

Increasing funding for biodiversity in developing countries

NOTING that the joint annual funding requirements for nature conservation are estimated at between 300 and 400 billion USD, much higher than the amounts currently available, which are estimated at around 52 billion USD per year;

RECALLING that the Aichi Target 20, which provided for a considerable increase in the mobilisation of the financial resources necessary for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, will only be met partially according to the assessment in the *Global Biodiversity Outlook 5*;

FURTHER RECALLING the decision adopted at the 11th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Hyderabad, to double the international financial support for biological diversity in developing countries by 2015, in particular for the least advanced countries and Small Island Developing States, as well countries with economies in transition, and to at least maintain it at this level until 2020;

CONSIDERING MOREOVER the lack of funding available for biodiversity in developing countries, where the needs are great;

CONSIDERING that biodiversity conservation in developing countries is conditioned by the availability of accessible, sufficient and sustainable funding, both for states and for civil society players;

NOTING that a high percentage of protected areas and other conservation mechanisms in developing countries currently have insufficient financial resources to allow them to ensure efficient management, that the Protected Planet Report 2014 indicates that 27% of the sites have major deficiencies and that 13% of the sites were judged to be deficient during the assessment of the efficiency of their management, and sustainable finance remains the main subject of concern for 51.7% of the sites (i.e. 118 sites) according to the *IUCN World Heritage Outlook 2* report (2017);

NOTING that the funding strategies of different donors would benefit from being better coordinated and implemented in synergy; and

RECALLING Recommendation 4.109 *Funding programmes for small-scale civil society projects for global biodiversity conservation* (Barcelona, 2008), supporting the implementation of funding programmes for biodiversity conservation;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, at its session in Marseille, France:

1. RECOMMENDS bilateral and multilateral donors of public funding to:

- a. increase the share of grants devoted exclusively to biodiversity in developing countries;
- b. integrate these issues more fully into their funding strategies;
- c. make greater use of innovative and complementary funding mechanisms in developing countries, such as charges based on fast-moving consumer goods or trust funds;
- d. adapt, if relevant, the duration of the funding allocated to the time required for obtaining results for biodiversity conservation and restoration;
- e. reinforce the joint governance of the allocated funding in order to improve its use, and do more to report back on its effectiveness and the results obtained; and
- f. increase the coordination of their funding so as to prioritise synergies of action, on a territorial scale in particular;

2. ASKS the signatory states to the CBD to:

- a. report in a transparent, regular and detailed manner on their funding that is mobilised respecting the biodiversity commitments made both nationally and globally; and
- b. establish appropriate legal frameworks to systematise environmental mitigation (Avoid, Minimise, Compensate);

3. RECOMMENDS that States rely more on civil society organisations and stakeholders at a local level and support their actions by long-term structured finance; and

4. CALLS ON the mobilisation of the financial sector – bankers, investors, insurers – to make investments in order to conserve biodiversity.