

## **WCC-2012-Res-049-EN**

### **Redesigning future cities and related urban zones with protected areas: cities, return to nature**

CONSIDERING that the number of total protected areas designated for the purpose of nature conservation currently exceeds 160,000;

ALSO CONSIDERING that the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) continues to urge its Member States to expand protected areas;

RECOGNIZING that the outlook on the management of protected areas has been transformed into the present-day, future-oriented concept, which takes into account ecosystem services as well as social, economic and ecological values from a modern perspective that stresses scenic values;

NOTING that protected areas are generally classified into core areas, buffer zones and transitional areas and managed accordingly and that numerous metropolises and small-sized cities are located on the outskirts of protected areas including transitional areas;

REMEMBERING that the United Nations *Millennium Ecosystem Assessment* underlines the functions of various ecosystem services (supporting services, provisioning services, regulating services, cultural services) essential for both surrounding cities and human lives;

CONCERNED that as surrounding cities adjacent to protected areas grow in size due to population concentration and regional development, the ecological soundness of border regions of protected areas and transitional areas has deteriorated and the quality of their ecological services has been undermined;

EMPHASIZING that, in a bid to conserve nature in protected areas and ensure that surrounding areas continue to benefit from ecological services, the ecological and cultural values of protected areas should be linked to urban planning in surrounding cities, centring around transitional areas;

ALSO EMPHASIZING that, in order to manage surrounding cities which reflect values of protected areas, it is necessary to establish eco-friendly urban planning based on scientific mapping for natural and cultural resources, and to develop policies and programmes for regional collaboration;

RECALLING Resolution 3.063 *Cities and Conservation* adopted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004) which addressed the benefits that nature brings to city dwellers and stressed the necessity of conserving biodiversity within cities, and Recommendation 4.128 *Setting up networks of protected urban and periurban natural areas* adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008) which mentioned that reckless development of periurban natural areas has ramifications on the quality of lives of city residents and biodiversity; and

ALSO RECALLING Rio+20 Zero Draft Section V. *Framework for action and follow-up* Paragraph 72 (Cities) which pointed out the importance of implementing policies and strategies for sustainable and effective urban planning and urban design;

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

1. CALLS ON the Director General in collaboration with experts from the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), the IUCN Commission on Environmental,

Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) to develop indicators for urban planning of eco-friendly cities and guidelines for city design with the aim of linking ecological and cultural values as well as ecosystem services of protected areas to surrounding cities, spearheaded by WCPA experts, in collaboration with CEESP experts; and

2. ENCOURAGES IUCN Member States and NGO Members from those States to:
  - a. list the functions of ecosystem services provided to surrounding cities by individual protected areas designated by each country, to analyze the status of environmental degradation and potential development demand in transitional areas adjacent to protected areas, and to assess the mutual relationship between protected areas and surrounding cities;
  - b. boost effectiveness of sustainable urban planning and to set ecological development goals and directions of landscape planning by establishing a spatial database through biotope mapping of natural and cultural resources of protected areas and surrounding cities;
  - c. apply the urban planning indicators and urban design guidelines of IUCN considering the goals and directions of ecological development of surrounding cities; and
  - d. forge and implement collaborative policies and programmes for urban planning based on the participation of local communities and residents led by the transitional areas between protected areas and surrounding cities.