

WCC-2016-Res-075-EN

Affirmation of the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts

NOTING that while the world seeks innovative approaches to sustainable development, indigenous peoples and local communities can provide examples of sustainability to serve as global models, including by means of their traditional knowledge;

RECOGNISING that the scope of indigenous knowledge is broad, including native species diversity, ecological processes and patterns, and land and sea management practices that are applicable today;

ALSO RECOGNISING that prior to Western contact, the indigenous people of Hawai'i sustained a population of up to one million people through the ahupua'a system of land management, which integrated land and sea ecosystems and relationships within a shared geographic, social, cultural, and political context;

NOTING Resolution 5.095 *Traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local peasant communities in the Andes and the Amazon Rainforest as a mechanism for adaptation to climate change* (Jeju, 2012);

NOTING Resolutions 4.055 *Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN's policy and Programme* and 4.099 *Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature* (Barcelona, 2008);

NOTING Resolution 4.052 *Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) (Barcelona, 2008); and

ACKNOWLEDGING that the integration of indigenous peoples' and local communities' approaches and knowledge systems with other conservation efforts is essential to achieve sustainable development;

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

1. INVITES the Director General and Council to acknowledge the value of indigenous peoples' and local communities' approaches and knowledge systems in helping to address the challenges facing our global ecosystems, and that working with indigenous knowledge holders appropriately to integrate their values and approaches into modern conservation efforts can greatly enhance the long-term success of conservation;
2. REQUESTS the Director General and the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) to develop voluntary guidelines regarding the appropriate participation of indigenous peoples in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of conservation projects, programmes and policies; and
3. INVITES the Council and Members to acknowledge and respect indigenous values that build appreciation and responsibility for care of natural resources through learning the regional history of indigenous peoples' and local communities' relationships with lands and waters of conservation value and by working to rebuild and maintain the relationships with indigenous peoples and local communities.