



Proceedings of the Members' Assembly

World Conservation Congress, Barcelona, 5–14 October 2008



“The Congress surpassed all our expectations. In fact, it was a real turning point for us and we now talk of *life before* the Congress and *life after* the Congress.”

Matías Gómez & Manuel Umpierrez,
young Park Rangers, Uruguay

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Compiled and edited by Tim Jones
Chief Rapporteur to the Barcelona Congress



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Climate Neutral Group

Certificate

07C10175

This certificate confirms that

IUCN

has compensated a total amount of **7934** tons of CO₂ emissions for its Carbon Offsets for the Congress Barcelona in 2008.

Compensation is realised with a CDM certified project in Sharkia, Egypt. In this project methane emissions are avoided, by composting organic waste which is converted into controlled microbial compost (CMC) that is suitable for organic and conventional farming.



Denis Slieker



Niels Korthals Altes

Directors of Climate Neutral Group
Utrecht, January 2009.

The independently verified CO₂ credits used for compensation by GreenSeat are registered in name of Climate Neutral Group in the Triodos Bank Climate Clearing House. Credits are 'retired' and cannot be used again and/or sold to another party. The Climate Neutral Group compensation process is fully audited by accountants. GreenSeat is a brand of the Climate Neutral Group.

The greenhouse gas emissions arising from the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Barcelona were estimated at 7934 tons of CO₂ equivalents. With the help of Congress participants and donors, IUCN was able to offset 100% of these estimated emissions.

Foreword

by the President of IUCN, Valli Moosa

First and foremost, on behalf of all members and staff of IUCN, I wish to express our deepest gratitude to the Royal Household of Spain, the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs of Spain, the Generalitat de Catalunya, the City Council of Barcelona and the Diputació de Barcelona for your generous and constant support to the World Conservation Congress. You were fundamental to the success of this event.

The World Conservation Forum involved more than 7,000 participants in 972 activities: seven high-level roundtable discussions, numerous workshops, receptions and debates hosted in nine thematic pavilions, and 160 exhibitions. There was an International Women Entrepreneurs' Fair, the inspirational 'Sailing to Barcelona' initiative, conservation cinema, dozens of learning opportunities, a book store and countless informal events.

During the Members' Assembly, 138 motions were deliberated and voted on. These will significantly influence international environmental policy in the short, medium and long-term. The IUCN membership also elected Ashok Khosla as the Union's new President, together with a new governing body, and approved the 2009–2012 IUCN work programme.

The concrete commitments made during the Congress from various sectors are also impressive. Our Congress helped to generate significant new funding for conservation, amounting to some US\$ 125 million. This includes US\$ 50 million from the MacArthur Foundation to work with conservation groups to enable communities to adapt to climate change, the Mohammed Zayed Conservation Fund with US\$ 33 million for species conservation, US\$ 10 million from the Global Environment Facility to help generate at least matching funds from the private sector to conserve species used in corporate branding, US\$ 15 million for the Water for Nature Initiative, and US\$ 12 million for IUCN's Framework Agreement with the Government of France. Of course, not all of this is for IUCN – our members and Commissions now have some new funding opportunities.

Other high profile commitments that were made to support our mission during the ten days of the Congress included:

- The Alcoa Foundation announcing a US\$ 9 million five-year extension of its Sustainability Fellows Programme;
- Nokia, WWF and IUCN committing to continue work on the social platform network, Connect2Earth, to engage youth in environmental issues;
- The improvement of women's access to electricity and reduced dependence on biofuels through EN-ERGIA;
- A commitment by Francophone governments to better integrate biodiversity issues into their development policy;
- A pledge by Russia to protect 80 million hectares;
- An agreement by Sumatran provinces to stop clearing old-growth forest;
- Google launching an interactive map of marine protected areas;
- The establishment by National Geographic and the UN Foundation of the first long-term streaming system that connects anyone, anywhere, to a coral reef in Belize;
- The creation of the International Association of Wildlife Magazines to coordinate conservation campaigns;
- The announcement by the Government of Paraguay to zero net deforestation by 2020; and
- An agreement by regional Heads of State to hold a summit at Manado, Sulawesi in May 2009 to launch the Coral Triangle Initiative to protect the world's richest coral reefs.

The World Conservation Congress marked the end of my term as President of IUCN. I leave with deep gratitude for having had the opportunity to serve this magnificent Union and helping it move a step closer to accomplishing its mission.

Valli Moosa

Resolution 4.106

Vote of thanks to the host country

NOTING that the IUCN World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session has brought together close to 8,000 participants from 179 countries, more than ever before in the history of IUCN;

MINDFUL of the importance of identifying appropriate facilities and of ensuring the smooth logistical running of such a large gathering;

AWARE that a number of new arrangements were introduced, such as the reduction in the use of paper, the concept of 'journeys' to organize the Forum programme, Pavilions exhibition and Learning Opportunities, and that these and other innovations presented challenges for the venue and local organizers;

RESPECTFUL of the fact that this gathering of close to 8,000 participants could only occur with the support of a large team of volunteers, workers and sponsors; and

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGING that these conditions were fully met during the present meeting held in the Centre de Convencions Internacional de Barcelona (CCIB);

The World Conservation Congress at its 4th Session in Barcelona, Spain, 5–14 October 2008:

1. EXPRESSES its deepest gratitude to His Majesty the King, for presiding at the Committee of Honour of the World Conservation Congress;
2. CONVEYS its deepest thanks to His Royal Highness Prince of Asturias for his presence and for officially opening the Congress;
3. ACKNOWLEDGES with gratitude the invaluable support of the Congress hosts: the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs, the Department of Environment and Housing of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Barcelona City Council and Barcelona Provincial Council for their institutional support and generous financial contributions that made this Congress possible, and to the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development for its financial support that allowed the participation of IUCN members from developing countries;
4. APPLAUDS the hard work and efforts of the officials and supporting staff of the host administrations, local sponsors, the staff of CCIB and the local volunteers who gave so generously of their time to make this Congress a success;
5. CONVEYS its thanks to the people of Barcelona, Catalonia and Spain for sharing the beauty of their culture, customs and scenic sites, thus enriching the experience of all Congress participants; and
6. DECLARES this 4th Session of the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona to have been a resounding success and memorable event.

Acknowledgements

HOSTS



PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark

Shell

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

Toyota

BRONZE

Department of State, United States of America

MAVA Foundation

Federal Office for Environment (FOEN), Switzerland

IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands

FRIENDS

Center for Ocean Solutions – Earth Day Network – Elypsos – Google Earth Outreach –

International League of Conservation Photographers – IRUKA – Living Oceans Foundation –

National Geographic – Philips – Renfe – Star Alliance – Total Foundation – US Fish and Wildlife Service –

US Forest Service – TMB – Wildlife Conservation Society – World Bank

Minutes of the Members' Assembly of the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress

Barcelona International Convention Centre (CCIB), Catalonia, Spain,
5–14 October 2008

Opening Ceremony for the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (2.1)

The Opening Ceremony took place in the presence of His Royal Highness the Prince of Asturias; His Serene Highness Prince Albert of Monaco; His Royal Highness Prince Turki of Saudi Arabia; Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand; Molt Hble. Sr José Montilla i Aguilera, President de la Generalitat de Catalunya; Excm. Señora Doña Elena Espinosa Mangana, Ministra de Medio Ambiente y Medio Rural y Marino de España; Excm. Sr Jordi Hereu i Boher, Alcalde de Barcelona; His Excellency Joan Rangel, Delegado del Gobierno de España en Cataluña; and Excm. Sr Antoni Fogué i Moya, President de la Diputació de Barcelona.

Under the five themes of:

- Awareness
- Equity
- Sustainability
- Biodiversity
- Action

opening addresses were made by the President of IUCN, Mr Valli Moosa; Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand; Professor Mohammad Yunus, the Founder of Grameen Bank, and 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate; Ms Julia Marton-Lefèvre, Director General of IUCN; Excm. Sr Antoni Fogué i Moya, President de la Diputació de Barcelona; Excm. Sr Jordi Hereu i Boher, Alcalde de Barcelona; Excm. Señora Doña Elena Espinosa Mangana, Ministra de Medio Ambiente y Medio Rural y Marino de España; Molt Hble. Sr José Montilla i Aguilera, President de la Generalitat de Catalunya and His Royal Highness the Prince of Asturias, who declared the World Conservation Congress officially open. Written texts, where provided, have been made available on IUCN's website (www.iucn.org).

The opening addresses were followed by a concert performance given by the Tekfen Philharmonic Orchestra, Turkey.

Appointment of Credentials Committee (1.1)

The President referred members to Congress Paper CGR/2008/3 *Draft Terms of Reference for Congress Committees*, and specifically to Annex 1 *Credentials Committee – Draft Terms of Reference*, as well as to Rule 21 of the Rules of Procedure. The Terms of Reference for the Credentials Committee, as proposed by Council, were approved by consensus.

The President then introduced Council's proposal for membership of the Congress Credentials Committee, which had been prepared taking into account the need for balance in terms of geography, gender and expertise:

Mr Said Damhoureyeh (Jordan)
Mr Jim Johnston (Canada)
Ms Anna Kalinowska (Poland) Co-Chair
Ms Sônia Rigueira (Brazil) Co-Chair
Ms Susana Rivero (Spain) Host Country representative
Ms Silvia Sánchez (Peru)
Mr Kartikeya Sarabhai (India)
Mr Zohir Sekkal (Algeria)
Ms Diane Tarte (Australia)

There were no comments or questions from the floor and Congress approved by consensus the membership of the Credentials Committee proposed by Council.

Report of Credentials Committee (3.1, 4.1, 7.1, 8.1, 11.1)

The Credentials Committee met regularly between 5 and 14 October 2008. A preliminary report and four further reports were presented to Congress during the 3rd, 4th, 7th, 8th and 11th Sittings, respectively.

The number of potential votes held by IUCN active members were:

Category A (Government and Governmental Agencies): 280 votes

Category B (International and National NGOs):
992 votes

Of these potential votes, the voting power of members represented at the 4th Session of the World Conservation Congress included:

Category A (Government and Governmental Agencies): 210 votes
Category B (International and National NGOs):
659 votes

The Credentials Committee noted that more than half of the total potential votes held by IUCN active members in both categories of membership was therefore represented at the Congress.

The Committee noted that some members who were registered to participate in the Congress did not have credentials that were in order and were therefore not eligible to exercise the right to vote. These included:

Category A (Government and Governmental Agencies): 23 votes
Category B (International and National NGOs):
31 votes

The Committee had also reviewed issues relating to non-payment of membership dues and suspension or rescission of voting rights. The Committee noted that, thanks to diligence in collecting membership dues, exercised prior to the Congress by the Secretariat and members of National Committees, the Credentials Committee had needed to expend much less effort on these matters than at previous Congresses.

The Committee also noted a reduction in the number of members in arrears compared with the two previous Congresses.

The following is a summary of the 115 members whose dues were two or more years in arrears at the time of the Barcelona Congress:

State Members (Category A)	14
Government Agencies (Category A)	7
International NGOs (Category B)	3
National NGOs (Category B)	89
Affiliates	2

The Committee advised that Congress might decide to rescind the rights of these members, pursuant to the terms of Article 13(a) of the Statutes. The Committee

noted that if, within one year of a Congress decision to rescind the rights of such members, any dues owed up to the date of rescission remained outstanding, then that member would be deemed to have withdrawn from IUCN, pursuant to the terms of Article 13(b) of the Statutes. The Committee recommended that Council and the Secretariat should work closely with the members concerned to help resolve problems in meeting payment of arrears, taking into consideration Articles 25 and 26 of the Statutes.

The Credentials Committee strongly recommended that Council and the Secretariat needed to strengthen the relationship with members by facilitating a better understanding of rights and responsibilities during meetings of Congress. This relationship had to be part of a routine incorporated into Programme implementation.

The Committee noted great improvements to the IUCN Membership Database but also recognized the need to establish better links with IUCN's accounting system.

The Committee emphasized the importance of preparing a handbook covering the procedures for organizing meetings of the World Conservation Congress, as had been recommended in the final report of the Credentials Committee to the Bangkok Congress in 2004.

The Committee recommended that adequate additional resources should be provided for constituency support processes in advance of the next meeting of Congress. This should be done in order to facilitate and ensure maximum membership participation and smooth implementation of the many obligatory statutory processes running simultaneously during the lead-up to a Congress.

The Chair of the Credentials Committee concluded her final report by thanking her colleagues on the Committee for their efforts, as well as members of Regional Committees and Secretariat staff, especially the Constituency Support Unit and Regional Membership focal points, for supporting the Committee's work.

During the 11th Sitting, following presentation of the Credentials Committee's final report, the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, UK) moved that all remaining rights of members who had not paid their dues should be rescinded in line with Article 13(a) of the Statutes, as referenced in the Committee's presentation.

There being no objection or other comment from the floor, the President ruled that the RSPB's proposal was adopted by consensus. He thanked the Credentials

Committee and its Chair for the wonderful work done, noting that not one of the Committee's reports or recommendations had been challenged. Members showed their appreciation of the Committee's work by warm applause.

Adoption of Agenda (3.2)

The President referred to Congress Paper CGR/2008/1 rev.1 *Provisional Agenda* and to rules 45 and 47 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress. There were no comments or questions from the floor and the Agenda was duly approved by consensus.

Discussion and Adoption of Amendments to Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress (3.3)

The President referred members to Congress documents CGR/2008/2 *Proposed Amendment to the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress concerning the Submission of Motions* and CGR/2008/2.1 *Proposed Amendment to the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress concerning the Election of Commission Chairs*.

(a) Amendments to the Rules of Procedure concerning Congress motions

The President noted that the proposed amendments contained in document CGR/2008/2 would have the effect of:

- increasing from two to five the number of sponsors required for motions submitted by the statutory deadline (amendment to Rule 49);
- increasing from five to ten the number of sponsors (all of whom must be members eligible to vote) required for motions newly submitted during the Congress (amendment to Rule 52);
- requiring that motions newly submitted during the Congress comply with "a minimum of three" of the criteria listed, instead of "any" of the criteria listed, as at present (amendment to Rule 52).

The President invited members to approve the proposed amendments to Rules 49 and 52 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress to come into effect after the close of the 2008 Congress. The amendments were approved by consensus.

The International Council of Environmental Law noted that it had voted in favour but highlighted that these amendments could disadvantage small and/or developing countries.

(b) Amendment to the Rules of Procedure concerning the Election of Commission Chairs

The President noted that the proposed amendment contained in document CGR/2008/2.1 would have the effect of adding a new Rule 79*bis* to deal with the eventuality that three candidates from the same State might receive the highest number of votes in the election of the various Commission Chairs, even though Article 40 of the Statutes stipulates that no more than two Commission Chairs may be from the same State. The drafting of Rule 79*bis* had been prompted by the fact that nominees for three different Commission Chair positions to be elected during the present Congress included three candidates from one State. If approved, this amendment would come into immediate effect.

There being no comments from the floor, the President invited members to approve the proposed addition of Rule 79*bis* of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress to come into immediate effect. The amendment was approved by consensus.

Appointment of Congress Committees (3.4)

The President referred members to Congress Paper CGR/2008/3 *Draft Terms of Reference for Congress Committees*, which contained:

- Annex 2 *Resolutions Committee of Congress – Draft Terms of Reference*
- Annex 3 *Finance and Audit Committee of Congress – Draft Terms of Reference*
- Annex 4 *Programme Committee of Congress – Draft Terms of Reference*
- Annex 5 *Congress Steering Committee – Draft Terms of Reference*

In addition, Congress Paper CGR/2008/3 rev. contained:

- Annex 6 *Governance Committee of Congress – Draft Terms of Reference*

The Draft Terms of Reference had been prepared by Council, which had also recommended names to go forward to Congress for membership of these Committees,

taking into account the balance of regions, gender and expertise.

Congress Resolutions Committee

Congress approved the Terms of Reference for the Congress Resolutions Committee as contained in document CGR/2008/3 Annex 2. The President recalled that a Resolutions Working Group of Council, under the chairmanship of Pierre Hunkeler (Switzerland), had been operating since March 2008. He further recalled that, in accordance with Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure, "The Resolutions Committee shall include the members of the Resolutions Working Group appointed by Council". Congress approved membership of the Resolutions Committee as follows:

Ms Carolina Caceres (Canada)
Mr Ali Darwish (Lebanon)
Ms Lynn Holowesko (Bahamas) Co-Chair
Mr Cláudio Maretti (Brazil)
Ms Aroha Mead (New Zealand) Co-Chair
Mr Felix Monggae (Botswana)
Mr Abdul-Muyeed Chowdhury (Bangladesh)
Mr Kenty Richardson (Spain)
Ms Marija Zupancic-Vicar (Slovenia)

The President noted that an open discussion on the Congress motions process would be held from 08.00 to 09.30 on Friday 10 October.

Congress Finance and Audit Committee

Congress approved the Terms of Reference for the Congress Finance and Audit Committee as contained in document CGR/2008/3 Annex 3. Congress approved membership of the Committee as follows:

Mr Kurt Ramin (Germany) Chair
Mr Ernesto Enkerlin (Mexico)
Ms Lynn Holowesko (Bahamas) ex officio
Ms Huguette Labelle (Canada)
Mr Keping Ma (China)
Mr Webster Masvikwa (South Africa)
Mr Kinsuk Mitra (India)
Mr Sven Sandström (Sweden) ex officio
Ms Rebecca Webber (USA)

Congress Programme Committee

Congress approved the Terms of Reference for the Congress Programme Committee as contained in document CGR/2008/3 Annex 4. The President recalled that a

Programme Working Group of Council had been operating under the leadership of Mr Ton Boon von Ochssée (Netherlands) since March 2007. Council proposed that the Congress Programme Committee be formed by members of the Working Group. Congress approved membership of the Congress Programme Committee as follows:

Ms Sheila Abed (Paraguay)
Mr Juan Marco Alvarez (El Salvador)
Mr Amadou Ba (Senegal)
Mr Ton Boon von Ochssée (Netherlands) Chair
Mr Lionel Gibson (Fiji)
Mr Hillary Masundire (Zimbabwe)
Mr Juan Mayr (Colombia)
Ms Christine Milne (Australia) Co-Chair
Mr Kalev Sepp (Estonia)
Mr Keith Wheeler (USA)

Congress Governance Committee

Congress approved the Terms of Reference for the Congress Governance Committee as contained in document CGR/2008/3 rev. Annex 6. Congress approved membership of the Committee as follows:

Mr Nobutoshi Akao (Japan)
Mr Jorge Caillaux (Peru) Chair
Mr Carles Castell Puig (Spain)
Mr Alistair Gammell (United Kingdom)
Mr Wren Green (New Zealand)
Mr George Greene (Canada)
Mr Boyman V. Mancama (Zimbabwe)
Mr Russ Mittermeier (USA)
Ms Ana Puyol (Ecuador)
Ms Diana Shand (New Zealand)

The President noted that two open discussion sessions on governance issues, including proposed revisions to the Statutes, would be held on Saturday 11 October, from 08.00 to 09.30 and from 18.00 to 20.00, respectively.

Presentation by Chair of Congress Resolutions Committee: the resolutions process and the tabling of motions in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress (4.2)

Ms Aroha Mead, Co-Chair of the Congress Resolutions Committee reported that, at 156, the number of motions dealt with by the Resolutions Working Group prior to

Congress had been approximately 20% up on the number dealt with in the run-up to the Bangkok Congress four years earlier, which had in turn seen a 30% increase over the Amman Congress. A total of 126 motions had so far been forwarded for the consideration of members in Barcelona, but this did not include a number subject to ongoing appeals, or newly submitted motions. The final deadline for submission of new motions would be 14.00 on Friday 10 October.

In total, some 80 members had submitted motions, with 243 members acting as co-sponsors. The Committee noted that the regional diversity of members submitting or co-sponsoring motions was not as high as it might have wished, with the great majority being from Europe and the Americas. Ninety-four motions had been submitted in English, 55 in Spanish and seven in French. The Resolutions Committee had conducted an open hearing on the motions process immediately prior to the present Sitting of Congress (from 08.00 to 09.30 on Friday 10 October).

Some motions had been referred to the Congress Programme and Governance Committees for advice, while others had been identified as ready for consideration by Congress. A number of contact groups had been established to facilitate discussion of individual motions. Contact group meetings had been scheduled to make the best use of the limited time available, taking into account that such meetings could not take place when Congress was sitting in plenary session. This meant in practice that contact groups would need to meet early in the morning, during lunch breaks or in the evening. The schedule for contact groups would be available from the Resolutions Helpdesk and could also be downloaded from the web. The first contact group meetings would take place during the evening of 10 October.

In concluding her presentation, Ms Mead formally tabled the 126 motions forwarded thus far by the Resolutions Committee for consideration by Congress.

The President noted that the Congress Steering Committee was still considering a number of appeals from members concerning the decisions of the Resolutions Working Group on individual motions. The results of the appeals process would be made known as soon as possible. The President also urged all members to contribute actively to the contact groups and reiterated the submission deadline for new motions: 14.00 on 10 October.

The Centre for Sustainable Development (Bangladesh) and the Ecological Society of the Philippines enquired

about the implementation status of Resolutions adopted by the Bangkok Congress. The Co-Chair of the Congress Resolutions Committee, Ms Lynn Holowesko, noted that a report on implementation of Bangkok Resolutions had been sent to all members in September 2008 and that this issue would also be dealt with in the Director General's report.

In reply to questions from the Center for Environmental Legal Studies (USA) and the Ministry of the Environment and Rural and Marine Affairs (Spain), Justice Antonio Benjamin (procedural advisor) recalled that, in line with Rule 58 of the Rules of Procedure, any member had the right to propose an amendment to a motion. Amendments took precedence in terms of voting, followed by voting on the motion as a whole. Ms Holowesko advised that draft amendments could be submitted to the Resolutions Committee either by email or in writing via the Resolutions Helpdesk.

Responding to concerns raised by the Commission internationale pour la protection des Alpes, Ms Holowesko said that it was difficult to avoid overlaps in the scheduling of contact group meetings given the limited time slots available, but that the Resolutions team would seek to resolve problematic overlaps where possible.

Ms Holowesko advised the Association Ribat Al Fath (Morocco) that questions concerning the integration of Programme-related motions into the 2009–2012 Programme should be referred to the Programme Hearings scheduled for 10 and 11 October.

Presentation by Chair of Congress Programme Committee: 2009–2012 Programme and Commission Mandates and the process for their adoption, including related Motions (4.3)

The Chair of the Programme Committee (Ton Boon von Ochsée) presented an overview of the process that had led to the preparation of *Shaping a Sustainable Future – The IUCN Programme 2009–2012*, beginning with a situation analysis developed by the Chief Scientist and the Global Programme Team. There had been over one thousand different consultations with members, meaning that the development of this Programme had been subject to more consultation than any programme in IUCN's history. The result was a framework for all IUCN activities

to be undertaken by Commissions and the Secretariat with and on behalf of members. IUCN would continue to focus on its Core Programme Area of conserving biodiversity, but would also work in four other Thematic Programme Areas: climate change, energy, ecosystem management for human well-being, and greening the world economy.

Development of the Programme had taken into account Programme-related Congress motions submitted by members and 84 such motions had been referred to the Committee for review and assessment of their relevance and impact. The Programme Committee had provided advice to the Resolutions Committee concerning the consistency of motions with the Programme, whether or not it appeared a contact group would be required for discussion of the issues raised by a given motion, and on the grouping of motions dealing with similar programmatic themes. The schedule of contact group meetings to discuss programme-related motions would be available from the Resolutions Helpdesk. During the course of the Congress, the Programme Committee would be meeting daily and two Programme Hearings, open to all members, had been scheduled: on Friday 10 October from 13.00 to 15.00 and on Saturday 11 October from 13.00 to 15.00. The Programme would be before Congress for formal adoption during the 11th Sitting on Tuesday 14 October.

The Council for Environmental Law congratulated the Chair of the Programme Committee, noting that for the first time in its history IUCN would have the possibility to approve the Programme in conformity with the Statutes. The Nigerian Conservation Foundation and the Sierra Club voiced concerns that the Programme appeared to treat energy and climate change as two different issues. The Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales considered that climate change was an overarching issue that mustn't be put into a separate box. The Chair of the Programme Committee responded that an integrated approach had been taken to climate and energy and that all Programme Areas had been coordinated during development of the document. However, he agreed that the interlinkages should be made as clear as possible for successful implementation; this and other issues raised by members would be dealt with during the discussions over the coming days.

Candidates' presentations (4.4, 5.1, 6.1)

4th Sitting

At the President's request, Ms Christine Milne chaired this agenda item during the 4th Sitting. She noted that four individuals had withdrawn their candidacies:

- Dr Peter Bridgewater, Australia/UK (withdrawal as a candidate for election as Chair of the Commission on Ecosystem Management)
- Dr Gill Shepherd, UK (withdrawal as a candidate for election as Chair of the Commission on Ecosystem Management)
- Richard Cellarius, USA (withdrawal as a candidate for election as Chair of the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy)
- Timothy Snow, South Africa (withdrawal as a candidate for election as Regional Councillor for Africa)

Brief presentations were made by the candidates for election as Chairs of the six IUCN Commissions and as Regional Councillors for four of the eight IUCN Regions, as follows:

Commission on Education and Communication

Keith Wheeler, USA

Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy

Abdelhadi Bennis, Morocco
Aroha Mead, New Zealand

World Commission on Protected Areas

Nikita Lopoukhine, Canada

Species Survival Commission

Holly Dublin, USA
Simon Stuart, UK

Commission on Environmental Law

Sheila Abed, Paraguay

Commission for Ecosystem Management

Piet Wit, Netherlands
Angela Andrade Pérez, Colombia
Hein Rune Skjoldal, Norway

Africa Region

Yolan Friedman, South Africa
Brahim Haddane, Morocco
David Mabunda, South Africa
Hillary Masundire, Zimbabwe
Accel Ndinga-Makanda, Congo

Meso and South America Region

Cláudio Maretti, Brazil
Miguel Pellerano, Argentina
Zuleika S. Pinzón, Panama

North America and the Caribbean Region

Spencer Linus Thomas, Grenada
George Greene, Canada
Sixto Inchaustegui, Dominican Republic
Russ Mittermeier, USA

South and East Asia Region

Monthip Tabucanon, Thailand
Mahfuz Ullah, Bangladesh
Arzu Rana Deuba, Nepal
Hiroharu Koike, Japan
Tej Kumar Shrestha, Nepal

5th Sitting

Brief presentations were made by the candidates for election as Regional Councillors for the remaining four IUCN Regions:

Oceania Region

Lionel Gibson, Fiji
Brendan Mackey, Australia
Diana Shand, New Zealand

West Asia Region

Saif Ali Al-Hajari, Qatar
Abdul Aziz Mohammad Al-Mohanna, Saudi Arabia
Samira Omar Asem, Kuwait (presented on her behalf by outgoing Regional Councillor, Talal Al-Azimi, Kuwait; for family reasons the candidate had been unable to travel to Barcelona)
Ali Darwish, Lebanon
Javed Jabbar, Pakistan
Mohammad Shahbaz, Jordan

East Europe, North and Central Asia Region

Ivan Voloscuk, Slovakia
Amirkhan Amirkhanov, Russia

Vilmos Kizsel, Hungary
Kalev Sepp, Estonia

It was announced that Jasminka Milosevic (Serbia) had not been able to attend the Congress and had not made arrangements for her candidacy to be presented on her behalf.

West Europe Region

Marina von Weissenberg, Finland
Hans de Iongh, Netherlands
Christophe Lefebvre, France

6th Sitting

The candidates for election as Treasurer and President of IUCN made brief presentations as follows:

Treasurer

Kurt Ramin, Germany

President

Puri Canals, Spain
Ashok Khosla, India
Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, Costa Rica

The candidates' presentations having been completed, the Elections Officer explained in detail the voting procedure, as regulated by Rules 75 to 81 of the Rules of Procedure. The ballot would begin at 14.30 on Saturday 11 October and close at 19.30 on the same day. The results would be announced at the beginning of the 8th Sitting on Monday 13 October.

President's Report (5.2)

This agenda item was chaired by Ms Huguette Labelle, Regional Councillor for North America.

Presenting his President's report, Mr Valli Moosa recalled that during his first speech as newly elected President, at the closing of the 3rd IUCN World Conservation Congress in Bangkok, he had set out a series of key challenges for the 2005–2008 intersessional period. These included:

- engaging with governments that had not yet joined IUCN or whose membership had lapsed, in order to promote unity around a common message;

- being more assertive at the United Nations;
- building on IUCN's strengths as a user and generator of knowledge;
- greatly strengthening the Union's communications work;
- ensuring that the Union was bold, assertive and everywhere.

The President was proud to report that IUCN had made considerable strides towards meeting these challenges over the past four years, including a net gain of 81 new members since Bangkok and the securing of Permanent Observer status at the United Nations.

One of the most important roles of IUCN's President was to chair meetings of Council. There had been nine such meetings since the Bangkok Congress, all held at headquarters in Gland, with the exception of the 68th meeting which had been held in Kruger Park, South Africa. In addition, there had been eight meetings of Bureau, as well as regular meetings of Council's Membership Committee, Governance Committee, and Finance and Audit Committee. In the run-up to the present Congress, Council had also established a Congress Preparatory Committee, a Resolutions Working Group and a Programme Working Group. Finally, a number of Council sub-groups and task forces had dealt with specific key issues such as gender and biodiversity, the 'One Programme' concept, and genetically modified organisms.

During the 2005–2008 intersessional period Council had been particularly involved in governance issues, including a review of regional boundaries and representation on Council, which resulted in a draft resolution being forwarded to the present Congress for discussion. Priority had also been given to identifying means of promoting seamless working together by the Membership, Commissions and Secretariat; this had again resulted in the tabling of a motion for Congress.

The President highlighted Council's role concerning three proposed amendments to the Statutes which were currently being examined by the Congress Governance Committee and which would be presented for approval by members during the 9th Sitting of Congress on 13 October. These amendments all pertained to governance issues and two had been proposed by Council itself:

- amendment to Article 1 of the Statutes concerning the name of IUCN (Congress document CGR/2008/4 sent to members in May 2008); and

- amendment to Article 71(c) of the Statutes concerning the territorial scope of National and Regional Committees (Congress document CGR/2008/5 sent to members in May 2008).

The third proposed amendment, to Article 68 of the Statutes, had been submitted by members and concerned creation of a new Category 'D' of IUCN membership for Local and Regional Government Authorities (Congress document CGR/2008/6 sent to members in May 2008).

The President urged members to consider these important amendments carefully and to be ready to express an opinion when they came up for vote.

Turning to the findings of the 2007 External Review of IUCN, the President noted that, while the Union was a highly-valued organization, there was also a need to clarify its role, purpose and objectives as a member-based organization; to improve its leadership and positioning; to strengthen its governance structures; to improve member relations and accountability of the Secretariat to members; and to strengthen IUCN's knowledge-management role to better connect members, Commissions and the broader constituency of the Union.

Council had also overseen the reviewing of the work of the IUCN Commissions (summarised in Congress paper CGR/2008/7 *Report of Activities undertaken by Council to Review the Work of the Commissions*) and a survey of the membership. The results of the latter showed that a significant number of members were not familiar with IUCN's regional and thematic programmes. The survey concluded that members' main areas of involvement (and higher levels of satisfaction) were achieved in the 'heartland' areas of IUCN's work such as protected areas and species. The most significant finding was that the more members were involved in the work of IUCN, the more satisfied they became.

Overall, members believed in the concept of IUCN as a Union, found IUCN relevant to their work, and respected and valued many aspects of the Union. Most, however, wanted significantly greater involvement than they currently experienced and many were frustrated with their efforts to become more involved. For many, IUCN fell short of fulfilling the promise of being a member-based organization. The results of the survey provided a compelling basis for improvements to the management and governance of the Union and the findings had been taken up by a special Task Force of Council and the Secretariat

and developed into a new Membership Strategy which would be at the heart of future work by the Secretariat and the new Council.

Other matters with which the President and Council had been closely involved included the convening of a ‘Renowned Thinkers’ discussion on the future of the concept of sustainability, and the recruitment of a new Director General.

Referring to examples of missions he had undertaken on behalf of IUCN, the President spoke of visits to:

- Senegal and Mali (2005) for meetings with Heads of State, governments and IUCN members;
- Costa Rica and Panama (2006), including participation at the 7th Meeting of IUCN Members from Meso-America;
- Botswana (2006) in order to witness at first hand IUCN’s support for the development of the comprehensive Okavango Delta Management Plan;
- Pakistan (2006) to discuss with high-level officials IUCN’s post-earthquake support activities;
- the G8 meeting of Environment & Development Ministers (Derby, UK, 2005);
- the International Scientific Conference on Biodiversity: Science and Governance (held in Paris, France, 2006);
- the first-ever meeting of Chairs of officially recognized IUCN Regional and National Committees (held in The Hague, Netherlands, 2006); and
- 13th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (New York, USA, 2005).

In addition, the President had met with representatives of the Clinton Global Initiative to discuss fundraising and future collaboration on a post-tsunami mangrove rehabilitation programme in South-East Asia.

The President concluded by saying that IUCN truly was an amazing Union, with all three of its component parts – the Members, the Commissions and the Secretariat – being equally important. He vowed to stay close to IUCN and urged members to keep their eyes on achieving IUCN’s Mission and to work together with the Union’s friends and partners in governments, businesses and NGOs to make a change for the better for the future well-being of the planet and for future generations who would live upon it. IUCN should offer vision and hope, and make its knowledge useful to other sectors of society, to offer concrete solutions in a common language that people can understand, absorb and use to drive

appropriate change from the ground up. IUCN had a significant and growing role on the international stage, and could play a bolder and more prominent one. The Union’s spheres of influence were certainly widening and it was clear that a growing number of parties, from government circles to the private sector, were looking to IUCN for leadership. Collaboration was the way forward to ensuring that IUCN remained on top as a leader in conservation and sustainability.

The Chair urged members to attend the two open hearings organized by the Congress Governance Committee to consider proposed amendments to the Statutes. There would also be an opportunity for further discussion in plenary during the 9th Sitting of Congress. She then opened the floor to comments and questions concerning the President’s Report.

In concurring with views about the importance of membership retention expressed by VITALIS – Hombre, Comunicación y Ambiente (Venezuela), the President noted that securing the reinstatement of lapsed members was often a complex process, especially when it involved State members. Regional and National Committees could play a helpful role, particularly with regard to NGO members.

The Wildlife Society of Kenya had been pleased to hear the President’s references to the IUCN Commissions and hoped there would be more support for Commissions in future.

Fundación para la Defensa del Medio Ambiente Baja Verapaz (Guatemala) urged Congress to think about means of making the relationship between members and the Council, Secretariat and Commissions less distant. It was also important to look at mechanisms for strengthening very local IUCN members. The Union needed well-functioning National and Regional Committees, and headquarters ought to be strengthening and building the capacity of these committees.

Fundación para el Ecodesarrollo y la Conservación (Guatemala) posed the question of how IUCN could make the best use of its seat at the UN. The President responded that IUCN needed to intervene on matters of concern to the Union, where there was a clear policy or Congress decision to follow up. IUCN should be using the global media focus on the UN. However, it was also important that the IUCN New York office should have a relationship with members, since matters sometimes arose at the UN that were of concern to members, but not necessarily directly connected to overall IUCN policy.

In response to the Nigerian Conservation Foundation's concern that IUCN had not spoken out on the damage caused by the oil industry in the Niger Delta and in the Arctic, the Director General assured members that IUCN was continually working on both regions and pushing the oil companies to do better.

The Sierra Club (USA) enquired whether details of that pushing were available publicly, especially with regard to the Shell oil company. The Director General advised that information on IUCN's relations with Shell was published on the IUCN website and that she was available to discuss further details.

The Centre d'Etudes pour le Développement Africain (Burkina Faso) felt it would be useful to have an overview of the whole IUCN structure and in particular an evaluation of the functioning of National and Regional Committees. How many times had the various committees met between Congresses and what difficulties had they encountered?

The Chair recalled that this matter could be raised at one of the open hearings arranged by the Congress Governance Committee.

Director General's Report (5.3)

The Director General (DG), Ms Julia Marton-Lefèvre presented her report, noting that further details were contained in Congress paper CGR/2008/8 *Report of the Director General on the Work of the Union since the IUCN World Conservation Congress, Bangkok, 2004*. Drawing attention to IUCN's unique strengths, derived from its diversity of members and experts unified around a common mission, the DG also underlined the need for the Union to become more influential in order to generate the political will needed to address the environmental challenges confronting the planet.

The recently concluded World Conservation Forum had allowed those present in Barcelona to witness a truly inspiring part of IUCN's vision and mission in action. With the Members' Assembly now getting under way, the DG urged Congress participants to maintain the level of enthusiasm and dedication seen during the Forum: "Most of all, I want us to keep our eyes on our common goal. We have important business to do. Some of it is related to the way our Union works, some about what we want the Union to do, and mostly it is about setting the world's conservation agenda."

For 60 years, IUCN had provided credible, trusted knowledge, convened and built partnerships for action, developed a reach that was both local and global, and had succeeded in influencing standards and practices. Now, with environmental awareness higher than ever before, IUCN's job would be to provide guidance and solutions, based on knowledge, on equity and justice, and on solid ethical considerations.

Turning to the components of IUCN, Ms Marton-Lefèvre reflected on how the members, the Commissions and the Secretariat were commonly referred to as 'three pillars' holding up the Union – strong, equal, but in fact quite separate. The more scientific and friendlier metaphor of the triple helix was preferable, since it conveyed so much better the inter-relationships that were essential for IUCN's mission. Maximizing the synergy of these inter-relationships remained a challenge and she called on all present to help remove barriers between the 'pillars', so that IUCN could become a true and living Union.

Membership currently stood at 1,148 members, including the newest group of 48 which joined with effect from 4 October, among them IUCN's newest State members, Mexico and Georgia. Since becoming DG, Ms Marton-Lefèvre had spent much of her time meeting and listening to members' concerns and recognized the strong desire within the membership for reform and engagement. She said: "My predecessor, Achim Steiner, began a series of management reforms which I am continuing, and we are now in the midst of a system-wide organizational development and change process which will result in a more effective and collaborative Union. We are emphasizing in all this: our links with members and Commissions; our ability to formulate policy with you and on your behalf; and our goal to work effectively as a decentralized, distributed Secretariat, working seamlessly across cultures and time zones."

An important task had been to work with Council in assessing the implementation status of Bangkok Resolutions. A report had been sent to members in September, showing that implementation of some 15% of Resolutions had been completed, with work on the great majority still ongoing, since many could not be dealt with in a single intersessional period.

Referring to the 2009–2012 Programme, the DG expressed her hope that the Programme would be adopted by Congress in due course, and her conviction that the Programme provided the right framework for all parts of the Union to act together to deliver concrete results.

In closing, she said: “I have come to realize that our Union is now at a crossroad and that we need to choose which path we want to follow. We can take the known path, a familiar and comforting one, where we discuss and argue among ourselves, where we do interesting work, raise red flags and have a moderate influence. Or we can take the other road, the proverbial ‘less-travelled’ one, where we embrace rather than resist change. It is a road where we travel with new partners because they represent our reality as parts of the society we were set up to *influence, encourage and assist*. It is a road where IUCN builds bridges – not necessarily consensus – between diverging interests. It is one where IUCN leads a massive movement, which is the only way to effect the kind of changes needed to save the only planet we have.

We don’t need to change our mission statement in order to achieve this. We just need to realize that progress is not always linear; that we have to be smart and strategic in the way we make the case for Nature to an ever-widening audience; and that we are so much stronger when we work together.”

The President opened the floor to questions and comments.

The International Council of Environmental Law congratulated the DG on a comprehensive, holistic and elucidating report. In referring to the IUCN Commissions, the DG had quoted the 2007 external review, in which only 10% of members indicated that they were involved with CEESP, CEC or CEL. The DG ought to analyse the manifold reasons for this – perhaps including competition between Commissions.

Referring to follow-up of Bangkok Congress decisions and specifically Resolution 3.092, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami asked for IUCN to play a part in facilitating discussion between Inuit and countries that had introduced hunting bans.

Schutzgemeinschaft Deutsches Wild welcomed increased collaboration between the Secretariat and the membership but was concerned by the implication in the DG’s report that 85% of Bangkok decisions were either not implemented or only partially implemented. A further 130 motions were being considered by the present Congress and a degree of cynicism could be expected if implementation statistics showed no improvement by the time of the next Congress. IUCN needed to take decisions that would work.

The International Council for Game & Wildlife Conservation was also concerned about the way in which priorities appeared to have been assigned in the implementation of Bangkok decisions. With reference to Resolution 3.074 concerning sustainable use of biodiversity, did it really take four years to send a letter?

Also referring to Bangkok Resolutions in general and the Resolution on genetically modified organisms in particular, the Ecological Society of the Philippines urged the Director General to take whatever action was needed to ensure implementation.

Diana Shand, Regional Councillor for Oceania, congratulated the DG for bringing in new State members and new framework funders. However, one matter of concern went to the heart of the relationship between Council and the Secretariat. At its meeting in March 2008, Council decided that it would approve both nominations for the position of Chair of SSC on the condition that one candidate tendered immediate resignation from the Secretariat staff. In fact, the staff member concerned did not leave the Secretariat until the end of July 2008. This was not in conformity with Council’s expectations and an explanation was needed.

The DG responded that the staff member had tendered his resignation immediately, but that IUCN had needed to take account of its legal obligations and the need to ensure that vital conservation work was continued, in determining when the resignation should take effect. The staff member concerned had been asked not to undertake any canvassing or campaigning until he had left the Secretariat.

Ali Darwish (Regional Councillor, West Asia) asked for clarification about the implementation status of recommendations arising from the various external evaluations of IUCN that had been conducted.

The DG recalled that implementation of Bangkok Resolutions had been summarised in a paper sent out in September 2008. In fact, most were well on track; only one had not been implemented at all. The Secretariat earnestly wished to do better, but of course responsibility for implementation of Congress decisions lay not only with the Secretariat, but also with Commissions and members. The first Council meeting after the Congress would review all motions adopted in Barcelona.

Ms Marton-Lefèvre invited those concerned about the status of individual Resolutions to speak with her personally to see what could be done.

The Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment, Uganda, recommended that the DG and the Secretariat should take up the issue of devising strategies for retaining members – especially State members. There had been some complaints about competition within countries between IUCN and its members and of the Secretariat not working through State members.

The DG agreed that the type of competition outlined was indeed unhealthy and stressed that the Secretariat was fully committed to working with members to overcome such problems.

Reports of Commission Chairs (5.4)

The Chairs of the six IUCN Commissions made brief presentations highlighting key elements of the Commissions' activities during the 2005–2008 intersessional period. Further details were contained in the six Annexes to Congress Paper CGR/2008/9 *Reports from the Chairs of Commissions*.

Hillary Masundire, Chair of IUCN's Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), reminded members of the mission, vision and five focal areas of CEM and highlighted some of CEM's major achievements since the Bangkok Congress. CEM had opened up a new area of work within IUCN with a workshop and resulting publication on applying the Ecosystem Approach to disasters following the tsunami in South-East Asia. In 2006, CEM convened a technical workshop in Jordan on 'Drylands' Hidden Wealth' as part of the International Year on Deserts and Desertification, and it was CEM that has initiated the focus of IUCN on drylands which cover over 40% of the Earth's terrestrial surface. In 2007, in Colombia, CEM provided a platform for Latin America to share experiences in applying the Ecosystem Approach, resulting in a publication.

Throughout the intersessional period, CEM had worked closely with the UN Conventions – for instance, the 9th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP9) had made a specific request to IUCN with reference to the Ecosystem Approach. Noting that CEM now had between 400 and 500 actively engaged members, Hillary Masundire ended his presentation by saying "I leave you a live, active and productive Commission on Ecosystem Management".

Keith Wheeler, Chair of IUCN's Commission on Education and Communication (CEC), introduced a

short video that showcased examples of some of CEC's main activities and achievements over the preceding four years. These included working with the Sustainability Institute in South Africa as a space for learning and leading transformational changes at the provincial and national level. CEC had also worked on strengthening the communication capacity of environmental Conventions and was recognized as a global biodiversity knowledge network spanning the globe, but with solid connections at the local level. CEC partnered with the CBD in developing the Toolkit for the Convention's Programme on Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA). In partnership with UNEP, CEC had helped to introduce the concept of environmental citizenship to local authorities, politicians, community groups as well as churches and schools in nine Latin American countries. The World Conservation Learning Network (WCLN) of CEC was connecting IUCN with the world of universities and supported innovative networks to multiply efforts for conservation and sustainable development. 'Business as usual' would no longer be enough and the examples shown demonstrated transformational change. Keith Wheeler concluded the CEC presentation by inviting IUCN's membership as a whole to join CEC in powering change for the Union.

Taghi Farvar, Chair of IUCN's Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), explained that CEESP contributes to delivering IUCN's mission by providing insights and expertise on means of harmonizing biodiversity conservation with the crucial socio-economic and cultural concerns of human communities. CEESP had a membership of over 1,000 members of which over 40% were female and more than 50% from the 'South'. CEESP also ranked as one of the youngest Commissions.

CEESP had pioneered work on human rights and governance within the Union and through its seven Themes had addressed some of the most complex subjects that conservation faced today. For instance TILCEPA, representing the successful marriage between WCPA and CEESP, had helped the understanding, strengthening and promotion of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas in line with the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas. The Theme on Sustainable Livelihoods had worked on food sovereignty and pro-poor conservation. The Environment and Security Working Group had worked on security aspects of climate change (e.g. at the Bali Conference of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change) and had supported a fact-finding mission following a major oil spill in Lebanon. The Theme

on Environment, Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment (TEMIT) was implementing an IUCN project on monetary and fiscal policies for sustainability, with a focus on Latin America. The Theme on Culture and Conservation (TCC) had developed, together with the IUCN member Terralingua, a source book on biocultural diversity.

CEESP was engaging the whole of society, particularly indigenous peoples and local communities, in conservation and was seeking environmental justice. CEESP was further strengthening the multiplicity of values embedded in nature besides economic values and was linking policy and practice. CEESP had produced a number of groundbreaking publications, such as *Sharing Power* or its *Policy Matters* series. Taghi Farvar concluded with three parting messages:

- Social concerns were at the heart of the Union: when would we move from rhetoric to reality?
- IUCN should beware of ‘partnerships’ and ‘marriages’ that could knock the Union off balance and off track; and
- A reminder that IUCN’s Vision – a *just* world that values and conserves nature – sought conservation with *equity*.

Sheila Abed de Zavala, Chair of IUCN’s Commission on Environmental Law (CEL), recalled that four years ago CEL membership had been overwhelmingly from developed countries while today CEL had a large membership from developing countries and was more open and culturally diverse. Modernization of communication tools and addressing language barriers had improved interactions in CEL, allowing CEL to concentrate its efforts on strengthening its Specialist Groups; a co-chair had been assigned to each group and operational resources were allowing them to cover basic functioning costs and to develop annual work plans. A milestone had been the first ever organization of an annual Chairs’ meeting. CEL was also working with the IUCN Regional and Country Offices to implement the Union’s ‘One Programme’ concept and was driving inter-Commission work, such as with WCPA.

Working on many themes, including sustainable energy, environment and trade, indigenous peoples, armed conflict and environment, and water, CEL was dedicated exclusively to equity issues and was a champion of rights-based approaches. CEL had developed magnificent products, such as the *Guide for Application of the Precautionary Principle*. Another important venture had been the instigation of the

CEL Helpdesk to serve as an information and assistance resource centre on environmental legislation and policy, to support IUCN institutional membership. To nurture the next generation of environmental lawyers, CEL had established the Alexandre Kiss Prize that allowed young law professionals to complete their training at the Environmental Law Centre in Bonn. In closing, Sheila Abed de Zavala confirmed that CEL would hold true to its commitment to carry on the work started four years previously.

Holly Dublin, Chair of IUCN’s Species Survival Commission (SSC), told of the journey of SSC since Bangkok – a Mission Possible. SSC could look back on six decades of conservation achievements and nowadays had over 7,600 individually registered members and over 120 Specialist Groups. SSC gave high priority to awareness of member issues and the valuing of voluntarism and was very aware of IUCN’s policies and governance.

For the first time ever, SSC had brought together its Specialist Group Chairs during the last intersessional period. SSC had been able to contribute to implementation of a considerable number of Bangkok Resolutions and Recommendations. SSC was seen by many as IUCN’s hub of science, with a huge number of species assessments carried out each year. For instance, SSC had provided information to decision makers through the Second Global Mammal Assessment, new marine and freshwater species assessments, a regional assessment in Europe and the Mediterranean and the development of indicators for the CBD 2010 Biodiversity Target, Millennium Development Goal number 7, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS). SSC had been reviewing the *Red List* process to enhance rigor and to maintain its integrity.

SSC had helped to understand some of the threats arising from the current pattern of consumption and production, such as overexploitation, climate change, mining or energy-sector impacts and the effects of invasive species. SSC had developed a considerable number of new guidelines and publications and fostered regional cooperation and action for species and the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. SSC fostered inter-Commission collaboration and worked, for instance, with CEL on the Precautionary Principle and with WCPA on protected area guidelines. Priorities for 2009–2012 had been incorporated into SSC’s Strategic Plan, which had delivery of the ‘One Programme’ approach at its centre, as well as the need to secure the necessary support for SSC members and partners throughout the world.

Nikita Lopoukhine, Chair of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), observed his satisfaction that the Union's new logo showed IUCN embraced by a large letter 'C', which clearly stood for Commissions! He acknowledged the four sponsoring agencies that made WCPA meetings and work possible and also acknowledged the work and support of WCPA Steering Committee members and their institutions.

Marine Protected Areas had been one priority for WCPA, working with partners across the oceans of the world. Membership of marine-related organizations had expanded to cover more than 50 countries. Mountain Protected Areas were especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change, making connectivity a critical issue. WCPA, together with its network of over 500 mountain biome experts, had produced three important mountain publications, among them *Guidelines for Planning and Managing Mountain Protected Areas*.

Addressing management effectiveness was becoming a WCPA 'nugget' – an example being the global study on management effectiveness of protected areas with a system-level assessment of over 6,000 protected areas in 80 countries. Similarly, recognition was growing for IUCN's technical advisory capacity on sites under the World Heritage Convention.

Following up on Bangkok Resolution 3.048, the guidelines for protected area management categories had been reviewed and had been tabled at a workshop held a few days previously during the Barcelona World Conservation Forum. WCPA had also launched the Protected Area Learning Network, PALNet. This virtual platform allowed people working with protected area issues to access and share information. Another important focus of WCPA was the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas.

An important regional highlight was the increasing acceptance of WCPA as a source of verification and certification for assessing protected area establishment and management against the IUCN Categories. In concluding his report, Nikita Lopoukhine provided an overview of prominent international events at which WCPA had played an active role during the past four years.

Remarking on the wealth of science that IUCN had around the world, the President congratulated the Commission Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Steering Groups, acknowledging that mobilizing people for products didn't just happen; it required a great deal of time and effort. He opened the floor for comments and questions.

Referring to armed conflicts in the Middle East and elsewhere, the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (Egypt) was concerned that nobody appeared to be looking at the effects of war on ecosystems. IUCN needed to do this. On another matter, the Chair of SSC had mentioned the meeting of Chairs of SSC Specialist Groups but hadn't clarified that the meeting had been held in the United Arab Emirates. It was important to acknowledge the contribution that Arab countries were making to the work of IUCN.

The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs recalled that Japan would be hosting the 10th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP10) and was requesting cooperation with IUCN in this endeavour. Japan encouraged each Commission Chair and the IUCN Director General to best utilize the opportunities offered by COP10.

The President thanked Japan for taking the initiative in building these bridges.

The Arab Group for the Protection of Nature (Jordan) stated that it had helped with the establishment of an IUCN National Committee in Jordan and also with implementing Bangkok Resolution 3.006. However, when the Group had tried to establish contact with CEL to seek guidance on the major oil spill in Lebanon, they had experienced no success.

The Chair of CEC noted that CEC had a specialist group on conflict and environment and that the focal point for that specialist group was from Jordan.

The Ugandan Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment questioned why restoration of degraded ecosystems had apparently received little attention from CEM. The Chair of CEM undertook to follow up this point directly with the Ministry.

Association Ribat Al Fath (Morocco) called for a geographical and thematic summary of Commission activities to be made available in future to facilitate proper analysis of the Commissions' work.

Concluding discussion under this Agenda item, the President invited members with further questions to address them directly to the Commission Chairs.

Reports from recognized Regional Committees and Regional Members' Meetings (6.2)

The President noted that written reports had been received from the following three Regional Committees:

- West Africa
- West Asia
- MesoAmerica

Representatives of other Regional Committees or those wishing to report on regional meetings of members were invited to take the floor. No requests to speak were forthcoming.

Discussion of the 2009–2012 Programme and Commission Mandates and related Motions, and Report of Congress Programme Committee (6.3)

Mr Manfred Niekisch, Chair of the Council's Programme Committee, introduced the 2009–2012 Programme, underlining the fact that its preparation had been guided by IUCN's Vision and Mission. It contained two goals which had been approved at the Bangkok Congress:

- Extinction crisis is alleviated: The extinction crisis and massive loss in biodiversity are universally adopted as a shared responsibility, resulting in action to reduce this loss of diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.
- Ecosystem integrity is maintained: Ecosystems are maintained and where necessary restored and any use of natural resources is sustainable and equitable.

The Programme identified a set of ten global results within a Core Programme Area and four Thematic Programme Areas:

Core Programme Area: Conserving biodiversity – Ensuring sustainable and equitable management of biodiversity from local to global levels.

Global result 1.1: Biodiversity-related policies and governance systems enable action towards the achievement of biodiversity conservation.

Global result 1.2: IUCN standards, tools and knowledge for sustainable natural resource management are

available and used for biodiversity conservation, including effective management of global and regional common natural resources.

Thematic Programme Area 2: Changing the climate forecast – Integrating biodiversity considerations and opportunities into climate change policy and practice.

Global result 2.1: Climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and practice include biodiversity concerns from local to global level.

Global result 2.2: Natural resource management policies and strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change are adopted and implemented.

Thematic Programme Area 3: Naturally energising the future – Implementing ecologically sustainable, equitable and efficient energy systems.

Global result 3.1: Energy policies and strategies mitigate the impact of the growing energy demand on biodiversity.

Global result 3.2: Ecosystem services that underpin sustainable and equitable energy are incorporated in energy policies and strategies.

Thematic Programme Area 4: Managing ecosystems for human well-being – Improving livelihoods, reducing poverty and vulnerability, and enhancing environmental and human security through sustainable ecosystem management.

Global result 4.1: Development policies and strategies support vulnerable and poor stakeholders, especially women, to sustainably manage ecosystems for improved livelihoods.

Global result 4.2: Sustainable environmental management reduces vulnerability to natural hazards and conflicts.

Thematic Programme Area 5: Greening the world economy – Integrating ecosystem conservation values in economic policy, finance and markets.

Global result 5.1: Economic, trade and investment policies better integrate biodiversity values.

Global result 5.2: Companies, industry associations and consumer groups incorporate ecosystem values into planning and action.

Manfred Niekisch explained that while the five Programme Areas and ten Global results provided the basis

for all IUCN activities across the world, this 'One Programme' approach did not mean that all components of the Union would be undertaking the same activities. Each component (e.g. Regional Programmes, Commissions, Global Thematic Programmes) would have its own intersessional work plan and set of activities that would contribute to delivery of the global IUCN Programme.

The Chair of the Congress Programme Committee, Mr Ton Boon Von Ochssée, reviewed briefly the work of the Programme Working Group of Council in preparing for the Barcelona Congress and reported on the role and activities of the Congress Programme Committee. The principal functions were to:

- review 84 Programme-related motions;
- provide recommendations to the Resolutions Committee on those motions;
- discuss motions with members during the Forum;
- prepare and conduct the Programme Hearing sessions for members;
- provide advice on new motions submitted at Congress; and
- attend contact groups.

In reviewing Programme-related motions and making recommendations to the Resolutions Committee, the Programme Working Group and Programme Committee had sought to ensure that if adopted, motions or parts thereof, would not unintentionally:

- result in an amendment to the draft Programme framework or proposed Commission mandates;
- result in duplicative efforts with other processes and organizations; or
- propose actions that were already fully covered by the Programme, particularly at Global result level.

Discussion and Adoption of Draft Resolutions and Recommendations (6.4, 7.4, 8.9, 9.2, 10.1, 11.3, 12.1)

A total of 106 Resolutions and 30 Recommendations were adopted by Congress (during the 6th to 12th Sittings, inclusive) as shown in the summary table below.

Motions combined, withdrawn or not approved

Of the motions tabled for consideration by Congress, the following three motions were combined to form the motion adopted as CGR4.MOT005 Rev.1 Strengthening IUCN's Regional and National Committees:

- CGR4.MOT003 Encouraging the participation of Union members
- CGR4.MOT004 Designation of a focal point for IUCN's Regional and National Committees
- CGR4.MOT005 Strengthening IUCN's Regional and National Committees

Number of motions considered and adopted in Barcelona

Status of motions at stages in the process	Number
Motions received by statutory deadline	156
Motions not accepted for lack of sufficient sponsors	-6
Motions found to be redundant for other reasons	-13
Adjustment for consolidated motions	-12
Total motions forwarded to Congress	125
Motions introduced at Congress (including newly submitted and those tabled following successful appeals)	+19
Adjustment for consolidation	-3
Motions withdrawn	-3
Total motions voted on	138
Motions not approved	-2
Total adopted: 106 Resolutions and 30 Recommendations	136

The following two motions were combined to form the motion adopted as CGR4.MOT075 Rev.1 Implementing the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*:

- CGR4.MOT075 Implementing the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*
- CGR4.MOT076 Endorsement of the *UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples*

The following three motions were withdrawn by the sponsors:

- CGR4.MOT058 Protecting the World Heritage values of Cape York Peninsula, Australia
- CGR4.MOT130 Support for IUCN's Chief Scientist
- CGR4.MOT138 The current global economic crisis and the need for uninterrupted protection of the environment and natural resources

The following two motions were not approved:

- CGR4.MOT107 Termination of the agreement between IUCN and Shell
- CGR4.MOT143 Assessment and stock exchange listing of ecosystem services in protected natural areas

Results of appeals

During the 6th Sitting, the Co-Chair of the Congress Resolutions Committee confirmed that appeals by the Nigerian Conservation Foundation (concerning three motions), the Sierra Club (four motions), the International Council of Environmental Law (four motions) and the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps (one motion) had been submitted to the Congress Steering Committee. All of the appeals had been resolved successfully in conjunction with the sponsors and the motions concerned were now being formally tabled for consideration by the Congress. These were:

- CGR4.MOT002 Coordination of the IUCN Programme
- CGR4.MOT012 Transparency of the IUCN Council
- CGR4.MOT108 Establishing the *1% Earth Profits Fund* and sustaining government conservation finance
- CGR4.MOT109 Guiding and improving IUCN's involvement with the private sector
- CGR4.MOT112 Establishing the IUCN Extractive Industry Responsibility Initiative
- CGR4.MOT114 Maintenance of ECOLEX – the gateway to environmental law

- CGR4.MOT122 Military activities detrimental to the environment
- CGR4.MOT127 Establishing citizens' advisory councils for large-scale extractive industry projects
- CGR4.MOT128 Implementation of Congress Resolutions
- CGR4.MOT129 International Covenant on Environment and Development
- CGR4.MOT131 Sustainable mountain development

(Editorial note: CGR.MOT112 was the subject of appeals by two members, which is why 12 appeals were lodged, but only 11 motions are listed above.)

Formal statements for the record provided by members

The State member Canada wrote to the IUCN Director General on 29 October 2008 providing the following statement to be included in the official record of the meeting:

“The Government of Canada takes this opportunity to restate its position on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN DRIP), which is referenced in motions 70 through 75, which were adopted by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature Congress in October 2008. [Editorial note: these adopted motions were subsequently renumbered as Resolutions 4.048, 4.049, 4.050, 4.051, 4.052 and Recommendation 4.127]

Canada was unable to support the UN DRIP because the text fails to adequately address Canada's key concerns and lacks clear, practical guidance for States.

The UN DRIP is not a legally binding instrument. It has no legal effect in Canada, and its provisions do not represent customary international law.

Canada will continue to take effective action, at home and abroad, to protect and promote the rights of indigenous peoples based on our existing human rights obligations and commitments.”

The following statement for the record, entitled *U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process* was provided by the delegation of the State member United States during the 6th Sitting, on 11 October 2008:

“The United States welcomes the opportunity to renew our commitment to IUCN. The United States recognizes the importance and the value of IUCN with its broad and determined membership dedicated to protecting the natural world. Let me extend our congratulations to the IUCN secretariat and to all those many members who

made this Forum so valuable and successful. But our work as members of IUCN really begins now with the Assembly. As a member of IUCN, it is our responsibility to engage fully and actively; be assured the United States takes this responsibility seriously.

We are very interested in learning more about the perspectives and priorities of IUCN members, particularly the non-governmental members, as reflected in the 125-plus motions put forward for consideration by this Congress. We recognize and believe that IUCN as an organization has an important contribution to make to the international environment dialogue.

This motions process remains a challenging one for us as a government. Building on our experience in Bangkok and in Amman, we have continued to reflect on how best we, as a State member, can participate in the motions process. Because of the high priority we place on IUCN's programs which contribute significantly to the conservation goals we share, we have concluded that, in keeping with our approach at the past two Congresses, we should focus our attention on those motions that deal with issues related to IUCN as an institution, its governance and its broad programmatic issues.

We greatly appreciate the outstanding efforts made by the Resolutions Committee to review and provide guidance on all motions and to identify their relevance to the proposed IUCN quadrennial Program and their cost implications. We found the procedures of screening motions to avoid duplication and repetition to be a valuable and welcome approach and applaud the Resolutions Committee, particularly its Chair, and the IUCN secretariat for their efforts. There are, however, motions that we believe do in fact duplicate previous motions and would ask that when it comes time to prepare for the next Congress and Assembly, stricter attention might be paid to this. In addition, we ask that greater efforts be made to reduce the number of motions. Further, we believe we should consider changing the deadline for submission of motions to two weeks prior to the start of the Assembly to allow members sufficient time for review.

We would note, however, that a number of motions reflect the strong views of a small number of members on what actions State members should take nationally, regionally or internationally on complex and often controversial issues.

We remain convinced that there are some types of resolutions on which it may not be appropriate for us, as a government, to engage or negotiate.

Among these is a group of motions directed primarily to a single government or group of governments on national, bilateral or regional issues. We often lack sufficient factual information about such issues and believe that responses to these motions are best left to the country, countries or regions affected. We will not take a position as a government on such motions, except as they have direct

implications for the U.S. Government. In such instances, we may provide a statement for the record to help clarify the issues raised and provide our perspective.

A second group of issues are those focused on global issues that we agree are important but that are topics of ongoing international policy debate in other fora, such as, for example, climate change or human rights. We respect the interest of members in issues of global concern and we share many of these interests. However, we do not intend to take national government positions on the particular views presented in motions here or to vote on the outcome.

We will provide you with a list for the record of those resolutions on which the U.S. Government will refrain from engaging.

We would request that this statement be entered in full for the record in the report of this Congress."

On 21 October 2008, the US Department of State provided the Director General with a further written statement identifying the positions taken on each motion, dividing them into four categories:

"State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on the following motions and took no national government position on the motions as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process:

006, 007, 016, 029, 030, 032, 033, 039, 056, 057, 060, 062, 063, 064, 065, 066, 068, 069, 070, 071, 072, 073, 075, 078, 080, 082, 083, 084, 085, 086, 089, 090, 091, 094, 095, 096, 097, 098, 099, 100, 101, 103, 104, 105, 106, 117, 119, 122, 123, 126, 127, 132, 134, 135, 141, 142, 144

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on the following motions:

001, 005, 009, 012, 013, 017, 019, 022, 024, 025, 027, 035, 043, 044, 045, 053, 055, 092, 102, 111, 113, 114, 118, 120, 121, 124, 131, 140

State and agency members of the United States voted against the following motions:

107, 108, 109, 110, 112, 115, 116, 128, 129, 136

State and agency members of the United States voted in favor of all other motions."

(Editorial note: the motion numbers listed in the US Government statement refer to the original motion numbers

as tabled at the Congress. This listing has been used to ensure that the relevant US Government reservation has been included in the summary of all adopted (and subsequently renumbered) Resolutions and Recommendations that appears below.)

Record of Resolutions and Recommendations adopted

The following is a complete listing of the Resolutions and Recommendations adopted by the Congress. Any formal position statements that members specifically indicated should be included in the record of the meeting are given in full under the appropriate motion title. All motions were adopted by electronic voting, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure, as amended by Congress during the 3rd Sitting on 6 October 2008. The full and final texts of all Resolutions and Recommendations can be found in the separate volume that accompanies these *Proceedings*.

RESOLUTIONS

4.001 Strengthening the links between IUCN members, Commissions and Secretariat (adopted as CGR4.MOT001 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.002 Coordination of the IUCN Programme (adopted as CGR4.MOT002)

4.003 Strengthening IUCN's National and Regional Committees (adopted as CGR4.MOT005 Rev.1)

State member Switzerland abstained during the vote on this motion. The Swiss Federal Office for the Environment provided the following statement for the record during the 11th Plenary Session:

“Taking into account the large number of motions, which is growing steadily from one Congress to the next and the difficulties in implementing a certain number of motions; and noting that several interventions are heading in the direction of better governance concerning motions; the Swiss delegation recommends that Council deals with this matter at three levels: 1. Find a mechanism to ensure that motions are truly operational, that they correspond to the general thrust of the programme and available finances; 2. Improve the voting system by introducing a rule that a motion is only accepted if more than 50% of the votes cast are in favour in the two categories of membership (States and NGOs). The votes cast to which

we refer include abstentions. 3. Set up monitoring of implementation of the various motions that is regularly updated and transparent, in line with Motion 128 [Editorial note: now Resolution 4.010] already adopted.”

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.004 Strengthening IUCN's institutional presence in South America (adopted as CGR4.MOT007)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motions Process.

4.005 Mainstreaming gender equity and equality within the Union (adopted as CGR4.MOT008 Rev.1)

4.006 IUCN's name (adopted as CGR4.MOT009 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.007 Changing IUCN's Statutory Regions (adopted as CGR4.MOT010 Rev.2)

4.008 Including local and regional governmental authorities in the structure of the Union (adopted as CGR4.MOT011 Rev.1)

4.009 Transparency of the IUCN Council (adopted as CGR4.MOT012 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.010 Implementation of Congress Resolutions (adopted as CGR4.MOT128)

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.011 Development of an automated system to record members' actions on Resolutions and Recommendations to improve reporting at and between World Conservation Congresses (adopted as CGR4.MOT136)

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.012 IUCN policy and strategy for the management of biodiversity data and information (adopted as CGR4.MOT015)

4.013 Sustainable use and accountability (adopted as CGR4.MOT016 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.014 Conservation of global plant diversity (adopted as CGR4.MOT018 Rev.1)

4.015 Guidelines regarding research and scientific collecting of threatened species (adopted as CGR4.MOT019)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.016 Development of climate change guidelines for IUCN Red List assessments (adopted as CGR4.MOT020)

4.017 Stopping the amphibian crisis (adopted as CGR4.MOT021)

4.018 Increased participation of scientists from relevant countries in the preparation of the IUCN Red List (adopted as CGR4.MOT022)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.019 The World Species Congress (adopted as CGR4.MOT023 Rev.1)

4.020 Quantitative thresholds for categories and criteria of threatened ecosystems (adopted as CGR4.MOT024)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.021 Eradication of the illegal use of poisoned bait as a method for controlling predators in the European Union (adopted as CGR4.MOT025 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.022 Promotion of Dugong *Dugong dugon* during the UN 2010 International Year for Biodiversity (adopted as CGR4.MOT027 Rev.1)

State and Government Agency members from Japan indicated that they would abstain in the vote on this motion.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.023 Conservation and recovery of the Mediterranean Monk Seal *Monachus monachus* (adopted as CGR4.MOT029 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.024 Conservation of the habitat of the Iberian Lynx *Lynx pardinus* (adopted as CGR4.MOT030)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.025 Avoiding extinction of the Vaquita Porpoise *Phocoena sinus* (adopted as CGR4.MOT031 Rev.1)

4.026 Trust building for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in line with the European Charter on Hunting and Biodiversity (adopted as CGR4.MOT032)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.027 Relationship between fisheries and great whales (adopted as CGR4.MOT037 Rev.1)

The State member Australia made the following statement for the record in proposing the adopted wording for operational paragraph 1:

“It is correct that the contact group for this motion came to a somewhat reluctant consensus. We would like to make it clear that, in the spirit of cooperation, Australia did not block that consensus. However, we will be unable to support the motion as it stands. With due respect to all members of IUCN, Australia believes it is important for the Union to be aware of the key area of disagreement within the contact group. In Australia’s view, the substantive issue covered in operative paragraph 1 of Motion 37 should limit its reference to the status of science and what science can say about interactions between two parts of the marine ecosystem (in this case whale numbers and the amount of fish available to fishers). Australia would support an amendment to the current operative paragraph 1 that would capture this in a more accurate and succinct manner. Our suggestion is:

“ACKNOWLEDGES that the great whales play no significant role in the current crisis affecting global fisheries.”

Such an amendment clearly reflects a consensus on what the science is telling us. Equally importantly, it avoids the highly contentious and scientifically unsupportable notion that a management response such as culling whales should be considered if there was a link between whale numbers and fishing yields. Australia believes this amendment clearly reflects the discussions and outcomes of the very useful ‘whales and fisheries interactions’ workshop that was held during the IUCN World Conservation Forum. Australia supports the conclusions that great whales are indeed not a threat to fisheries and that more science to investigate this issue is a waste of valuable research finding and effort.

Australia requests that this statement be incorporated into the official record of this meeting.”

The State member United Kingdom indicated that it wished its name to be appended to the statement for the record made by Australia.

The State member Japan provided the following statement for the record:

“The delegation of Japan expresses appreciation to the sponsors of this motion for their work to develop a text that could be adopted by consensus. We participated in the contact group on this motion in good faith and indicated we could go along with the text agreed to in the contact group. It is in our view regrettable that, at the Plenary Session, the Government of Australia introduced an amendment to the agreed text particularly since they had participated in the contact group and did not propose their change at that time. For this reason, Japan voted against the amended motion.”

4.028 Action for recovery of the East Atlantic and Mediterranean population of Atlantic Bluefin

Tuna *Thunnus thynnus* (adopted as CGR4.MOT038 Rev.1)

4.029 Conservation and sustainable use of fish in Río de la Plata Basin (adopted as CGR4.MOT039)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.030 Promoting transparency to achieve sustainable fisheries (adopted as CGR4.MOT042 Rev.1)

4.031 Achieving conservation of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdictions (adopted as CGR4.MOT043 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.032 Coordination of the Pacific Ocean 2020 Challenge (adopted as CGR4.MOT044 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.033 Arctic legal regime for conservation (adopted as CGR4.MOT046 Rev.1)

4.034 IUCN’s engagement on Antarctica and the Southern Ocean (adopted as CGR4.MOT047 Rev.1)

4.035 Strengthening IUCN’s work on protected areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT049 Rev.1)

4.036 Best practice protected area guideline for ecological restoration (adopted as CGR4.MOT051)

4.037 Municipal Conservation Areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT052)

The California Institute for Public Affairs noted for the record that this Resolution was drafted in Spanish and refers to a level of government that may cover both urban and rural areas in many countries, although in the English language the word ‘municipal’ commonly refers to local government units that are mainly urban.

4.038 Recognition and conservation of sacred natural sites in protected areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT053)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.039 Cross-Commission collaboration on sustainable use of biological resources (adopted as CGR4.MOT054 Rev.2)

4.040 Conservation of geodiversity and geological heritage (adopted as CGR4.MOT055)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.041 Following up on actions called for by the 2nd Latin American Congress on Protected Areas and Other Protected Areas (Bariloche, 2007) (adopted as CGR4.MOT059)

4.042 Establishment of a transboundary Peace Park between Honduras and Nicaragua (adopted as CGR4.MOT060 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.043 Environmental and social suitability of the Initiative for Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America (IIRSA) (adopted as CGR4.MOT064)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.044 Actions to conserve the Pampas and Campos of South America (adopted as CGR4.MOT066)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.045 Accelerating progress to establish marine protected areas and creating marine protected area networks (adopted as CGR4.MOT067 Rev.1)

4.046 Artisanal fishing organizations active in the sustainable management of the Mediterranean (adopted as CGR4.MOT068)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.047 Empowering local communities to conserve and manage natural resources in Africa (adopted as CGR4.MOT069)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.048 Indigenous peoples protected areas and implementation of the *Durban Accord* (adopted as CGR4.MOT070 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

The State member Australia provided the following statement for the record:

“Australia has not yet adopted the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Australia has stated it intends to adopt the Declaration after it has consulted with indigenous organizations, other jurisdictions in Australia and other players. This is consistent with Australia’s national apology earlier this year, which began a new relationship with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples based on respect, cooperation and mutual responsibility. Australia will abstain from this and subsequent Motions that call for the adoption of measures in support of the Declaration until these consultations are completed.”

The State member Canada provided the following statement for the record:

“The Government of Canada takes this opportunity to restate its position on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN DRIP). Canada was unable to support the UN DRIP because the text fails to adequately address Canada’s key concerns and lacks clear, practical guidance for States. The UN DRIP is not a legally binding instrument. It has no legal effect in Canada, and its provisions do not represent customary international law. Canada will continue to take effective action, at home and abroad, to protect and promote the rights of indigenous peoples based on our existing human rights obligations and commitments.”

The State member New Zealand provided the following statement for the record:

“While New Zealand fully supports the principles and aspirations of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (DRIP), the Declaration does not enjoy universal support. On 13 September 2007 New Zealand, along with a number of other countries with significant indigenous populations, voted against the Declaration when it was adopted by the UN General Assembly. Some of the Declaration’s key articles are fundamentally incompatible with New Zealand’s legal, constitutional and democratic arrangements. Our explanation of vote is a matter of public record.

For the reasons explained, New Zealand will not support those Motions containing references such as adopting, endorsing or implementing the Declaration.

New Zealand will continue to support efforts to promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples.”

The State member United Kingdom provided the following statement for the record:

“The UK fully supports the provisions in this Declaration which recognize that indigenous individuals are entitled to the full protection of their human rights and fundamental freedoms in international law, on an equal basis to all other individuals. Human rights are universal and equal to all.

We would like to recall here that, since equality and universality are the fundamental principles underpinning human rights, we do not accept that some groups in society should benefit from human rights that are not available to others. With the exception of the right to self-determination (Common Article 1 of the two International Human Rights Covenants), we therefore do not accept the concept of collective human rights in international law. Of course certain individual human rights can often be exercised collectively, in community with others. Examples are freedom of association, freedom of religion or a collective title to property.

This remains a long-standing and well-established position of the UK. It is one we consider to be important in ensuring that individuals within groups are not left vulnerable or unprotected by allowing rights of the group to supersede the human rights of the individual. This is without prejudice to the UK’s recognition of the fact that the governments of many states with indigenous populations have granted them various collective rights in their constitutions, national laws and agreements. Indeed, we warmly welcome this fact, which has served to strengthen the political and economic position of and protections for indigenous peoples in those states.”

4.049 Supporting Indigenous Conservation Territories and other Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conserved Areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT071 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

The statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada and New Zealand in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Resolution.

The State member Norway indicated that it would vote against the motion.

4.050 Recognition of indigenous conservation territories (adopted as CGR4.MOT072 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

The statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada and New Zealand in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Resolution.

4.051 Indigenous peoples and protected areas of la Mosquitia in Mesoamerica (adopted as CGR4.MOT074 Rev.1)

The statement for the record made by the State member Canada in relation to Resolution 4.048 also applies to this Resolution.

4.052 Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (adopted as CGR4.MOT075 Rev.1)

The statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada, New Zealand and United Kingdom in relation to Resolution 4.048 also applies to this Resolution.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.053 Mobile Indigenous Peoples and biodiversity conservation (adopted as CGR4.MOT126 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.054 The Yasuní-ITT Initiative (adopted as CGR4.MOT142)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.055 Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN's policy and Programme (adopted as CGR4.MOT077)

4.056 Rights-based approaches to conservation (adopted as CGR4.MOT078 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.057 Conservation of Pakistan's coastal resources for future generations (adopted as CGR4.MOT080)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.058 Conservation and poverty reduction (adopted as CGR4.MOT081 Rev.1)

4.059 Promoting wildlife-based land uses in arid and semi-arid regions of Southern Africa (adopted as CGR4.MOT082)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.060 The European Green Belt Initiative (adopted as CGR4.MOT083 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.061 The Great Ecological Connectivity Corridor: Cantabrian Range – Pyrenees – Massif Central – Western Alps (adopted as CGR4.MOT086)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.062 Enhancing ecological networks and connectivity conservation areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT087 Rev.1)

4.063 The new water culture – integrated water resources management (adopted as CGR4.MOT088 Rev.1)

4.064 Integrated coastal management in the Mediterranean – the Barcelona Convention (adopted as CGR4.MOT089)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.065 Freshwater biodiversity conservation, protected areas and management of transboundary waters (adopted as CGR4.MOT092 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.066 Improving the governance of the Mediterranean Sea (adopted as CGR4.MOT144)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.067 Advancing island conservation and sustainable livelihoods (adopted as CGR4.MOT093 Rev.1)

4.068 Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) (adopted as CGR4.MOT094 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.069 Mangrove conservation in Mesoamerica (adopted as CGR4.MOT096)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.070 Sustainable mountain development (adopted as CGR4.MOT131)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.071 Forest fire recovery and national park protection (adopted as CGR4.MOT132)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.072 Private protected areas and nature stewardship (adopted as CGR4.MOT133)

4.073 Support the building of an ecological vision for the Amazon biome (adopted as CGR4.MOT134)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.074 Climate change and overexploitation of natural resources – inclusion in the IUCN Programme (adopted as CGR4.MOT097)

State member New Zealand indicated that it was unable to support this motion.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.075 Climate change mitigation targets and actions for biodiversity conservation (adopted as CGR4.MOT098 Rev.1)

State members Australia, Japan and New Zealand indicated that they were unable to support this motion.

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.076 Biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation in national policies and strategies (adopted as CGR4.MOT099 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.077 Climate change and human rights (adopted as CGR4.MOT100 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took

no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.078 Appeal for action to address global environmental change (adopted as CGR4.MOT101 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.079 The European Union and its overseas entities faced with climate change and biodiversity loss (adopted as CGR4.MOT135)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.080 Mobilizing action to build resilience and assist adaptation to climate change of coral reefs and marine ecosystems and people that depend on them (adopted as CGR4.MOT137)

4.081 Equitable access to energy (adopted as CGR4.MOT102)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.082 Sustainable biomass-based energy (adopted as CGR4.MOT104 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.083 Industrial agrofuel production (adopted as CGR4.MOT105 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.084 Mining exploration and exploitation in and near Andean protected areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT106 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.085 Establishing the 1% Earth Profits Fund and sustaining government conservation finance (adopted as CGR4.MOT108 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.086 Guiding and improving IUCN's involvement with the private sector (adopted as CGR4.MOT109 Rev.1)

State member India indicated that it would vote against this motion.

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion. The US Department of State provided the following statement for the record during the 9th Plenary Session when the original text of this motion was discussed:

"It is the experience of the United States that constructive engagement of the private sector, industry and corporations is extremely valuable. We support increased transparency and review of agreements with corporations and businesses engaged in the areas of natural resource extraction but not the review of the overall performance of a company unless specified in agreements with such entities. Mandating review of the overall performance of only one sector of IUCN membership is not appropriate and could weaken one of the strands of the triple helix."

4.087 Impacts of infrastructure and extractive industries on protected areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT111 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.088 Establishing the IUCN Extractive Industry Responsibility Initiative (adopted as CGR4.MOT112 Rev)

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.089 Establishing citizens' advisory councils for large-scale extractive industry projects (adopted as CGR4.MOT127)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.090 Open-pit metal mining exploration and exploitation in Mesoamerica (adopted as CGR4.MOT141)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.091 Strategic environmental assessment of public policies, plans and programmes as an instrument for conserving biodiversity (adopted as CGR4.MOT113)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.092 Maintenance of ECOLEX: the gateway to environmental law (adopted as CGR4.MOT114 Rev)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.093 Legal aspects of the sustainable use of soils (adopted as CGR4.MOT115)

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.094 Impetus and support for local and regional biodiversity conservation policies (adopted as CGR4.MOT116)

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.095 African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (adopted as CGR4.MOT117)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.096 The International Academy of Environmental Law (adopted as CGR4.MOT118)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.097 Liability and compensation mechanisms for environmental crimes during armed conflicts (adopted as CGR4.MOT119)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.098 Intergenerational partnerships: fostering ethical leadership for a just, sustainable and peaceful world (adopted as CGR4.MOT120)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.099 Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature (adopted as CGR4.MOT121)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.100 Military activities detrimental to the environment (adopted as CGR4.MOT122 Rev.2)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.101 International Covenant on Environment and Development (adopted as CGR4.MOT129)

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

4.102 Advancing knowledge management in conservation (adopted as CGR4.MOT013)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

- 4.103 Acknowledging Spanish-language environmental education publications** (adopted as CGR4.MOT123)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

- 4.104 The World Conservation Learning Network: next steps** (adopted as CGR4.MOT124)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

- 4.105 Communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) in conservation** (adopted as CGR4.MOT125 Rev.1)

- 4.106 Vote of thanks to the host country** (adopted as CGR4.MOT139)

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.107 Cooperation between members and committees from Latin America and the Mediterranean** (adopted as CGR4.MOT006)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

- 4.108 Open access to biodiversity data and information** (adopted as CGR4.MOT014)

- 4.109 Funding programmes for small-scale civil society projects for global biodiversity conservation** (adopted as CGR4.MOT017)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

- 4.110 Controlling trade in wild caught African cranes** (adopted as CGR4.MOT026)

- 4.111 Conservation of Leatherback Turtles *Dermochelys coriacea* and hammerhead sharks *Sphyrna* spp. in the Eastern Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor** (adopted as CGR4.MOT028 Rev.1)

- 4.112 An effective European Union *Plan of Action for Sharks*** (adopted as CGR4.MOT033 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

- 4.113 Conserving migratory and oceanic sharks** (adopted as CGR4.MOT034 Rev.1)

- 4.114 Global policy against shark finning** (adopted as CGR4.MOT035 Rev.1)

State members Australia, Japan and Spain indicated that they would abstain in the vote on this motion.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion. The US Department of State provided the following statement for the record:

“The United States supports strong and effective efforts to conserve and manage shark populations, including through bans on the wasteful practice of shark finning. We support the broad goals of this motion. Domestically, the United States does require that sharks be landed with their fins naturally attached in our Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Fisheries, and we plan to consider whether such a requirement is appropriate for our Pacific fisheries as well. Consistent with the direction provided by the 2007 United Nations General Assembly Sustainable Fisheries Resolution (62/177), we urge governments to take immediate action to improve compliance with shark finning bans, including, where necessary, to consider requiring that sharks be landed with fins naturally attached.”

- 4.115 Non-lethal utilization of whales** (adopted as CGR4.MOT036 Rev.1)

The Pew Charitable Trusts placed on record thanks to all participants in the two contact group sessions that had dealt with this motion, expressing particular gratitude for the very constructive contributions of both the Japanese and Norwegian Government delegations.

4.116 Fisheries management by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) (adopted as CGR4.MOT040 Rev.1)

4.117 Flag State responsibility regarding Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing (adopted as CGR4.MOT041 Rev.1)

4.118 Antarctica and the Southern Ocean (adopted as CGR4.MOT045 Rev.1)

The State member Japan provided the following statement for the record:

“As was pointed out at the plenary when this Motion was tabled for the first time, this Motion contains several errors, false and misleading information and unnecessary descriptions, and therefore it was recommended that the Motion be withdrawn.”

Although one of the sponsors mentioned about the distribution of an amended text, the amended text has not been distributed until this morning. Furthermore, although you mentioned an organized contact group, different from other Motions, a contact group was not clearly called in order for members to correct those errors and remove inappropriate descriptions for rectifying the situation.

Taking into account the considerable difficulties in properly addressing this important issue at this late stage, I would sincerely request through you Chair to sponsors to seriously examine a withdrawal of the Motion.”

The State member Norway indicated that it would vote against this motion for the same reasons as given by Japan.

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.119 Protection of rangers within and in areas adjacent to protected areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT048)

4.120 Protected areas and biological diversity management programmes: steps towards ensuring effective management (adopted as CGR4.MOT050)

4.121 Increasing the pace and scale of conservation in the Mediterranean Biome (adopted as CGR4.MOT056)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took

no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.122 World Heritage nomination for Ningaloo Reef (adopted as CGR4.MOT057)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.123 Promotion of Category V and VI Protected Areas for biodiversity conservation (adopted as CGR4.MOT061)

4.124 Forest conservation in Tasmania (adopted as CGR4.MOT062 Rev.2)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.125 Protection of the peatlands of Tierra del Fuego, Argentina (adopted as CGR4.MOT063)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.126 Protection of Chilean Patagonia (adopted as CGR4.MOT065 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.127 Indigenous peoples' rights in the management of protected areas fully or partially in the territories of indigenous peoples (adopted as CGR4.MOT073 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as

adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

The statements for the record made by the State members Australia, Canada, New Zealand and United Kingdom in relation to Resolution 4.048 also apply to this Recommendation.

4.128 Setting up networks of protected urban and periurban natural areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT140)

State and agency members of the United States abstained during the vote on this motion.

4.129 Strengthening the integrated management of coastal areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT079)

4.130 Strengthening the Natura 2000 Network (adopted as CGR4.MOT084 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.131 Conservation of the Western Iberian Peninsula (adopted as CGR4.MOT085)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.132 Conservation of the River Ebro (adopted as CGR4.MOT090)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.133 World appeal to prevent the loss of Lake Chapala and Lake Cocibolca, the largest wetlands in Mesoamerica (adopted as CGR4.MOT091)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took

no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.134 Responding to deforestation and land degradation related to climate change and desertification (adopted as CGR4.MOT095)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.135 Environmental impact of wind-based power production in Spanish and Portuguese mountain areas (adopted as CGR4.MOT103 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States refrained from engaging in deliberations on this motion and took no national government position on the motion as adopted for reasons given in the U.S. General Statement on the IUCN Motion Process.

4.136 Biodiversity, protected areas, indigenous peoples and mining activities (adopted as CGR4.MOT110 Rev.1)

State and agency members of the United States voted against this motion.

Elections of President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors and Commission Chairs (7.2, 8.2)

7th Sitting

The President confirmed that the polls had opened at 14.30 on Saturday 11 October and that voting would end at 19.30 that evening. Ballot boxes had been placed at either side of the podium in the plenary hall.

8th Sitting

Mr Antonio Machado, Elections Officer, began by extending his thanks to the Secretariat team for their support in ensuring that members' votes were counted accurately.

The Congress warmly acknowledged the work of the elections team.

Mr Machado reported as follows concerning the votes cast:

- Total valid votes cast: government house 3,312; NGO house 9,568
- Total invalid votes cast: government house 8; NGO house 117
- Total blank votes: government house 40; NGO house 251
- Total Ballot packs used: government house 210; NGO house 621

This meant that 621 of the 650 accredited NGO members had voted and all of the 210 accredited government members had voted.

The following had been elected:

Regional Councillors for Africa

Yolan Friedman, South Africa
Brahim Haddane, Morocco
Hillary Masundire, Zimbabwe

Regional Councillors for Meso and South America

Cláudio Maretti, Brazil
Miguel Pellerano, Argentina
Zuleika S. Pinzón, Panama

Regional Councillors for North America and the Caribbean

George Greene, Canada
Russ Mittermeier, USA
Spencer Linus Thomas, Grenada

Regional Councillors for South and East Asia

Arzu Rana Deuba, Nepal
Hiroharu Koike, Japan
Mahfuz Ullah, Bangladesh

Regional Councillors for Oceania Region

Lionel Gibson, Fiji
Brendan Mackey, Australia
Diana Shand, New Zealand

Regional Councillors for West Asia Region

Ali Darwish, Lebanon
Javed Jabbar, Pakistan
Mohammad Shahbaz, Jordan

Regional Councillors for East Europe, North and Central Asia Region

Amirkhan Amirkhanov, Russia
Vilmos Kiszal, Hungary
Kalev Sepp, Estonia

Regional Councillors for West Europe Region

Hans de Iongh, Netherlands
Christophe Lefebvre, France
Marina von Weissenberg, Finland

Chair of Commission on Education and Communication

Keith Wheeler, USA

Chair of Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy

Aroha Mead, New Zealand

Chair of World Commission on Protected Areas

Nikita Lopoukhine, Canada

Chair of Species Survival Commission

Simon Stuart, UK

Chair of Commission on Environmental Law

Sheila Abed, Paraguay

Chair of Commission on Ecosystem Management

Piet Wit, Netherlands

Treasurer

Kurt Ramin

President

Ashok Khosla

The Congress greeted the election results by acclamation.

The President invited Ashok Khosla, President Elect, to the podium.

Ashok Khosla expressed his thanks to everyone who had voted for him and his fellow candidates; it had been a wonderful election. He expressed the great pride he felt

“to stand on the shoulders of giants; people who have built up the Union over the last 60 years, especially the last President and Council”. The President Elect and the new Council would now strive to take IUCN on to the next step.

The President thanked Antonio Machado for his work as Elections Officer and invited members to show their appreciation.

Presentation of John C. Phillips Memorial and Harold Jefferson Coolidge Medals, Honorary Membership and Commission Awards (7.3)

(a) John C. Phillips Memorial Medal

The President recalled that the John C. Phillips Memorial Medal had been awarded at each IUCN General Assembly and Congress since 1963 and is the Union's highest honour, recognizing distinguished service to international conservation. He was delighted to present the award, on behalf of IUCN's Council, to Dr José Aristeo Sarukhán Kermez in recognition of a distinguished scientific career dedicated to furthering knowledge of biodiversity and the importance of its conservation at national, regional and international levels.

Accepting the John C. Phillips Medal Dr Sarukhán thanked IUCN and expressed his wish to share the award with the Mexican scientific community. He was proud to join the distinguished names that have received the award in the past, especially Dr Enrique Beltrán, from Mexico, who received the award in 1966, and Edward O. Wilson. He said: “I take this as motivation to keep working for the future and for a better planet – a fair and equitable planet for everyone.”

(b) The Harold Jefferson Coolidge Medal

The President recalled that the Harold Jefferson Coolidge Medal had been established by Bangkok Congress Resolution 3.024 in honour of IUCN's President from 1966 to 1972. He called upon Dr Lee Talbot as a pioneer of the conservation movement and another former IUCN Director General, to present the medal.

Dr Talbot spoke of his pleasure in presenting the first award of its kind, given that Dr Harold Coolidge had introduced him to IUCN 55 years ago. Dr Coolidge had been a distinguished taxonomist and biologist who became widely known as the ‘father of IUCN’. Furthermore,

Dr Coolidge had been the architect of the IUCN Commission structure and had exerted greater influence on the development of IUCN than any other single individual. It was a law of nature that conservationists tended to forget that they were building on the accomplishments of their predecessors. The establishment of this Medal would help to ensure that Dr Coolidge's role and accomplishments for IUCN were not forgotten. Dr Talbot announced the award of the first Harold Jefferson Coolidge Medal to Dr Robert Goodland in recognition of his outstanding international conservation initiatives and for providing inspiration, encouragement and support to numerous individuals, especially young people, to enable them to pursue careers in conservation.

Accepting the award, Dr Goodland said he was thrilled that IUCN was taking climate change so seriously. However, the world at large was focusing too much on coal and transport that contributed relatively modestly to global greenhouse gas emissions and for which it would take a long time and a great deal of effort to switch to more sustainable options. As recognized by the Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Rajendra Pachauri, and by the Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change Yvo de Boer, if people stopped eating livestock products it would make a significant difference within weeks or months at low cost.

(c) Honorary Membership

The President announced that Honorary Membership was being granted to Dr Larry Hamilton in recognition of his outstanding service to the conservation of nature and natural resources. He invited Dr Graeme Worboys, Vice Chair of IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas for the mountain biome, to receive the award on Dr Hamilton's behalf and to read the following statement from him:

“To be given the award of Honorary Member of IUCN is both a joyful and very humbling experience. I am mindful of the prestigious nature of the honour being bestowed, as I join a gallery of luminary IUCN personalities who are previous awardees. Being of a certain age I remember when these great leaders were active in IUCN. IUCN has been a major channel through which to funnel my passion for international conservation, namely through the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas. The purpose of IUCN is worthy, and I am proud to have played a small part in it. In accepting this award, I feel I share it with all of the other wonderful volunteers

in the IUCN family, who work with passion and dedication on behalf of nature.”

(d) Commission Awards

The Director General presented the 2008 Commission Awards as follows:

Commission for Education and Communication (CEC)

Frits Hesselink was presented with the CEC Chair’s Distinguished Leadership Award in recognition of his enduring commitment to the Commission and his passion for learning-centred leadership.

The Brandwein Medal was presented to Katalin Czippán awarded jointly by the Paul F-Brandwein Institute and CEC, in recognition of her lifetime commitment to educating children about nature.

Species Survival Commission (SSC)

SSC’s premier award, the Sir Peter Scott Award for Conservation Merit, was presented to:

- Prof. Mick Clout in recognition of his unflagging and successful efforts to bring invasive alien species issues to the forefront of IUCN’s work and his dedicated leadership of the SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group for 15 years;
- Dr Christoph Imboden in recognition of his enduring commitment to SSC and his unparalleled contribution to its vision, strategic thinking and planning; and
- Dr Russ Mittermeier in recognition of his lasting contribution to the conservation of species across the globe, his leadership of the SSC Primate Specialist Group, and his dedication to SSC for more than three decades.

World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)

The Chair of WCPA, Nik Lopoukhine announced that the recipient of the 2008 Kenton Miller Award for Innovation in National Parks and Protected Area Sustainability was Dr Marc Hockings. Unfortunately, Dr Hockings could not be present, so a short film was screened to show his accomplishments in developing the WCPA manual for assessing the management of protected areas as a practical and effective conservation tool.

Commission on Environmental Law (CEL)

The Director General presented the Wolfgang E. Burhenne Environmental Law Award to Dr Parvez Has-san in recognition of his everyday commitment to the conservation of nature and the development of environmental law and policies and his many efforts on behalf of CEL over the years.

Presentation of results of 2008 IUCN World Conservation Forum (8.3)

A report summarizing the huge diversity of events under the umbrella of the Forum, held from 6 to 9 October, was presented by IUCN’s Chief Scientist, Dr Jeffrey McNeely. The full text of Dr McNeely’s presentation can be found in Annex 1.

The President thanked and congratulated Dr McNeely, saying: “you have done us proud in capturing all of this information”. He recalled that Jeff McNeely, who had announced his forthcoming retirement from the Secretariat, had worked for IUCN for 32 years in varied roles and as Chief Scientist since 1996, adding, “When a man of his stature says it was the best Forum that IUCN has held, it means something. Please join me in thanking him for his services to IUCN.” Congress showed its appreciation with warm applause.

Report by the Director General and the Treasurer on the Finances of IUCN in the Intersessional Period 2004–2008 (8.4)

At the President’s request, Agenda items 8.4 to 8.7, dealing with financial matters, were chaired by Mr Javed Jabbar, Regional Councillor for West Asia.

The Director General introduced IUCN’s Treasurer, Mr Sven Sandström, who presented his report, based on Congress Paper CGR/2008/16 rev. *Finances of IUCN in the Intersessional Period 2004–2007*. He noted that over the last four years efforts had been made to:

- build on and implement the financial policies and procedures developed during the 2000–2004 intersessional period;
- reinforce better financial and operational practices throughout the Secretariat; and
- strengthen the focus on strategic challenges.

Governance and risk management

An Oversight Unit had been established in 2007, an Internal Control System had been implemented to ensure compliance with international standards, and policies for a Code of Conduct and anti-fraud measures had been developed and implemented. Work had begun to upgrade information management systems.

Budget and forecasting

A Finance and Budget Monitoring Committee had been established and better information was being provided to Council on the risks inherent in the annual budgets presented for their approval. Measures had been taken to improve the linkages between Programme objectives and budgets to ensure more effective allocation of resources.

Treasury management

Improved liquidity had resulted from centralized liquidity management and work was under way to ensure that IUCN used a common bank throughout the world to reduce fragmentation and risk. Steps were also being taken to derive a better return on liquidity.

Financial results

These were in line with the 2005–2008 Financial Plan approved by the Bangkok Congress. Overall income had increased. Restricted funding from donors represented around 70% of total income, while core income (unrestricted funding from framework agreements with donors and membership dues) made up the remaining 30%. The goal was to move towards a much higher proportion of unrestricted funding.

The sources of donor income had been significantly diversified, which both reduced the risk to IUCN and demonstrated broad support for the Union's activities. In 1996, five donors provided 80% of IUCN's income, whereas by 2007, 16 donors provided 72% of income. A single long-term supporter to IUCN – The Netherlands – had been responsible for 46% of donor income in 1996, whereas the proportion had fallen to 14% in 2007.

Membership amounted to approximately CHF 10 million per year. However it was currently taking IUCN up to two years to collect 90% of dues. The main challenge, therefore, was to speed up payments.

A review of expenditure per Cost Centre group showed that overhead costs were low (at 12% in 2007) and that those overhead costs have declined over the years (from 16% in 1999).

Liquidity was healthy and had been strengthened in recent years. The proportion of reserves compared to expenditure had doubled since 2000, representing 15% of annual expenditure, or CHF 18 million in 2007. The main challenge was to examine more closely the level of reserves required to minimize risk and maximize stability. IUCN had not been adversely affected by the current global financial crisis, thanks mainly to a rather conservative investment policy. No more than 35% of liquidity could be invested in equities and since the beginning of 2008 none of IUCN's funds had been tied up in equities.

The IUCN Fund (use of which is highly restricted) stood at around 7 million CHF, while Secretariat Contingency Funds and Cost Centre Reserves (with fewer restrictions on their use) totalled approximately CHF 10 million. A sharp fall in the Contingency Fund from 2004 to 2005 had been due to an overly optimistic income projection, and the funding gap had to be covered from reserves; this was a good lesson for the future.

Future challenges included:

- increasing unrestricted income to support a growing Programme and to enable IUCN to fulfil its mission;
- increasing core (unrestricted) income as a share of total income;
- increasing financial reserves;
- improving currency management in order to reduce mismatches and the impact of foreign exchange fluctuations; and
- upgrading information technology and information management systems.

In conclusion Mr Sandström said that he firmly believed IUCN's finances to be in very good shape and extended his thanks to Ms Lynn Holowesko, Chair of Council's Finance and Audit Committee, to the President, and to the Director General and rest of the Secretariat team. He wished good luck to his successor, Mr Kurt Ramin.

The Chair thanked the Treasurer for his competent financial leadership and invited the Director General to present the Financial Plan for the next intersessional period.

Presentation on the Financial Plan for new Intersessional Period 2009–2012 (8.5)

The Director General's presentation was based on Congress Paper CGR/2008/17 *Financial Plan for the Period 2009–2012*. By way of overview she noted that the Financial Plan:

- supported IUCN's Programme 2009–2012;
- took into consideration the recommendations of the 2007 External Review;
- was built on a funding and budget model that would allow for more efficient allocation of resources;
- emphasized the need for continuing to build IUCN's reserves and minimize exposure to financial risk; and
- took into account trends observed during the 2005–2008 intersessional period.

Income

Core income was what allowed IUCN be a Union, a network, a 'triple helix'. The Financial Plan was based on a forecast growth of core income from CHF 47 million in 2009 to CHF 55.3 million in 2012. Total income was forecast to grow from CHF 131.8 million in 2009 to CHF 153.6 million by 2012. To achieve these fundraising objectives a number of ambitious initiatives were in the pipeline. These included developing more framework agreements, focusing more on private philanthropy, and further expanding the membership base, especially (from a financial perspective) in terms of State membership, with a minimum target of two new State members per year. Annual growth in income from membership dues was forecast at 3%.

The DG recalled that membership dues were spent exclusively on providing constituency support. As part of the revised budgeting process, efforts were being made to ensure that offices in the regions were provided with more unrestricted income from membership dues so that they could deliver better constituency support.

Framework Agreements significantly strengthened IUCN's capacity to deliver its Programme and allowed for decentralization, innovation and improvements to science and policy networks. There were now 10 Framework Agreements in place with donors, with a target of three new agreements per year during the forthcoming intersessional period. The definition of a Framework donor was one that provided a minimum of CHF 1 million per year for a four-year period.

Expenditure

Over the intersessional period 2009–2012 as a whole, 79% of expenditure would be dedicated to the delivery of Programme Results and 21% to delivering Operational Results. 60% would be spent via Regional Programmes, 21 % by Global Thematic Programmes and 19% by other Global Units.

Implementation challenges and organizational context

Challenges that needed to be managed in implementing the Financial Plan included:

- possible shifts in core donor interests;
- the pressing need to upgrade the Union's financial information management systems;
- foreign exchange fluctuations; and
- the overall global financial/political climate.

The Financial Plan would be implemented in the context of the Union's Organizational Development and Change Management Process, which sought to achieve better synergies between the Secretariat, Commissions and members; to increase the involvement of members in the Programme; to improve IUCN's role as an influential global and local actor; to improve knowledge management systems; to implement recommendations of reviews and surveys; and to ensure IUCN was truly international and multicultural, as well as gender and age balanced.

The Chair thanked the Director General for her presentation and noted that the Financial Plan would be before Congress for adoption during the 11th Sitting on 14 October. He then opened the floor for questions and comments on either the Treasurer's report or the DG's presentation.

In response to concerns raised by Inuit Tapriit Manatami (Canada) concerning the closure of IUCN's office in Montreal the DG stressed that the Secretariat was trying to cut back on administrative costs as far as possible and in fact did not have offices in any of its Framework donor countries. It had been decided that IUCN could work in Canada directly with its members rather than through its own office. The DG said that she would rely on the wisdom of Council in making such decisions, but external reviews had consistently advised the reduction of expenditure on administration and this is what had been done.

Asociación Peruana para la Conservación de la Naturaleza (Perú) questioned whether the Union would have a clear strategy in place whereby all components could work together in delivering the One Programme concept. The global financial context had been discussed during Congress; how was the Union preparing strategically to keep its reserves safe? With regard to support for the regions, how was this going to be achieved? Were regional budgets going to be beefed up? Are we going to beef up the budget? How are we going to do it? Were plans in place for retaining existing members as well as recruiting new ones?

The DG responded that the One Programme strategy was reflected in the *IUCN Programme 2009–2012*, which would be implemented collaboratively by the Secretariat, Commissions and members. The DG also stressed that high priority would indeed be given to retaining existing members and that she viewed membership retention as equally important to recruitment.

Replying to the point on the Union's investment strategy, the Treasurer underlined that IUCN was completely out of the equity market, had reviewed the strength of the banks it worked with, and had shifted funds around to 'safe harbours'. The future strategy was up to the new Treasurer and Council, but the aim had to be to maintain the very good current situation, perhaps returning to equities over time.

The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society noted that it had hoped to see greater resources going to IUCN's Commissions as part of the overall budget growth and commitment to decentralization.

The International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) thanked the DG for the presentation of a transparent Financial Plan. Expenditure line for constituency mobilization seemed to be flat or not increasing. For this reason IISD requested the incoming Council of IUCN to address in its annual budget approvals the recommendations of the previous Council's report to Congress on the work of IUCN Council's One Programme Working Group contained in Congress Paper CGR/2008/20, in particular: (a) paragraph 3 recommending changes in budget process to make delivery of the One Programme work; (b) paragraph 9 recommending priority be given in the 2009 budget to the involvement of members and Commissions in operationalizing the Programme.

In closing this agenda item the Chair reminded members that the Financial Plan would be tabled for adoption during the 11th Sitting on 14 October.

Report of the Finance and Audit Committee of Congress, including Accounts and Auditors' Reports for 2004–2007 and recommendations with regards to the Financial Plan 2009–2012 (8.6)

The Chair of the Congress Finance and Audit Committee, Mr Kurt Ramin, reported that the Committee had completed its mandate in line with the Terms of Reference approved by the 3rd Sitting of Congress on Monday 6 October.

Report on the financial affairs of IUCN

(a) Review of the 2004–2007 Finances

The Committee had reviewed the evolution of IUCN's finances for the last four years and noted the following highlights:

- overall income growth of 16 % between 2004–2007;
- four new Framework donors between 2004–2008;
- continued donor diversification; and
- increased financial reserves.

The Committee also noted the financial challenges that had been encountered:

- relatively flat unrestricted core income;
- relatively low levels of financial reserves, despite increases;
- insufficient Management Information System (MIS); and
- concern over volatility of foreign exchange fluctuations.

The Committee had been especially pleased to see the continued diversification of donor income, and encouraged the Secretariat to ensure that this trend is continued. In addition, it noted the importance of building reserves for use both as a risk management tool and as a tool to enable strategic investments.

The Committee had reviewed the annual audited financial statements for the period 2004–2007 and was pleased to note that the accompanying audit opinions had all been issued without qualification.

The Committee had therefore drafted the following decision for consideration by Congress:

The World Conservation Congress TAKES NOTE of the Evolution of the Financial Situation of the Union and APPROVES the audited Financial Statements for the years 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007.

(b) Update on IUCN's financial position in 2008

The Committee noted that both income and expenditure were in line with forecasts and that there was no cause for concern. The Committee had also received a financial update on the World Conservation Congress. The cost of the event was to be funded by a grant from the host country, core funding from IUCN, and by earmarked fundraising. A final report was expected by the end of 2008.

Report of the Internal Auditor and Legal Adviser

(a) Report of the Internal Auditor

The Committee was satisfied with the progress made by the internal audit function and noted:

- the extensive coverage of the internal audit function in coordination with the External Auditors and with supportive collaboration from IUCN management;
- the significant governance reforms that had been implemented, such as through the Code of Conduct and anti-fraud policies; and
- the degree of follow-up to implement recommendations from both External and Internal audits.

The Committee was pleased to see the increased oversight capacity within IUCN notably through establishment of an Oversight Unit. The Committee recommended continued progress in the following areas:

- comprehensive assessment of financial governance and the organization-wide Risk Register;
- risk-based internal audit plans that focused on high risks; and
- assessment of policy gaps and business control processes.

(b) Report of the Legal Adviser

The Committee notes the progress of the Office of the Legal Adviser but also notes the limited resources under which this office is operating. Since the creation of the post of Legal Adviser, the scope of work undertaken by the office has increased and substantial time and effort has been dedicated to changing or clarifying IUCN status

in a number of jurisdictions. The Committee also notes the work done with regards to risk management and avoidance on a number of issues. The Committee recommends closer interaction between the Office of the Legal Adviser and the Finance and Audit Committee of Council.

Appointment of External Auditors

The Committee considered the recommendation from Council to re-appoint Deloitte, as external auditors for the 2009–2012 intersessional period. Having considered new financial requirements applicable to IUCN, as well as significant internal control initiatives, the Committee decided that it would be preferable to re-appoint Deloitte as external auditors rather than to seek a new appointment.

The Committee had therefore drafted the following decision for consideration by Congress:

The World Conservation Congress APPROVES the appointment of Deloitte Switzerland as external auditors for the 2009–2012 intersessional period.

Financial Plan 2009–2012

The Committee reviewed the Financial Plan 2009–2012 which was due to be adopted by Congress during the 11th Sitting. Overall growth projections of 6.9% appeared realistic; however, the Committee noted the sharp increase in projected core income and recommended that the Secretariat and Council be prepared to prioritize given competing demands for scarce resources. The Secretariat and Council ought to look closely at the financial implications of the motions approved by Congress as these could have a significant impact on future planning. It was also recommended that the Secretariat proceed with caution on expenditures in light of the global financial crisis. A results-based budgeting system linked to incentives and performance would be implemented during the intersessional period. The Committee supported this initiative and noted the expectation that it will have a significant impact on resource allocation.

The Committee noted that the Council decision to change the accounting currency of IUCN from CHF to EUR had been delayed until 2010. The Committee advised proceeding with caution on any change in accounting currency and recommended that the Secretariat should perform a thorough cost/benefit analysis of such a move to be reported to the Finance and Audit Committee of Council before implementation.

With regard to membership dues, growth projections seemed realistic and achievable keeping in mind that this represented recruitment of new members; the annual statutory increase remained linked to the Swiss Consumer Price Index.

The Committee had therefore drafted the following decision for consideration by Congress:

The World Conservation Congress APPROVES the Financial Plan for the period 2009–2012.

Appointment of Auditors (8.7)

In accordance with the recommendation of the Congress Finance and Audit Committee, Congress approved the appointment of Deloitte Switzerland as IUCN's External Auditors for the 2009–2012 intersessional period.

Report of the Chair of the Governance Committee of Congress (8.8)

The Chair of the Congress Governance Committee, Mr Jorge Caillaux, presented his report as follows:

“Before making a brief presentation on the work carried out by the Governance Committee at this Congress, I would like to share some thoughts about IUCN and its commitment to incorporating best governance practices into its day-to-day work. As I am sure many of you already know, being in Barcelona, both the design and construction of Gaudi's works were based on an extremely close study of nature. He learnt from the latter, and from its fascinating systemic organization in particular. Gaudi thus sensed that his work would last, insofar as its architecture was based on the same design as that of forms found in nature.

Although IUCN works for nature, in the way it and many of its members are organized, the Union has not yet managed to incorporate into its work nature's organizing principles – those that define it as a system of systems. In our work, the particular characteristic of being an organization made up of different orders of society – states, government institutions and NGOs – forces us to use the principles that guarantee a strong system: transparency, connectivity, interaction between the components of IUCN and moreover, since we are human beings, the acknowledgement of and respect for others.

This is a great challenge for IUCN – and for any human organization – and I believe that we can continue to move towards this goal if we recognize that there is a lot to be done and that governance requires a commitment by all the components of IUCN.

After 60 years of work, we should increasingly invest in promoting a governance culture – the only way to make society respect the rules of nature.

The work of the Governance Committee

The work of the Governance Committee was carried out on two levels:

- supporting the Resolutions Committee in consulting members on the motions related to the governance of the institution; and
- facilitating broad discussion among members about proposals to revise IUCN's Statutes.

In order to achieve this objective, we focused our time and energy on dealing with those important issues identified by members and Council. However, it was hard to see the wood for the trees. We trust that in future congresses the Governance Committee will be able to broaden its vision, assess the management of its components and help members to become involved in these other aspects of governance, which constitute a systemic view.

The Governance Committee worked with members on several key issues, including:

- the relations between the components of IUCN and the Programme. In other words, the relations between: the World Conservation Congress, the Council, the National and Regional Committees, the Regional Members' Fora, the Commissions and the Secretariat (Art. 15); and
- the revision of the Statutes and Regulations with regard to the name of the institution, the proposal for a new membership category, the revision of geographical representation on Council, and the work of IUCN National and Regional Committees beyond their territorial scope.

In the hearings and contact groups promoted by the Governance Committee, an interesting diversity of members participated and gave their opinions on matters of great importance – issues directly linked to the identity and governance of the Union.

An Agenda for the new Council and the next IUCN World Conservation Congress

Since governance practices constitute a continuous learning process, we believe that it is important to put forward several approaches based on the experience gained in Barcelona.

In our opinion, the revision of the Statutes in Montreal, Bangkok and Barcelona is helping us to create a solid basis for best practice governance for IUCN. However, good governance requires far more than a legal structure.

We should recognize and welcome the commitment and effort shown by all the members at this Congress through their active and constructive participation in outlining the rules and instruments for improving IUCN's governance. This has been shown in many aspects of the Assembly and in the intensity of the work in contact groups, including both conversations held in corridors and participation in the decision-making process.

However, it is clear that we have still not created a sufficiently solid governance culture within IUCN.

The Committee noted with concern several incidents during the present Congress, and in particular the following:

- Motions being changed without prior consultation with the sponsoring member(s);
- Lack of transparency for sharing crucial information among components of IUCN;
- Unrealistic demands by members; and among other things
- An unacceptable campaign to discredit and insult one candidate for election, which made the atmosphere of the Congress rather strained.

Unfortunately, these are the signs or symptoms of a fragile governance that could potentially have serious implications for the future of IUCN, although we shall no doubt be able to overcome them.

Recommendations

The Governance Committee would like the new Council to consider the following recommendations:

1. At this Congress we noted that, for the first time, serious efforts were made to link the Programme Committee's work with that of the Governance Committee. We recommend that the new IUCN Council implements a Joint Intersessional Working

Group to guarantee a strong link between Council's work on the One Programme and governance, in order to supervise the relevant Congress decisions and to strengthen and maintain this connection.

2. Recognizing that transparency, constructive working relationships and acknowledgement of and respect for others constitute the mainstays of good governance, we recommend that IUCN's Council invests in the creation and consolidation of a pro-governance culture and takes action in cases of inappropriate governance practice. For example, we could create an Ombudsman Office, and could also use more effective communications tools to facilitate ease of access and to achieve greater transparency among all components of IUCN.
3. Attention should be given to identifying candidates for Council who have good knowledge of and experience in governance practices and who are able to contribute this to Council's deliberations.

Finally, I would like to end this report by underlining an important fact that we have said very little about. Many of IUCN's leaders belong to my generation or are older. We need to work constantly with future generations of conservationists, not only to inspire them by example, but also to pass on to them the common heritage shared by IUCN members. This is something that is not always visible and cannot be stored in a data centre.

It is our obligation to keep IUCN's democratic, participatory nature alive and to transfer to new generations the good governance practices that we have learnt, rather than the bad ones."

Discussion and adoption of changes to the Statutes (9.1, 11.2)

9th Sitting

Jorge Caillaux, Chair of the Congress Governance Committee reported that Congress Paper CGR/2008/4 *Proposed Amendment to Article 1 of the IUCN Statutes* had been considered and assessed at two open hearings organized by the Governance Committee and that no further amendments had been made. The original text of the proposed amendment stood.

The President therefore called for a vote on the following motion:

The World Conservation Congress:

- (a) TAKES NOTE of Council's adoption of the new logo of IUCN; and
- (b) ADOPTS the proposed amendment to Art. 1 of the Statutes as set forth in Congress Paper CGR/2008/4.

The motion was approved.

Referring to Congress Paper CGR/2008/5 rev.1 *Proposed Amendment to Art. 71(c) of the IUCN Statutes* the President called for a vote on the following motion:

The World Conservation Congress ADOPTS the proposed amendment to Art. 71(c) of the Statutes.

The motion was approved.

The President referred to Congress Paper CGR/2008/6 *Proposed Amendments to IUCN Statutes, Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress and Regulations Concerning the Creation of a New Membership Category for Local and Regional Government Authorities*. He noted that there had been a number of requests on this matter and that the Chair of the Congress Governance Committee had indicated that Congress should deal with it further on 14 October. A revised document would be ready for members at 16.00 on 13 October. There being no intervention from the floor, the President ruled that the Governance Committee Chair's recommendation was approved and further discussion was therefore postponed until the following day.

Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre (Spain) deplored the lack of interpretation during the various contact groups and hearings on governance issues. The Fundación considered that this ran counter to the Statutes and placed a large number of members at a disadvantage.

The President concurred that this certainly seemed to be a valid complaint.

11th Sitting

Jorge Caillaux introduced paper CGR/2008/6 Rev.1 *Proposed Amendments to IUCN Statutes, Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress and Regulations Concerning the Creation of a New Membership Category for Local and Regional Government Authorities*.

He noted that voting on amendments to the Statutes and voting on amendments to the Regulations would have to

be carried out separately, since amendments to the Statutes required a two-thirds majority, while amendments to the Regulations only needed a simple majority (i.e. 50% plus one).

Modifications to the Statutes would be voted on first and, if these were approved, amendments to the Regulations would be dealt with. It was important to keep the two phases clearly separate.

The New Zealand Ecological Society congratulated the sponsors on bringing their proposals to members well in advance of the Congress. Nevertheless, the Society had some fundamental concerns about the consistency and coherence of legal details in the current text. It would be better to step back and consider in detail the implications of the proposed amendments.

Project Jonah (New Zealand) also appreciated the efforts of sponsors to understand and respond to concerns raised, but it wasn't possible to write Statutes 'on the run'. There had not been time in the Governance hearings or contact groups, nor had the proposed changes been through a proper legal review process or adequate consultation with the membership. Project Jonah was therefore suggesting that instead of a premature vote now, the new Council should be asked to constitute a thorough process involving full involvement of members and proper legal advice.

State member Norway supported the position of Project Jonah and was doubtful of the desirability of local and regional authorities becoming members of IUCN. Norway had a single foreign policy and this new category of membership could be confusing. Would this new category of membership be eligible to vote?

The Chair of the Governance Committee confirmed that the new membership category would indeed have voting rights.

The President recalled that this matter had been before a contact group and that there had been a great deal of discussion. The reports he had received indicated that the kind of view expressed by Project Jonah seemed to be the direction in which things were going, namely that many people were of the view that the full legal implications had not been thoroughly explored or understood. It would therefore be wise to complete everything properly before continuing the process and he had already asked the Governance Committee to begin preparing a document along the lines of what Project Jonah had requested.

Nevertheless, it was the President's duty to put the motion to Congress. There was a very long list of speakers requesting the floor, but delegates were urged to avoid repeating all of the points already made.

The Generalitat de Catalunya, speaking as a co-sponsor of the motion, stressed the importance of understanding the significance of the proposed amendments. The world was increasingly complex with more and more actors on the ground. In order to involve the whole range of expertise available and to confront environmental challenges, it was important to involve all of these actors. Maybe some of the preparatory work had not been carried out in sufficient depth from a legal perspective by Council, but the principle was still valid. Furthermore, the proposal as presented gave a very modest role to the new category of member. In spite of these reservations, the Generalitat would support a process for the new Council to work properly on this.

The President requested the Chair of the Congress Governance Committee to interact with the sponsors and others to come up with a proposal on how the matter should be taken forward.

Following these consultations, the Generalitat de Catalunya indicated that it would withdraw the motion so that the issues raised in recent days could be discussed in further detail and a constructive process put in place to take matters forward.

The President expressed his sincere appreciation to the Generalitat de Catalunya for its understanding.

The Conservatoire de l'espace littoral (France) recalled that France had been closely involved with this issue since the Bangkok Congress and, while supporting withdrawal for the moment as the best way forward, regretted this outcome.

The Chair of the Governance Committee reported that all parties involved in the informal consultations requested by the President had been able to reach agreement on the text of the closely related motion CGR4.MOT011 Rev1 *Including local and regional governmental authorities in the structure of the Union* and that it would be appropriate to consider that motion now.

The President called for a vote on the motion as amended through the discussions facilitated by the Chair of the Governance Committee.

Motion CGR4.MOT011 Rev.1 was approved.

In concluding this agenda item, the President expressed his thanks to Jorge Caillaux and the other members of the Congress Governance Committee.

Adoption of Programme, Commission Mandates and Financial Plan (12.2)

The Programme and Commission Mandates were briefly introduced by Mr Ton Boon von Ochssée, Chair of the Congress Programme Committee.

The President called for a vote on adoption of Congress Paper CGR/2008/11 *Proposed Mandates for IUCN Commissions*.

The Commission mandates were approved.

The President called for a vote on adoption of Congress Paper CGR/2008/10 *The IUCN Programme 2009–2012*.

The *IUCN Programme 2009–2012* was approved.

The President called for a vote on adoption of Congress Paper CGR/2008/17 *Financial Plan for the Period 2009–2012*.

The Financial Plan 2009–2012 was approved.

The President recorded his thanks to Ton Boon von Ochssée and to Kurt Ramin, Chair of the Congress Finance and Audit Committee, for the tremendous work they had accomplished to bring these documents to the point of adoption.

Closure of the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (12.3)

Welcoming members to the final Sitting of the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress the outgoing President, Mr Valli Moosa, invited the President Elect, Dr Ashok Khosla, to join him on stage.

Mr Moosa reflected that with over 7,000 participants from 179 countries the Forum had been the biggest, best and most exiting event in IUCN's history. The Members' Assembly had been highly significant and revealed the effectiveness of the Union's environmental democracy. He commended the work of the outgoing Councillors who

had served during the 2004–2008 intersessional period; certificates would be presented to each one of them in recognition of their contribution to the causes of the environment, people and species.

The Director General presented the outgoing President with a gift to signify IUCN's admiration, affection and gratitude. She then introduced a video marking the Union's 60th anniversary and looking back over some of its history. Ms Marton-Lefèvre spoke of the pride that the Union could feel over how much had been accomplished to date, but also of the need to be prepared for the challenges that lay ahead. To explore these themes further she was delighted to introduce addresses by one of IUCN's longest-standing Commission members, Dr Wolfgang Burhenne and from one of the Union's newest members, Ms Leana Corea, representing the Committee for the Protection and Development of the Flora and Fauna of the Gulf of Fonseca, Honduras.

Dr Wolfgang Burhenne described how IUCN had evolved over its 60 years from an organization directed towards protection of nature to become a modern movement for the conservation of nature and sustainable development. He looked back over the Congress that was now ending and reflected on the successes and challenges it had brought, saying: "I heard several times that people have admitted their shortcomings – this is a sign of maturity, perhaps even improvement! And I also heard that there is no lack of knowledge, but that more action for implementation is needed. Accepting this should not condemn us to pessimism." Turning to the challenges that IUCN had to grapple with in the near future he highlighted the need to reform some elements of the Congress process to accommodate the Union's growing membership. In particular, he called for a new approach to the ever-increasing number of motions, both in the process leading up to adoption and in implementation, identifying a number of specific reforms that could be introduced. In closing, Dr Burhenne adapted the words of the eighteenth-century German writer Friederich Schiller in his dramatic poem *Don Carlos*, saying: "The wonderful and busy days of Barcelona are over, but the serious task of action, implementation and enforcement begins."

Ms Leana Corea made an impassioned plea for understanding that "the future is here, now, today" and that "nature shows us we have to work hard today to make the changes we want to see tomorrow." Taking an ethical approach to working for the environment was not something for dreamers, but for realists, with their feet on the

ground, who understood that achieving sustainable development and ultimately our own survival was more a question of day-to-day action than of easy words. She called for civil society, governments and the corporate sector to join together for the environment, sustainability and social equity, based on ethics and respect, and for young people to become more and more involved in building on the efforts of their predecessors. The Congress had allowed her to glimpse the full potential of IUCN's members; potential that should be treasured and nurtured by the Union's elected officials and regional directors to generate new ideas and activities. The members of IUCN were not just a list of organizations or a simple statistic, but the very roots of a great tree that had been growing for 60 years. Strengthening the role of members in implementing the new Programme would help the tree to bear more and larger fruit. Members also had a great responsibility to spread the message of IUCN regionally and locally. The Honduran National Committee was grateful for the privilege of sharing new experiences, many challenges and great achievements. Congress participants would return home feeling motivation, enthusiasm and hoping for real changes in the light of discussions in Barcelona.

Making her closing remarks, the Director General reflected that this had been her first experience of an IUCN Congress from the 'inside' and she had found the experience profoundly energizing. Watching all of the components gradually coming together she had realized the truly extraordinary reach of the Union. The Congress had succeeded in matching words with real and tangible resources for action and, in doing so, had energized IUCN's work, anchored its mission and fuelled its momentum. However, in addition to positive reviews and commitments, she had also heard – and welcomed – critical advice. Most feedback concerned how and where the relationship between the Secretariat, the Commissions and members could be improved. Based on the guidance of Congress, the February 2009 meeting of Council would discuss development and implementation of a more effective membership and governance strategy for the next four years. The Congress could be compared to a drama production on a global stage, but as we prepared to take down the set, it was important to thank all those who had made the past ten days possible. On behalf of IUCN, the Director General expressed deepest gratitude to his Majesty the King and to His Royal Highness Prince of Asturias. Special thanks were due to the Congress hosts – the Ministry for Environment, Rural and Marine Affairs, the Department of Environment and Housing of the Generalitat de Catalunya, Barcelona City Council

and Barcelona Provincial Council. The Union was also grateful to all of its sponsors, especially the six ‘platinum’ sponsors of the Congress: the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development, the European Commission, Cooperazione Italiana – under the Italian Ministero degli Affari Esteri, the Environment Agency for Abu Dhabi, the French Ministère de l’Écologie, de l’Énergie, du Développement durable et de l’Aménagement du territoire, and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. Many others had worked tirelessly behind the scenes, including staff of the host administrations, Barcelona International Congress Centre (CCIB), local sponsors, volunteers and the IUCN Secretariat. “We should feel proud of the resounding success of this memorable event. As we prepare to sail home from this world class city, I look forward to seeing all of you at the next Congress in 2012.”

The outgoing President, Mr Valli Moosa, said of his involvement with IUCN that “My life has changed in ways that I don’t yet know. Decades ago my generation was inspired by John Lennon’s song ‘Imagine’, about ending hunger, war, pollution and prejudice. A song that you might say envisioned ‘a just world that valued and conserved people and nature’. It included the chorus: *You may say I’m a dreamer, but I’m not the only one; I hope someday you’ll join us, and the world will live as one.* Back then of course, cynics dismissed those words as hopelessly naïve. Yet my tenure at IUCN has convinced me that these lyrics in fact capture not only our vision and our mission; they anchor our practical efforts on the reefs and in the forests and through the rivers, day after day.

We may have come here as dreamers, but we are not blind optimists or naïve idealists. Though we dare to imagine a better world, we are visionary activists. We are incorrigible realists. We are economic pragmatists. We are scientific empiricists. And with the backing of 7,000 participants representing hundreds of millions of people around this small, fragile, and beautiful world... we are not the only ones. I hand over an IUCN that is bigger, that is stronger, that is better.

The incoming President of IUCN, Dr Ashok Khosla outlined his view of the immediate and strategic priorities for the new Council to address. These included:

- bringing biodiversity into the centre stage of public awareness, media concern and decision making at local, national and global levels;
- establishing the strongest, most incontrovertible evidence of the value of conserving biodiversity and of the costs of losing it;

- mobilizing the resources needed to send out to the world clear and unambiguous messages through an aggressive and effective outreach strategy;
- bringing clarity into the basis for establishing appropriate relationships between IUCN and business through the setting up a small Council Task Force to define the ‘terms of engagement’ for such relationships;
- achieving a better balance between the three legs of the ‘biodiversity tripod’ by raising the Union’s work on ecosystems to the same level of achievement as that for species and habitats;
- nurturing the Union’s work on sustainable livelihoods and the relationship between biodiversity and jobs;
- building IUCN’s capacity in the science of biomimicry;
- setting the highest benchmarks for personal, scientific and ethical commitment and integrity; and
- mobilizing resources for the work of the Union.

Dr Khosla considered that it was the job of the President and Council first and foremost to listen to members – both State and civil society, the Commissions and external partners. He was committed to acting as a facilitator for the work and interaction of all parts of the Union so that they mutually supported one another and had a clear understanding of their roles to enable the entire Union to act in unison, as a result-oriented single organism. Analysis of the voting pattern during Congress suggested a degree of unease regarding the relationship between members and the Secretariat. Clearly the Union needed to remove any impediments – real or perceived – to the sense of ownership and participation by members without which it could never hope to fulfil its mission. He planned to make IUCN more responsive to members’ needs and to enable members’ concerns to be heard, dealt with and responded to expeditiously. He would also ensure that there was a proper arm’s length relationship between the President and Council and the Director General.

Overall he believed the Union to be in pretty good health save for a slight temperature here or a little blood pressure there. He had great admiration for the work of Valli Moosa and could only hope to build on the successes of the outgoing President and Council. Finally he expressed his sincere thanks to Spain, Catalunya and the City of Barcelona for the excellent arrangements made for the Congress and to the Director General for the work of the Secretariat.

Annex 1 – Conclusions from the World Conservation Forum, 6–9 October 2008

Reported by Jeffrey A. McNeely, IUCN Chief Scientist

Our World Conservation Forum had over 7,000 participants, 972 events, 7 Sustainability Dialogues, 9 Pavilions, 160 exhibitions, 13 journeys, 3 streams, an International Women Entrepreneurs Fair, a Conservation Cinema with some of the world's best wildlife films, dozens of Learning Opportunities, enough book launches to stock a library, and countless informal events. It was a dramatic illustration of the merging of members, Commissions, the Secretariat, and partners, truly a celebration of the 'One Programme Approach' that we have all been advocating.

Many of you may have also noticed that the various streams, journeys and other events flowed together in a seamless collection of ideas, demonstrating yet again the essential unity of conservation action and the challenge of drawing boundaries around sections of our work. We have again seen that conservation is a unifying force, not a collection of silos standing in lonely splendour.

With this unprecedented series of events, we lived the One Programme for four days, demonstrating the power of diverse interests working together toward our common goal of saving life on Earth. Our discussions attracted some 400 media people who filed over 5,000 stories in all parts of the world, demonstrating that we have reached the hearts and minds of millions of people who gained new understanding about how important nature is to their own concerns.

Out of this great diversity, how are we going to capture the key messages? The Sustainability Dialogues were all captured on video, and many events will be generating books, projects and other products. And indeed, some even released new publications, websites or conservation video games. We will post the results of each event on the Congress website, where anyone with access to the Internet will be able to learn the details of what we discussed. And for the first time, we assigned specific staff to capture the key messages of the over 120 posters, and gave awards to the three best (Sahara Conservation Fund, USA, Fundación Pro-Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Colombia, and Fundación Andaluza, Spain).

In addition, a small group of us will be drawing on the Barcelona results and other information over the coming

months to produce a synthesis volume about the status of conservation in the year 2008 – a volume we hope will stand with the 1980 World Conservation Strategy and the 1992 *Caring for the Earth* as a statement that will inspire and guide action in all parts of our planet. We welcome your thoughts on what we should include in this synthesis.

We have had an Evaluation Team working to assess the effectiveness of various aspects of the Forum, and they will continue working over the coming year to produce an in-depth report, in addition to the more succinct report they will be producing in the next few weeks.

It is also worth noting how strongly the Forum activities supported the new IUCN Programme that we are submitting for adoption here at the Members' Assembly. Following a unique process of review through detailed consultation with members, Commissions and partners, the new Programme has been profoundly enriched by the discussions we have held over the four Forum days. These helped mould the future of IUCN's action designed to conserve the diversity of life, change the climate forecast, naturally energize the future, manage ecosystems for human well-being, and green the world economy.

Like the new Programme, the Forum was results oriented. The Secretariat sought to support the various events through professional and experienced facilitation, and some 40 percent of the workshops requested and received such support.

While the launch of the latest *Red List* demonstrated, with powerful detail and authority, how dire is the status of species, it also demonstrated that action can work: almost 40 species once threatened with extinction are now being saved due to action on the ground and in the corridors of power by IUCN member organizations and Commission members. We developed much better indicators of the status of species and ecosystems, giving us new tools for anticipating threats and addressing them early enough to prevent emerging problems from becoming crises.

We also have demonstrated the value of reaching out to new partners if we want to influence what is happening

on the ground. Following calls from members to work with the Private Sector, the Forum attracted the expertise, resources and perspectives from numerous parts of the private sector to enrich our discussions. I'm sure that we were all happy to see the new partnership between Google and IUCN, linking information technology with protected area experts to include marine protected areas as part of Google Earth. This will provide a powerful platform for promoting further marine protected areas and identifying the highest priority areas for action.

Increasing numbers of companies, from small and medium enterprises to large multinationals, are now recognizing their responsibility to contribute to conserving biodiversity. IUCN, working with many of its members and Commissions, has been a major force in this change in corporate behaviour. While we may continue to have disagreements with some of the actions of certain parts of the private sector, we have found that open dialogue can find common interests and ways to build a stronger constituency for conservation.

Energy has become increasingly important as we start contemplating a post-petroleum future. Of course many of us – and three-quarters of participants – paid for our carbon offsets, and we had many workshops about alternative sources of energy, especially biofuel. But of course sustainable energy will require innovation, and that often comes from the private sector. We need to find productive ways to work with them to ensure that biodiversity conservation is enhanced by new forms of energy, not further degraded.

Let us be very coldly realistic about our challenge: we must influence the political process if we want to change public behaviour, and the broader is our constituency, the more powerful will be our voice. We have learned that seeking common ground is far more productive than diverting our energy into pointless controversies. But of course, we also continue to reserve the right, even the responsibility, to be critical of the private sector when conservation is being undermined.

The agricultural sector also gained new prominence at the Forum. We now have many members who look at conservation through an agricultural lens, and SSC's Specialist Group on Wild Relatives of Domestic Plants has linked our heartland to agriculture. In preparing for the CBD meeting in 2010, the government of Japan has launched the Satoyama Initiative, focusing on traditional agricultural systems that conserve biodiversity and deliver human welfare benefits as well – what some of us call

'ecoagriculture'. The many events on water also had direct relevance to agriculture, given that 70 percent of the fresh water we use is devoted to this sector. The strong links that were made between water and arid lands also helped to define how IUCN should be approaching the many challenges in this biome.

CEESP also helped open the door to what many will consider a surprising new constituency: the military. In a workshop, they brought security experts, high-ranking military officers and conservationists together to seek common ground. The military controls considerable territory that contains valuable biodiversity. They have a deep interest in issues like climate change, from a national security perspective. The workshop concluded that by engaging in open dialogue with the military, we can identify common ground for conservation and, one hopes, reduce the damage that violent conflict so often inflicts on biodiversity.

On quite a different front, we also had many sessions dealing with biodiversity and health, of both humans and wildlife – both plants and animals. The details will be in the various reports, but the key point is that a link to human health gives us yet another important constituency for conservation. The slogan, "One World – One Health" opens the conservation community to productive dialogue with the health sector, one with universal public interest.

The link to health workers also gives us a better foundation for dealing with emerging infectious diseases, including those that may arise from wild species. Avian influenza is only the most dramatic recent example, but changing climates promise to promote even more species invasions.

The link to health issues has another strand as well, this one to invasive alien species. Many of these invasive species are either hosts of infectious viruses and bacteria, or are themselves disease organisms.

It is impossible in the brief time available today to cover in detail the great wealth of what happened in the Forum, and indeed, we may not realize the full impact for many years. But I would like to highlight a few of the most outstanding actions and insights.

It has become even more apparent that climate change and biodiversity are part of the same issue, and we must find ways to ensure that they remain part of the same conversation. After all, the impacts of climate change on

people are felt through climate's impacts on ecosystems. Changing rainfall patterns will change the distribution of crop production, thereby changing economies, and in turn changing the distribution of plants and animals, and the measures taken to conserve them. We also learned that adapting to climate change will depend on biodiversity, especially in terms of the genetic diversity that will enable species to evolve with the changing climate.

Healthy ecosystems are the best defence against climate change, and the extreme climatic events that already are affecting many parts of the world. The protected areas community focused attention on the importance of protected areas in helping society adapt to climate change, and ensuring that these healthy and diverse ecosystems are central to the climate change discussion.

Climate change is linked to water too, through such observable trends as increasing droughts, floods, glacier retreat, storms and sea level rise. The second phase of IUCN's Water and Nature Initiative, launched on 6 October, will certainly have a climate dimension.

Climate change also gave us a new focus for our work in forests. We now have broad agreement that conserving old-growth forest is the best way to store carbon. We have helped to enrich the discussion on REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation), using our Forest Dialogue's Initiative on Forests and Climate Change to bring diverse groups together to agree key principles for forests and climate change.

We discussed issues of equity, land tenure and benefit sharing, and sought ways to ensure that the funds generated actually reach the forest-dwelling peoples. The debate about how to make market-based approaches like REDD work for forest conservation and rural development will surely continue.

The stimulating discussions here at the Forum mean that we will all be going to the negotiations at the climate change convention better prepared to insist on the critical role of biological diversity and cultural diversity. We must continue to make the points that the only way to take carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere is biological, and that cultural diversity will provide much of the knowledge we need to adapt to change.

This Forum also made us even better aware of whose interests are involved in our conservation actions. We heard many, many examples of local and indigenous communities who are demonstrating how to adapt to climate

change, and how much they have to contribute to conservation, if only we can join with them in seeking solutions to our common interests. The many workshops dealing with sacred sites and ethical dimensions of conservation, and the spiritual importance of a link to the wild, have given us a new way of approaching partnerships with people who have much to teach us about practical resource management.

Local communities have called for an opportunity to work with IUCN to organize a dedicated forum aimed at creating the mechanisms for true knowledge sharing between government, international agencies and community practitioners – a very helpful innovation.

The Equator Initiative, a joint activity of many IUCN members and partners, led by UNDP, was especially eloquent in calling for more opportunities for the voices of local communities to be heard, and listened to. The UNDP Poble provided a venue where these issues could be discussed in more detail, and generated new sources of inspiration from communities that have succeeded in adapting to changing conditions for many generations.

Our heartland work in species, protected areas and ecosystems was further strengthened at the Forum. For those who were concerned that IUCN was letting the heartland slip out to the periphery, the dozens of workshops, pavilion events, Commission events, and so forth, should provide reassurance that our heartland still provides the very blood flow that circulates throughout our work.

When we talk about "ecosystem services", we are not thinking only about the benefits to people, but also the benefits to ecosystems themselves, and the components of ecosystems. At the same time, we have repeatedly, and convincingly, shown that species, protected areas and ecosystems are relevant to human interests in many ways, from material benefits to spiritual ones. We heard about the new efforts to develop a "Stern-like" report for biodiversity, called *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity*, and how important it is to continue the work started by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

As just one highlight among many that could be mentioned, our Forest Conservation Programme reported important new initiatives in the Congo Basin, with the Chinese State Forest Administration announcing measures to minimize negative environmental and social impacts of Chinese investments in the Congo Basin. And the governor of the Indonesian Province of Papua presented his

vision of a sustainable, just and peaceful Papua where natural areas would be safeguarded. Based on these and other commitments, IUCN members and partners agreed to redouble their efforts to collaborate in resolving the complex environmental and developmental problems confronting these two critical regions. More broadly, new ITTO Guidelines on forest biodiversity were launched at the Forest Pavilion, again showing the value of partnerships beyond our usual family.

We were heartened by the release of the first exhaustive study of the status of marine protected areas in the Mediterranean by IUCN and WWF, and the many pledges to create new marine protected areas, and to improve the management of existing ones.

We served as neutral convenors of a dialogue on governing the high seas, beyond national jurisdiction. The many discussions focused on the set of ten principles floated here at the Forum, designed to help governments reach consensus on this complex issue.

Yet we have also learned that on-the-ground or in-the-water demonstrations, however effective they may be, will never be enough. We also need to multiply our impacts from practice into policies, at local, national and international levels. Your Secretariat, with its Observer Status at the UN and its active role in many international conventions, gives IUCN the world's most powerful policy voice in conservation. The wisdom gained from the Forum will help ensure that IUCN's policy positions will continue to be informed by our members, Commissions and Councillors. In participating in these global policy fora, the Secretariat is able to bring the knowledge of our members together, and sometimes even challenge conventional thinking.

So was the Forum a success? It certainly succeeded in giving us all an opportunity to exchange information, meet old friends and make new ones, and develop new approaches to conservation. But the real test is what happens next.

We should all be excited that the Forum has helped to generate significant new funding for conservation, amounting to some US\$125 million. This includes the \$50 million from the MacArthur Foundation to work with conservation groups to enable communities to adapt to climate change, the Mohamed bin Zayed Conservation Fund with \$33 million for species conservation, \$10 million from the GEF to help generate at least matching funds from the private sector to "save our logo," \$15 million

for the Water for Nature Initiative, and \$12 million for IUCN's Framework Agreement with the Government of France. Of course, not all of this is for IUCN, but our members and Commissions now have some new economic opportunities.

I think that we should leave Barcelona with sufficient confidence to think some big new thoughts.

While we were here, the global economy has crumbled. Some have worried that this will weaken the conservation movement, making people focus on narrow economic self-interest and cutting off funding for conservation. We might look at the current collapse of the world's banking system as symptomatic of the market failures that also threaten our biological assets.

But let us also look at this economic turmoil as an opportunity. Governments will be injecting new capital into economies in all parts of the world. We must ensure that these "quick fixes" are not long-term disasters in the making. Instead, we must show the world's leaders that building economies on the sustainability concepts of biological systems will make sound economic, social, ethical and ecological sense.

The Working for Water Programme in South Africa is one example of the kinds of investments that make social, environmental and economic sense. Similar investments in conservation should be encouraged in all countries whose governments are trying to resuscitate their economies. As Pavan Sukhdev put it, "To make poverty history, make biodiversity the future".

In short, we need to help people live lightly and equitably on our planet. As the Sustainability Dialogues showed, conservation is part of everyday living, affecting our health, our buildings, the way we design things and make tomorrow's world, our development models, and our ethical, spiritual and aesthetic sensibilities. We need to make this the biological century, drawing on the inherent wisdom of nature to develop sustainable ways of living.

The ideas that we generated in the Forum; the on-the-ground demonstrations of those ideas; and the strong and broad constituency of governments, NGOs, the private sector, health, science, climate, energy, agriculture and many others, should give us the confidence we need to plan, inspire and build the diverse and sustainable world we all want to see.



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