

WCC-2016-Rec-111-EN

Increase resources for biodiversity conservation research

CONSIDERING the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and its associated Aichi Biodiversity Targets, we request the establishment of public policies – or strengthening of existing policies – that enable scientific research on biodiversity and natural resources conservation;

FURTHER CONSIDERING, in the context of the SDGs, the role of scientific knowledge about biodiversity and resulting conservation actions, that the above-mentioned research could contribute to science-based policymaking and ultimately help to foster environmental sustainability (SDG 15), and integration of sustainability principles in public policies and programmes that reverse natural resources losses and that contribute in the long term to reducing the proportion of people with no sustainable access to clean water and basic sanitation (SDG 6);

ALSO CONSIDERING that in order to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets it is important that accurate scientific information is gathered and published providing guidance for the effective planning and implementation of protected areas, including balanced management that is ecologically representative and connected to the diverse protected areas system (Target 11), prevention of threatened species extinction – especially those with recognised decline status until 2020 (Target 12) as well as the development and enforcement of technologies based on biodiversity conservation (Target 19);

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

1. ENCOURAGES national governments, in accordance with national and international law, to establish – or strengthen existing – public policies and incentives that enable and stimulate scientific research on biodiversity and natural resource conservation, highlighting their benefits to society; and
2. ENCOURAGES governments to consider conclusions and recommendations generated from scientific research as inputs for management and conservation strategies related to the protection of natural areas, including the establishment of new protected areas, management plans, and development of action plans for threatened species, as well as periodic updating of the official list of threatened species.