

WCC-2016-Res-024-EN

Supporting the Brazilian Red-Listing process and the conservation of threatened species

RECOGNISING that Brazil is a megadiverse country, being home to 60% of the Amazon Rainforest, which accounts for approximately one-tenth of all species in the world;

AWARE that Brazil has more species of plants (55,000), freshwater fish (3,000) and mammals (more than 689) than any other country;

NOTING that Brazil has the third largest number of birds (1,832) and primates (over 100) and ranks second for reptiles (744);

AFFIRMING that the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, founded in 1964, is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of species, being set upon precise scientific criteria, against which the extinction risk of thousands of species and subspecies have been evaluated;

NOTING that a series of national Red Lists assess the risk of extinction of species within countries following similar criteria;

RECALLING that Brazil's official lists of endangered species (Ministry of the Environment ordinances 443/2014, 444/2014 and 445/2014) follow criteria similar to IUCN's and provide an important tool in official decisions and policies connected to the environment;

AWARE that the Brazilian list has more than 70 mammal and 103 bird species that are considered endangered, and that a total of 1,173 species are listed overall;

RECALLING the many recent threats to Brazil's officially listed endangered species, such as in June 2015 when endangered species of aquatic animals lost legal protection after Ordinance 445/2014 was nullified by a Federal Court, following a Legislative Decree that reduced the list substantially;

AWARE that the recently proposed Legislative Decree 184 aimed to restrict Ordinance 444, which gives legal protection to endangered species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and terrestrial invertebrates; and

ANTICIPATING the continuation of pressure by the Legislative Houses in Brazil on Ordinance 444;

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

1. REQUESTS the Director General and Species Survival Commission (SSC) to:
 - a. provide the scientific and technical support needed by Brazil to ensure that its national Red-Listing process and related legislation is maintained; and
 - b. support IUCN Members and Commission members in Brazil to address any threats that might arise in relation to the national red-listing process;
2. CONGRATULATES Brazil for having created an outstanding national Red-Listing process linked to specific measures to protect threatened species; and
3. REQUESTS the Brazilian Ministry of Environment and SSC to develop mutually beneficial means for two-way data exchange between the official endangered species lists of Brazil and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

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