify the implications of Target 11 at national and regional scales in order to reinforce action and accountability and to clarify terms and measures, including the use of the term, “*effectively and equitably managed*”;

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

ASKS IUCN's Commissions and Members, UNEP-WCMC, the Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) Consortium, and other related organizations to collaborate in:

- a. the consolidation of the IUCN initiative to develop an international certification system of protected areas to promote good management practices, focusing on guidance on the management of potentially damaging activities and their impacts, and assist compliance with Aichi Target 11, and Strategic Direction 2 of the WCPA Strategic Plan 2009–2012;
- b. the establishment of coverage goals in protected areas with proven efficiency in the management of their conservation based on evaluations and certifications carried out; and
- c. the incorporation and strengthening in the evaluation systems of the rights-based approach, in particular the rights of indigenous peoples and traditional local communities.

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.