

## **WCC-2012-Res-005-EN**

### **Strengthening of the IUCN National and Regional Committees and the use of the three official languages in documents for internal and external communication by IUCN and its Members**

BEARING IN MIND Resolution 4.001 *Strengthening links between IUCN members, Commissions and Secretariat*, adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which reveals the results of the global survey of IUCN Members carried out in 2007, and which recognizes the value of National and Regional Committees;

RECALLING Resolution 4.003 *Strengthening IUCN's National and Regional Committees* also adopted at the 4<sup>th</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which recognizes that committees are important instruments for involving Members in carrying out IUCN's mission;

BEARING IN MIND the report drawn up by the Spain National Committee of IUCN Members, "Diagnosis and Assessment of the Status of Implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations of IUCN Approved in the 4<sup>th</sup> World Conservation Congress in Barcelona 2008" prepared in December 2011 in collaboration with the Spanish and Latin American Members, the Secretariat and the IUCN Commissions;

STRESSING that the report underlines the important role National and Regional Committees play as a linchpin between the Secretariat and the Union's constituencies, as well as contributing to the efficient mapping of Members, thereby avoiding the overlapping of actions by Members and the Secretariat;

CONSIDERING that the National Committees receive no financial support from the IUCN Secretariat;

BEARING IN MIND the Members' great potential to make a significant impact in the field of conservation if cooperation with them is strengthened;

RECALLING Resolution 3.091 *Fulfilling the right to optional use of the official languages in the internal and external communication documents of IUCN and its members* adopted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004);

RECALLING that *Part XVI – Official Languages* of the IUCN Statutes, Article 100, establishes that "The official languages of IUCN shall be English, French and Spanish";

UNDERLINING that the abovementioned report conveys the feeling shared by the Members that, although attempts have been made to remedy this situation, there is still a lack of multilingual support by IUCN, and that French and Spanish continue to be considered of lesser importance; and

WARNING that communication between IUCN's various stakeholders is vital to ensure that the Union functions properly, and that this is currently reduced due to the existence of language barriers, a difficulty that can be overcome but which nevertheless slows down the process of the organization's organic operation;

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

1. URGES the Director General to develop appropriate mechanisms to support a more integrated and lasting participation by National and Regional Committees in the

execution of the Union's Programme, to improve communication and relationships with the Secretariat, and jointly to develop a Strategy for National and Regional Committee Development within the next Union Development Plan for the delivery of the following:

- a. capacity building;
  - b. improved opportunities for fundraising in cooperation with and between Members;
  - c. fostering joint implementation of projects, led by Secretariat, with the National and Regional Committees implementing some components;
  - d. working with the National and Regional Committees to ensure that fundraising efforts by Members, Committees, Commissions and the Secretariat are coordinated and complementary; and
  - e. appropriate consultation, equitable participation in programme development (following an agreed staged pathway) implementation, and evaluation; and
2. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that a global meeting of National and Regional Committees is convened during each World Conservation Congress starting with the 2016 Congress.