Strengthened institutional inclusion concerning indigenous peoples

APPRECIATING that conservation must be equitable and inclusive of people, sustainable cultural practices and values;

REAFFIRMING Resolution 4.052 on Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Barcelona, 2008), in which the Union requested that “the Director General make indigenous peoples’ role in conserving biological and cultural diversity a main concern of IUCN and future World Conservation Congresses”;

RECALLING that the Members’ Assembly at the 6th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Hawai‘i, 2016) adopted Resolution 6.004 Including indigenous peoples’ organisations in the structure of the Union, which created a new separate category of membership for Indigenous Peoples’ Organisations (IPOs), strengthening the recognition of their rights, participation, voice and role in IUCN;

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 6.075 Affirmation of the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts (Hawai‘i, 2016) affirmed the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts and invited the Director General and Council to work with indigenous knowledge holders to integrate their values and approaches into modern conservation efforts;

WELCOMING the 2018 decision of IUCN Council under Article 38(f) of the IUCN Statutes to appoint the first IPO member of the Council;

BEARING IN MIND that the proposal for the IUCN Programme 2021–2024 provides for the active participation of indigenous peoples in order to achieve the Union’s objectives regarding governance, conservation and the sustainable use of nature and that indigenous peoples have tenure rights over at least 38 million square kilometres in 87 countries, representing over a quarter of the planet’s land surface and intersecting with approximately 40% of all the terrestrial protected areas and ecologically intact landscapes;

RECALLING Articles 4 and 7 of International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention 169, and reaffirming Article 8(j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which recognises the importance of traditional knowledge with regard to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;

NOTING that IUCN has adopted over 150 Resolutions that directly or indirectly refer to Indigenous People’s (IP) rights, Indigenous and local knowledge, and IP conservation;

RECALLING Resolution 14.a Reporting on resolutions (Ashkhabad, 1978) calls upon “member States, government agencies, and nongovernmental organizations to report formally on the follow-up action to all resolutions that apply to them one year before each General Assembly”;

FURTHER RECALLING that Resolution 5.001 Strengthening the motions process and enhancing implementation of IUCN Resolutions (Jeju, 2012) calls upon the Director General to review and monitor the implementation of Resolutions to strengthen the motions process and enhance the implementation of IUCN Resolutions;

FURTHER RECALLING Resolution 6.001 Identifying and archiving obsolete Resolutions and Recommendations to strengthen IUCN policy and to enhance implementation of IUCN Resolutions (Hawai‘i, 2016) calls upon the IUCN Council to enhance implementation of past IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations by identifying and archiving obsolete texts; and

NOTING the work of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) on indigenous peoples and protected areas, including the development of various guidelines;

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

1. CALLS ON the Director General to ensure that the values and approaches of indigenous peoples, especially those concerning indigenous women and rights of indigenous peoples, are included within the institutional plans of IUCN;

2. CALLS ON the Director General and Council to promote the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples' organisations, in the ongoing work of the Union and to strengthen these organisations through regional focal points;

3. URGES the Director General and WCPA to:
a. consider the development of mechanisms for the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples’ organisations (IPOs) and the regional focal points in the Union, including in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies, projects and guidelines for the management of protected natural areas and indigenous territories, adopting an inter-cultural approach; and

b. incorporate indigenous peoples and know their views on protected areas, to develop knowledge-based policies, directives, standards and best practice guidelines regarding solutions to the challenges facing the management of protected areas, with the full participation of indigenous peoples;

4. CALLS ON Council to assess IUCN’s compliance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in IUCN’s work and programmes;

5. CALLS on the Commissions to advance the representation of indigenous peoples in their steering committees and work programmes;

6. URGES Commissions and Members to ensure implementation of all previously adopted IUCN Resolutions that concern indigenous peoples and that still remain relevant; and

7. ENCOURAGES State and Government Agency Members to urge their home government to implement a forum for local indigenous peoples to share concerns and solutions.