

WCC-2012-Res-097-EN

Implementation of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*

RECALLING IUCN's adoption at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*, through Resolution 4.052 *Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (Barcelona, 2008);

GRATIFIED that a number of States and NGOs have endorsed the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* after the World Conservation Congress urged wide adoption of the *Declaration*;

COMMENDING the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the IUCN Director General for their productive endeavours to design the "Whakatane Mechanism," a multi-stakeholder approach for resolving human rights conflicts in protected areas, which implements Resolutions 4.052 and 4.056 *Rights-based approaches to conservation*, and Recommendation 4.127 *Indigenous peoples' rights in the management of protected areas fully or partially in the territories of indigenous peoples*;

NOTING that two inter-Commission structures have been established to promote the rights of indigenous peoples furthering the mission of IUCN, namely the Theme on Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Equity and Protected Areas (TILCEPA) with the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and CEESP, and the Specialist Group on Indigenous Peoples, Customary & Environmental Laws and Human Rights (SPICEH) with CEESP and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL);

RECOGNIZING that since the last World Conservation Congress IUCN has presented regular progress reports to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) concerning implementation of the *Declaration* in all its components;

WELCOMING the work being developed through the "Whakatane Mechanism" as a significant contribution to the Programme's "rights-based and equitable conservation" undertakings and One Programme approach; and

AWARE also of the ongoing deliberations of the UNPFII, which in May of 2012 again examined the so-called "doctrine of discovery" as a discredited rationale for denying both the human rights of indigenous peoples and their rights as now enshrined in the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*;

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

1. REQUESTS that the IUCN President, Council, Director General and Commissions develop a policy and strategy for ensuring that the principles of the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* are observed throughout the work of the Union; and
2. REQUESTS, as directed in Resolution 4.052 and as funding permits, that the Council establish a taskforce to examine the application of the *Declaration* to every aspect of the IUCN Programme (including Commission mandates), policies and practices and to make recommendations that guarantee its implementation in the *IUCN Programme 2013–2016*, especially with respect to the Programme's focus on "rights-based" nature conservation.

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.