

**WCC-2016-Res-010-EN**

**Conservation of Amur tiger (*Panthera tigris altaica*) and Amur leopard (*Panthera pardus orientalis*) in Northeast Asia**

ACKNOWLEDGING that Amur tiger (*Panthera tigris altaica*) and Amur leopard (*Panthera pardus orientalis*) are keystone species, providing a charismatic focal point for conservation action in Northeast Asia;

NOTING that Amur tiger and Amur leopard still face the risk of extinction: Amur tiger only has two populations with about 500 individuals and Amur leopard only has one population containing less than 100 individuals;

ALSO NOTING that the temperate forest landscape retained in the species' historical range, including Far East Russia, Northeast China, the Korean peninsula, and even part of Mongolia, is the future for Amur tiger and Amur leopard, providing massive potential habitat for restoring the population in Northeast Asia;

RECOGNISING that the recovery of Amur tiger and Amur leopard can provide significant benefits to national economic development, as well as to local communities;

AWARE that the restoration of tigers and leopards to ecosystems has a positive impact on many other species and biodiversity;

RECOGNISING the serious threat currently facing Amur tiger and Amur leopard, including their isolated and small populations, prey and habitat degradation, tiger farming, illegal trade and anthropogenic impacts;

CONSIDERING that numbers of Amur tiger and Amur leopard in the Sino-Russian transboundary area – which supports the entire population of Amur leopard and the only Amur tiger population that could potentially be restored in China – are increasing and dispersing to neighbouring areas, acting as source populations and providing a 'now or never' opportunity to restore tiger and leopard populations in their historical ranges in Northeast Asia;

APPRECIATING that natural forest protection projects in China and long-term conservation projects in Russia conducted for decades, together with other conservation efforts have resulted in growing populations of Amur tiger and Amur leopard in China and Russia in recent years;

NOTING that bilateral and multilateral collaboration is important to safeguard the source population of Amur tiger and Amur leopard in transboundary areas, and to promote the process of restoring Amur tiger and Amur leopard in range states; and

RECOGNISING IUCN's role over many years in providing sound technical and scientific guidance as well as convening and supporting policy processes to facilitate dialogue on tiger and leopard conservation;

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

1. REQUESTS the Director General, the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), to provide policy support to a new initiative for the recovery of the Amur tiger and Amur leopard, and to bring it to the attention of range states and international donors;
2. CALLS ON all IUCN Members worldwide to support the initiative;
3. CALLS ON all stakeholders to encourage and launch the initiative in Northeast Asia for the recovery of the Amur tiger and Amur leopard, and biodiversity in general; and
4. CALLS ON range states in the region, which have not yet done so, to develop national action plans for Amur tiger and Amur leopard and their prey species as part of a strategy for long-term conservation and to invest in implementation of these national action plans.