

WCC-2012-Res-006-EN

Cooperation with local and regional government authorities in the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*

RECALLING the importance of local action in response to the global issues of biodiversity;

APPROVING the World Mayors' declarations reaffirming their concerns with regard to biodiversity loss and the urgent need to involve local authorities in the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), at the three "Cities and Biodiversity" conferences, held in Curitiba in March 2007, in Bonn in May 2008 and in Nagoya in October 2010;

WELCOMING the adoption at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in Nagoya, Japan, between 18 and 29 October 2010, of Decision X/22, *Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity*;

COMMENDING the progress made by the Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity launched during the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), which has resulted in fruitful collaboration between local and regional government authorities and the Secretariat of the CBD, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP – the "Urban Environment" Unit), the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, and IUCN;

FURTHER COMMENDING the active collaborations undertaken between the IUCN network and local and regional government authorities throughout the world, the expertise of the Urban Specialist Group within the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), as well as the activity of their members to promote the urban aspects of nature conservation, the involvement of cities in the "Local Action for Biodiversity" project and actions carried out by the France National Committee of IUCN Members with local and regional government authorities, in particular with the four voluntary Regional Councils (Burgundy, Aquitaine, Centre, Ile-de-France);

RECALLING the achievements of the Countdown 2010 initiative;

NOTING the decisive role played by local and regional government authorities across the globe with regard to land planning and management, their contributions to limiting the pressure on biodiversity and their commitments through protection, restoration and enhancement initiatives;

NOTING the growing involvement of infra-national governments, cities and other local authorities in favour of biodiversity, notably through the creation and implementation of territorial strategies for biodiversity and local action plans;

RECALLING Resolutions 3.003 *Engagement by IUCN with local and regional government authorities*, and 3.063 *Cities and conservation*, adopted by the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, 2004), and Resolution 4.008 *Including local and regional government authorities in the structure of the Union*, adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008); and

CONSIDERING that IUCN will not be able to carry out its mission successfully unless it involves local and regional government authorities more fully in its actions;

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

1. CALLS ON IUCN Members and experts, in particular through the National Committees, to:
 - a. collaborate actively with the local and regional government authorities and their networks to involve them in the implementation of the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*;
 - b. support or even accompany the local and regional government authorities in the creation and implementation of strategies for biodiversity and action plans to meet the goals of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020*; and
 - c. invite the local and regional government authorities committed to protecting biodiversity to collaborate with IUCN in accordance with the methods set out in its Statutes; and

2. CALLS ON the Director General to:
 - a. strengthen the collaboration of the Secretariat with:
 - i. international networks of local and regional government authorities; and
 - ii. the Secretariat of the CBD for the application of the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* and the action plan for infra-national governments, cities and the other local authorities for biodiversity, adopted at Nagoya;
 - b. mobilize the Regional Offices to develop and strengthen their cooperation with local and regional government authorities; and
 - c. organize a platform of exchanges between the IUCN constituents and the local and regional government authorities, building, among others, on the Countdown 2010 experience.