

**Engaging the private sector to combat wildlife trafficking**

RECOGNISING that wildlife trafficking is an international crisis that is negatively affecting populations of a variety of threatened species, including timber species;

RECALLING that wildlife trafficking is now the fourth largest transnational crime, and that illegal trade of wildlife and wildlife parts around the world continues to increase in scope and volume;

RECOGNISING that combatting wildlife trafficking is a complex issue that requires a holistic, civil society approach and the inclusion of non-traditional actors;

WELCOMING the ongoing efforts by nonprofit organisations to engage the private sector across a variety of industries;

RECALLING the IUCN Business and Biodiversity Programme, which engages key sectors to address biodiversity challenges;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that wildlife traffickers are utilising global supply chains to transport and trade illicit goods;

RECOGNISING that law enforcement is strengthened when witnesses to crimes are encouraged financially and otherwise to provide information ('blow the whistle') to prosecutors, and are protected from retaliation when they do; and

HIGHLIGHTING that the private sector has unique consumer audiences that can be educated and mobilised to reduce global demand for illegal wildlife and wildlife products;

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

1. CALLS ON the Director General, in cooperation with Commissions and Members, to:
  - a. inventory and identify priorities for strengthening and expanding the various private-sector initiatives and partnerships underway to fight wildlife crime in various sectors; and
  - b. develop a strategy to further engage key private-sector industries, working with relevant international organisations;
2. URGES Members to increase engagement with the private sector to combat wildlife trafficking;
3. CALLS ON Members to share case studies and lessons learned when engaging with the private sector, in order to combat wildlife trafficking;
4. REQUESTS the private sector, in partnership with Members, to develop and implement strategies that seek to combat wildlife trafficking, such as by:
  - a. implementing strong corporate policies that seek to close supply chains and thwart the transport and trade of illegal wildlife and wildlife products;
  - b. utilising owned communications channels to amplify unified messaging to combat wildlife trafficking, engaging consumers in efforts to reduce global demand; and
  - c. working in partnership with law enforcement to comply with international and domestic wildlife laws and create internal and external reporting mechanisms for suspicious activities;
5. URGES states to actively encourage, protect, reward and otherwise support individuals who are willing and able to provide information for the prosecution of wildlife trafficking; and
6. URGES IUCN and its Members to develop and communicate globally, a formal definition of poaching and its negative impact on sustainability, providing a clear delineation between poaching and legal, regulated hunting.