

## **WCC-2012-Res-052-EN**

### **Establishment of an integrated management system for UNESCO protected areas**

RECOGNIZING that Jeju Island, a world renowned environmental conservation area protected by a number of internationally recognized designations covering most of its 1,847 kilometres, has been managed systematically by linking environmental information on ecosystems, underground water, scenic views, fauna and flora reserves and soil and geological features, to establish an integrated management system for conservation of nature and sustainable living in the region, based on the Geographical Information System (GIS) in accordance with the Special Act on the Establishment of Jeju Self-Governing Province and the traditional methods of practicing nature conservation;

CONCERNED that Jeju Island, being a popular international tourist destination visited by more than 10,000,000 people annually, is badly exposed to the possibilities that the protected areas around the entire island could be impacted negatively and its diverse flora and fauna could be under serious threat;

EQUALLY CONCERNED that different management guidelines, time cycles and periods provided and monitored by different authorities for the regular evaluation of Jeju protected areas, for example every 10 years by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) International Co-ordinating Council (ICC) of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) for the Biosphere Reserve, every six years by the World Heritage Committee for the Natural World Heritage site, and every four years by the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) for the Global Geopark, impedes the establishment of a comprehensive management regime;

RECALLING Resolution 19.38 *Targets for Protected Areas Systems* adopted by the 19<sup>th</sup> IUCN General Assembly, Recommendation 16 of the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geoparks (Langkawi, 2010) on protecting 10% of the biosphere in protected areas, and Resolution 2.2 *Integrating ecosystem management in IUCN's Programme* adopted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Amman, 2000);

EMPHASIZING that integrated management is an important part of IUCN's mission, and that the objective of the World Heritage Convention is to conserve, while the objectives of MAB and GGN are education and eco-tourism through conservation, an integrated management system of the natural resources of Jeju is necessary and should be established;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 4.094 *Impetus and support for local and regional biodiversity conservation policies* adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which seeks actions from local and regional governments to articulate policies for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, and requests the IUCN constituency to undertake a specific work programme with local and regional authorities for the development of local biodiversity and sustainable development policies and for the management of species with natural values;

CONVINCED that an integrated management system of UNESCO international protected areas is the most assured method for conservation of wild fauna and flora, and that this approach to management complies with the fundamental concept of IUCN and contributes to the sustainable use of ecosystems; and

FURTHER CONVINCED that the protected areas in Jeju have been well managed, assuring sustainable conservation through the long practice of integrated management in harmony with the history and culture of the people of Jeju;

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

1. REQUESTS the Director General, based on the learnings of the Jeju experience and in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to develop an integrated conservation management manual that includes guidelines and other prescriptions for the systematic conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, to develop and standardize a management system for protected areas including the integration of the different cycles for re-evaluation of designations, and to distribute it as a model for IUCN Members;
2. URGES IUCN Members to take action to establish cooperative programmes through which international institutions collaborate on the conservation of the natural environment by establishing integrated management systems for protected areas across the world; and
3. REQUESTS that support is sought from the United Nations organizations, States and nations to legislate integrated management laws at national or State level for appropriate conservation, systematic integration and management of natural resources to bring about the integration of protected areas such as Biosphere Reserves, Natural World Heritage sites and Global Geoparks.

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.