

## **WCC-2016-Res-087-EN**

### **Awareness of connectivity conservation definition and guidelines**

NOTING that ecological connectivity is critical for ecological processes and responses to change;

FURTHER NOTING that Areas of Connectivity Conservation (ACCs) are ecological networks, strategically designed to both connect protected areas and connect them to greater landscapes and seascapes;

AWARE that in Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Parties agreed to establish well-connected systems of protected areas integrated into wider landscapes and seascapes;

RECALLING that Recommendation 1.38 *Ecological Networks and Corridors of Natural and Semi-Natural Areas* (Montreal, 1996) called IUCN Members to further develop ecological networks at national, regional and intercontinental levels;

ALSO RECALLING that Resolution 5.056 *Enhancing connectivity conservation through international networking of best practice management* (Jeju, 2012) called on States to continue to establish national ecological networks and connectivity conservation areas to strengthen biodiversity protection; and

NOTING IUCN's 2016 'Areas of Connectivity Conservation Guidelines', drafted following international consultation and review, that describe the theoretical basis for connectivity conservation and provide a definition of ACCs, as well as describing eight ACC types, criteria for their selection and governance;

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

1. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure awareness raising across IUCN's One Programme about the Advanced Draft of the IUCN 'Areas of Connectivity Conservation Guidelines: Definition, Area of Connectivity Conservation Types, Criteria for Establishment, and Governance Types', and encourages comments on the document;
2. INVITES IUCN Members to be aware of the Advanced Draft of the IUCN 'Areas of Connectivity Conservation Guidelines: Definition, Areas of Connectivity Conservation Types, Criteria for Establishment, and Governance Types', to provide comments on the draft and to apply the guidelines where applicable;
3. INVITES governments to provide comments on the Advanced Draft of the IUCN 'Areas of Connectivity Conservation Guidelines'; and
4. ENCOURAGES governments to be aware of the Advanced Draft of the IUCN 'Areas of Connectivity Conservation Guidelines' and to work with local government bodies, communities and private landowners in the development, designation, planning and management of ACCs and networks of ACCs.