

## **WCC-2016-Rec-097-EN**

### **Pacific region climate resiliency action plan**

RECOGNISING that the Pacific Region, including the Pacific Islands and continental areas, constitute a discrete region sharing similar environmental, social, economic, and cultural challenges and opportunities;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that climate change threatens the livelihood of Pacific Island States, as well as numerous coastal communities on the continents of the Americas, Asia, and Australia;

AWARE of Climate Change Declarations made by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders, namely: Niue Declaration on Climate Change 2008, Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership 2013 and Pacific Island Forum Leaders Declaration on Climate Change Action 2015;

ALSO AWARE of the 'Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006–2015' (PIFACC) and the draft 'Strategy for Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific' (SRDP);

RECOGNISING the tradition of navigation among Pacific Island cultures, which the Polynesian Voyaging Society's World Wide Voyage has demonstrated to the world, as well as the interconnectedness of humankind across the Pacific Ocean, the largest ocean on the planet;

ALSO RECOGNISING the important role that organisations and fora such as the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Action Platform, and their relevant initiatives, play in fostering regional cooperation and action on climate change;

ALSO AWARE OF the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway;

NOTING that WCC presents an opportunity for countries of the Pacific region to agree to work together to improve Pacific climate resiliency efforts and to address common threats such as sea level rise, ocean acidification, pollution, displacement of indigenous culture, loss of biodiversity, overfishing, and natural disasters; and

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING the WCC can provide a major global forum to unite Pacific communities to consider a blueprint for a Pacific Region Climate Resiliency Agreement at future events such as the 2017 United Nations Oceans Summit, which will focus on ensuring actions by 2030 on United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14 – the 'Ocean Goal');

### **The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:**

1. INVITES Members in Pacific Islands to develop a Pacific region climate resiliency action plan as a contribution towards the implementation of the Paris Agreement concluded at the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP21 – Paris, 2015) to address climate change in the Pacific region; and
2. ENCOURAGES Members in Pacific Islands to utilise SDG 14, to "Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources"; SDG 13, to "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts"; their targets and other climate-related targets under the SDGs; as a basis on which to build a Pacific region climate resiliency action plan.

**State and agency Members of the United States** abstained during the vote on this motion (and amendment) for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.