IUCN statement on Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) on climate change

20 November 2015

As part of the ongoing intergovernmental negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), all Parties have been invited to prepare and communicate their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) on climate change.

In our position paper on the climate negotiations in June 2015, IUCN had encouraged all Parties to the UNFCCC to be as comprehensive as possible in the coverage of greenhouse gas sources and sinks while preparing the INDCs. We had also urged countries to fully take into account the role of ecosystems and biodiversity, and to incorporate specific and ambitious ecosystem-based mitigation and adaptation measures within the INDCs.

We would like to express our sincere congratulations to all the 168 Parties to the UNFCCC that have submitted INDCs to date. We note with great satisfaction that a large number of these countries have strongly acknowledged the important role that better conservation, management and restoration of natural ecosystems can play in both climate change mitigation and adaptation, and would like to particularly express our congratulations to them.

We at IUCN urge all those Parties that have not yet prepared and communicated their INDCs to do so as soon as possible. IUCN stands ready to support all countries, especially its state members, in the further development and implementation of their INDCs, particularly in relation to ecosystem-based approaches and nature-based solutions to climate change. In a similar vein, we urge countries to take into account gender considerations, indigenous and traditional knowledge, and the needs of the most vulnerable communities in this process.

At COP21 in Paris, IUCN will be hosting a number of events at its Pavilion in both the official Conference Centre and the Climate Generations area to showcase the different dimensions of its climate-related work. We welcome those of you who will be in Paris to visit the IUCN Pavilions, and learn more about our work.

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