



101st Meeting of the IUCN Council

By conference call on 2 November 2020 from 10.00 AM to 1.00 PM UTC/GMT

Draft Annotated Agenda

Notes:

- The call will be operated by “Interprefy”
- Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the three official languages of IUCN
- The time of the meeting in the time zones of Council members is shown in Annex A

11.00-11.10	<p>Agenda Item 1: Introduction by the President and approval of the agenda</p>
11.10-...	<p>Agenda Item 2: Consideration of/decision on the question whether the <u>elections</u> should be held during the Congress in Marseille as postponed to a later date in 2021 (yet to be determined), or whether they should be held by electronic vote in the beginning of 2021</p> <p><i>At its 100th meeting on 14 September 2020, the Council decided (C100/3) to postpone the 2020 Congress to a later date in 2021 (yet to be determined) and to submit selected decision items on the draft Congress agenda to an e-vote (27 January to 10 February 2021) in order to ensure continuity of IUCN’s global operations.</i></p> <p><i>The Council subsequently discussed the question whether also the elections should be held by electronic vote in the beginning of 2021 or whether they should be held during the Congress held in Marseille (as postponed). Before reaching a conclusion, the Council meeting adjourned with the decision to continue its consideration of this question.</i></p> <p><i>On 3 October 2020, seventeen members of the Council requested the President to call an immediate meeting of the Council, based on Article 51 of the Statutes, in order to consider a draft decision requesting the Director General to submit the question regarding when to hold the elections to IUCN Members for decision by e-vote.</i></p> <p><i>On 6 October 2020, the President reported to Council that, with the unanimous support of the Bureau which had met on 4 October 2020, he had taken the initiative in cooperation with the four Vice-Presidents, to establish a small working group of six Council members representing in a balanced way the diversity of views on the question of the elections, with the purpose of developing a consensus on how best to proceed. The group would assist the Council with recommendations on how to handle the timing and context of elections incl. by reaching out to IUCN Members to canvas their opinion. The President subsequently convened the (101st) Council meeting for 2 November 2020.</i></p> <p><i>Under the guidance of the working group, an online consultation of IUCN Members was launched on 19 October 2020 the results of which will be communicated to Council in time for its 101st meeting as part of the working group’s report.</i></p>
	<p>Agenda Item 3: Other recommendations of the CPC and Bureau presented to Council at its 100th meeting (14 September 2020)</p> <p><i>The following recommendations of the CPC (pp. 9-10), supported by the Bureau (pp. 1-2), remain yet to be considered by Council:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. In respect of the accountability reports to Congress, the CPC concluded that the decision when to present these reports to IUCN Members is linked to the decision on the date of the elections. If the elections are held by electronic vote prior to Congress at least the reports of the Council/President and the Commission Chairs should be made available in digital format prior to the elections. If the elections are held during Congress, they should be presented at the Members’ Assembly.</i> <i>2. Consider whether the (19) motions referred by the Motions Working Group to the 2020 Congress for continued debate and vote should be submitted to an electronic vote of the IUCN Members in the beginning of 2021 or be debated and voted upon during the Members’ Assembly. The CPC recommended Council to consider the opinion of</i>

	<p><i>Motions Working Group. The latter convened on 27 October 2020 in order to make a recommendation to Council.</i></p> <p><i>3. Decide that no further postponement shall be considered beyond the new dates for the Congress, and request the Secretariat to make a recommendation to CPC in time for Council's consideration at its 102nd Council meeting (1 December 2020) on a process how/when to decide whether or not to hold the Congress on the new dates, and the feasibility and cost of holding the Forum and Exhibition by virtual means in case they cannot be held on the new dates.</i></p>
--	---

Number of IUCN Members participating in the online discussion by Category

Category	Sub-category	Option A	Option B	Grand Total	Total Members per category	As a % of the Category membership
Category A						
	State	10	16	26	91	28.57
	Gov Agency	6	18	24	119	20.17
Total		16	34	50	210	23.81
Category B						
	Int'l NGO	5	24	29	105	27.62
	NGO	112	162	274	1038	26.40
Total		117	186	303	1143	26.51
Category C						
	IPO		8	8	23	34.78
Total			8	8	23	34.78
Category D						
	Affiliate	1	2	3	50	6.00
Total		1	2	3	50	6.00
Total Members					1426	0.00
National Committees						
	National Committee	3	2	5	69	7.25
Total		3	2	5	69	7.25
Grand Total		137	232	369		25.88

Number of IUCN Members participating in the online discussion by Region

Category	Region	Subcategory	Option A	Option B	Grand Total	Total numbers	As a % of the Category membership
Category A							
	Africa						
		GA	2		2	15	13.33
		ST	1	2	3	26	11.54
	Total		3	2	5	41	12.20
	East Europe, North and Central Asia						
		GA		1	1	14	7.14
		ST	1		1	6	16.67
	Total		1	1	2	20	10.00
	Meso and South America						
		GA		1	1	8	12.50
	Total			1	1	14	7.14
	North America and the Caribbean						
		GA		1	1	12	8.33
		ST		2	2	2	100.00
	Total			3	3	14	21.43
	Oceania						
		GA		3	3	10	30.00
		ST		1	1	10	10.00
	Total			4	4	20	20.00
	South and East Asia						
		GA	2	1	3	22	13.64
		ST	5	3	8	16	50.00
	Total		7	4	11	38	28.95
	West Asia						
		GA	1	4	5	8	62.50
		ST	1	3	4	7	57.14
	Total		2	7	9	15	60.00
	West Europe						
		GA	1	7	8	30	26.67
		ST	2	5	7	18	38.89
	Total		3	12	15	48	31.25
Cat A Total			16	34	50	210	23.81
Category B							
	Africa						
		IN	2	1	3	14	21.43
		NG	21	13	34	181	18.78
	Total		23	14	37	195	18.97
	East Europe, North and Central Asia						
		IN	1	1	2	3	66.67
		NG	1	1	2	42	4.76
	Total		2	2	4	45	8.89
	Meso and South America						
		IN		1	1	5	20.00
		NG	7	42	49	172	28.49
	Total		7	43	50	177	28.25
	North America and the Caribbean						
		IN		11	11	31	35.48
		NG	2	26	28	102	27.45
	Total		2	37	39	133	29.32
	Oceania						
		NG		3	3	28	10.71
	Total			3	3	29	10.34
	South and East Asia						
		IN	1	1	2	4	50.00
		NG	62	43	105	235	44.68
	Total		63	44	107	239	44.77
	West Asia						
		NG	9	12	21	66	31.82
	Total		9	12	21	66	31.82
	West Europe						
		IN	1	9	10	47	21.28
		NG	10	22	32	212	15.09
	Total		11	31	42	259	16.22
Cat B Total			117	186	303	1143	26.51
Category C							
	Africa						
		IP		1	1	2	50.00
	Total			1	1	2	50.00
	Meso and South America						
		IP		6	6	11	54.55
	Total			6	6	11	54.55
	West Europe						
		IP		1	1	1	100.00
	Total			1	1	1	100.00
Cat C Total				8	8	23	34.78
Category D							
	North America and the Caribbean						
		AF		1	1	15	6.67
	Total			1	1	15	6.67
	South and East Asia						
		AF	1	1	2	5	40.00
	Total		1	1	2	5	40.00
Cat D Total			1	2	3	50	6.00
National Comr	National Committee		3	2	5	69	7.25
	Africa		1		1		
	North America and the Caribbean			1	1		
	Oceania			1	1		
	South and East Asia		1		1		
	West Europe		1		1		
Grand Total			137	232	369		

Option selected	Comment Title	Comment	Organisation	Author	State	Statutory Region
A	France supports option A.	France supports the holding of elections during the IUCN Congress (option A). The elections are one of the highlights of the Congress, which is still planned in Marseille in 2021. France underlines the importance of the presentation and interactions with the candidates during the Congress, ahead of the elections.	Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Développement international	Elise.REBUT	France	West Europe
A	e.vote	option A	National Center for Research and Development	Mohammed.FAQEH	Jordan	West Asia
A	Vote	I favour the option A. It is always good to meet and hear the contestants before voting.	Department of Wildlife Conservation / Sri Lanka	TalpeMerenchigeEeasha.NANAYAKKARA	Sri Lanka	South and East Asia
A	Option A	Face-to-face discussions with candidates is the best way to know personality and passion of each candidate. We wonder if Option B is democratic and realistic. However, it is not desirable to postpone the elections indefinitely until a face-to-face WCC can be organized.	Ministry of the Environment, Japan / Japan	Hiroaki.Tomoi	Japan	South and East Asia
A	Elections	Option A is preferred.	Bundesministerium für Klimaschutz, Umwelt, Energie, Mobilität, Innovation und Technologie / Austria	viktoria.HASLER	Austria	West Europe
A	Option A: Elections take place at the IUCN Congress	Even though we are in unprecedented times in our history. Many things are changing. However there are so many things that are within our control. One such example is voting. Appreciating the technological challenges and member mobilisation for a vote on such important office, electronic voting particularly now would disenfranchise some. Recommend we work with Option A.	Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife	Edwin.WANYONYI	Kenya	Africa
A	Support for Option A in Marseille	The elections will affect the governance and development of IUCN in the next few years. It is statutory to ensure that the election process is fair and transparent. If the elections should be held by electronic vote, the Union members would not have the opportunity to communicate directly with the candidates and get a full understanding of the candidates. Therefore, it is suggested that the elections should take place during the Congress.	Ministry of Natural Resources	Xiumei.ZHANG	China	South and East Asia
A	Option A	As many members have already commented, face-to-face discussions with candidates is the best way to know personality and passion of each candidate. We wonder if Option B is democratic and realistic. In the first place, it is doubtful whether online conference with a huge number of people would be realistic, and there is a concern that several countries cannot participate in online election because of accessibility. No one knows when the pandemic will end, but in the second half of 2021, more participation can be expected. Even if not all of them can come to	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan	Hidenobu.MAEKAWA	Japan	South and East Asia
A	Option A	Option A Onbehalf of Ministry of Environment of Jordan we prefer option A. Best Regards	Ministry of Environment of Jordan	Belal.Qtishat	Jordan	West Asia

A	Support Option "A"	Prefer option A as it has the chance to meet with candidates and hear them face-to-face at the Congress in Marseille next year.	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation	Toe.AUNG.1	Myanmar	South and East Asia
A	Option A	We would support option A, since we consider that elections during the in-person meeting presents the opportunity to meet people in person and make a right decision.	Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia / Georgia	Teona.Karchava	Georgia	East Europe, North and Central Asia
A	Vote: Option A	Dear IUCN Secretary, On behalf of IUCN member from Lao PDR, I would like to express our support for option A Best Regards	Ministère des Affaires étrangères / Lao People's Democratic Republic	Viengsamay.Phanvongsa	Lao People's Democratic Republic	South and East Asia
A	Option A	We would prefer to have physical Congress so that members can interact with the candidates personally.	National Council for Conservation of Wildlife, Ministry of Climate Change / Pakistan	MuhammadIrfan.Tariq	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	elections of the IUCN Council during Congress	This coronavirus is here for the long haul and the future depends on a lot of unknowns, including whether people develop lasting immunity to the virus, whether seasonality affects its spread, and of course, the choices made by all of us as individuals and governments. And for sure, we will not have a vaccine which can be given to everyone next summer 2021. Maybe it will be possible to reduce the infection rate by summer 2021 to a level that will allow an IUCN Congress with elections to take place. Therefore we are voting for option A. Nevertheless, the next event should also be planned as a hybrid event, because it is possibly	Confédération Mondiale des Activités Subaquatiques	Alain.GERMAIN	Italy	West Europe
A	The CIC supports Option A	The CIC expresses preference for holding a <u>in person IUCN Congress</u> , once the conditions for a safe gathering in France are given. Therefore, we do not agree with the blank cancelling of a in person Congress and the implementation of an online voting procedure at this stage, especially in relation to Council elections. An online voting procedure bears the risk that members might face technical restrictions of a steady internet connectivity. The mandate of the current Council members should be extended.If it becomes clear mid 2021 that a in person Congress cannot be safely implemented in the second half of 2021, we would agree with holding an online Congress and a voting procedure, which allows casting votes via online <u>and postal means</u> .	International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation	Luna.Milatovic	Hungary	East Europe, North and Central Asia
A	IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020 – Discussion whether IUCN	I choose option A	International Network of Engaged Buddhists	Somboon.CHUNGPRAMPREE	Thailand	South and East Asia
A	We support the option A	Even though we are in unprecedented times in our history, Many things should not be changed. Such as the voting. Appreciating the technological challenges and member mobilisation for a vote on such important office, electronic voting particularly now would disenfranchise some,that's not fair.If Marseille cannot meet the conditions for the meeting, we can choose countries or regions that have basically contained the outbreak. Recommend we work with option A.	China Wildlife Conservation Association	Meng.MENG	China	South and East Asia
A	Option A would be better	As a new member to IUCN, we are very much hope to be at the congress to meet with other members and experience the voting process. Therefore, we prefer the option A in this respect. However, under the globally COVID-19 uncontrolled situation, we believe that IUCN will make the most appropriate choice.	Cloud Mountain Conservation	Lu.Yan	China	South and East Asia
A	Opotion A in Marseille	I suggest Opotion A.	Shanghai Daorong Conservation and Sustainable Development Center	Liping.Shen	China	South and East Asia

A	Option A	We suggest Option A as we hope to communicate with candidates and other members face to face.	Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences, MEE	Xin.XIA.1	China	South and East Asia
A	Option A in Marseille in 2021	On behalf of CNPA, I suggest Option A.	China Association of National Parks and Scenic Sites	Ziyan.YANG	China	South and East Asia
A	HRDN opts for OPTION A - Marseille 2021	There is no match of face to face learning and physical interaction. So better to listen and communicate physically with the candidates, share and learn from delegates across the Globe in WCC 2021.	Human Resource Development Network	Robeela.BANGASH	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Option A in Marseille in 2021	We would suggest Option A as we want to communicate with candidates and other members face to face physically.	Azat Foundation	Zahid.AHMED	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Suggest Option A	Environmental Education Center "Zapovedniks" having considered the arguments given in the discussion material, we inform you that our organization strongly supports position A , and we believe that the arguments for this position are convincing and consistent with our understanding of the situation. When contacting IUCN members in Russia, we see that electronic communication has not yet become familiar and convenient for all organizations. Even in this discussion, members are very inactive. We are sure that electronic voting will actually lead to the failure of the election and mass discontent with its results. We are afraid it will negatively affect the image of the IUCN.	Environmental Education Center Zapovedniks	Natalia.DANILINA	Russian Federation	East Europe, North and Central Asia
A	Option A in Marseille	Like so many have already expressed, this is a highly irregular situation. I do feel however, that yet another electronic vote will minimize the participation of members as well as reduce interaction amongst members and candidates. One of the highlights of Congress is getting to know the people you vote for, and understanding their contribution to inclusive conservation. We would therefore prefer Option A.	Southern African Wildlife College	theresa.SOWRY	South Africa	Africa
A	Option A in Marseille	I suggest Option A, Only in this way can the voting be more in line with the procedure and more effective.	Chengdu Bird Watching Society	You.SHEN	China	South and East Asia
A	IUCN Congress: Discussion on IUCN elections	We suggest option A. It is very important that representatives of our members and committees can speak in person with all candidates. Cv's of candidates and written recommendations cannot replace physical meetings.	Stichting CHIMBO	annemarie.goedmakers	The Netherlands	West Europe
A	Option A in Marseille	I suggest Option A. Because being able to communicate face to face with candidates and vote for them is an important part of WCC general meeting.	Guangdong Association of Natural Conservation Areas	Shilong.MA	China	South and East Asia
A	Option A-Elections During Congress	Option A is suggested and preferred by us, cause it is essential to have direct dialogues with candidates for further communication and better understanding with each other, and then more reasonable decision will be made for the elections.	All-China Environment Federation	Lingling.YAO	China	South and East Asia

A	Option A	I suggest Option A.Because being able to communicate face to face with candidates and vote for them is an important part of WCC general meeting.	Chinese Society of Forestry	Caiyun.FENG	China	South and East Asia
A	Option A	The Nature Conservation Society of Japan prefer to option A. The reasons are following; 1. Face-to-face meeting enable us to know more about Council candidate such as personality, communication and passion to the conservation agenda. 2. The election campaign in the physical Congress will enable new councilor to know more about diversity and reality of IUCN, which enable them enhance future leadership. 3. We are still facing very difficult and unusual situation by COVID-19. We think current Council members can lead better organization/arrangement of IUCN and the Congress because they have four year experience of governing IUCN and four year experience of working with member, commission member and secretariat. We do not have enough information that current candidates can handle this complex situation because each CV was made before pandemic.	Nature Conservation Society of Japan	Teppej.DOHKE.2	Japan	South and East Asia
A	Support for option A in Marseille	We recommend that the elections should be reserved for the physical Congress. Election is our members privilege far beyond pressing a button for voting on line. Through the election process, members could have an opportunity to know candidate as a person, for candidates to present his or her visions and promises to the Union, for candidates to debate different opinions and to show their leaderships etc. In consideration of different time zones and the internet connectivity in different countries, the same equally fair right to all members and candidates cannot be guaranteed.	Biodiversity Committee, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Keping.MA	China	South and East Asia
A	Support for option A in Marseille	Shan Shui Conservation Center support for option A, as face-to-face communication is an important of the election. We hope to know more about the personality and capacity of candidates.	Shan Shui Conservation Center	xiangying.shi.1	China	South and East Asia
A	Election during the Congress	I think the election for the new executive body should be held during the Congress, as it will help us meet the candidates in person and decide whom should lead us.	Nepal Forum of Environmental Journalists	Kosmos.BISWOKARMA.1	Nepal	South and East Asia
A	Option- A - Physical voting- Congress in Marseille	Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), Coimbatore, India, endorses OPTION – A; preference as we want to communicate with candidates and other members face to face physically during the CONGRESS in Marseille	Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History	kalyanasundaram.SANKAR	India	South and East Asia
A	Support for Option A	My organization supports for the option A as we believe that with the direct election the Union members will have the opportunity to communicate with the candidates, then understand them better; so that the election would be more effective.	Centre for Marine Life Conservation and Community Development	ThuHue.Nguyen	Viet Nam	South and East Asia
A	Option A	I would prefer to go for option A.	Legends Society	MohammadAslam.KHAN	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020	I prefer Option A because physical consultation gives more better result. Due to COVID-19, it would be latter(difficult to manage) but result will be better.	SAVE THE PLANET Mission2020 NEPAL	Usha.Neupane	Nepal	South and East Asia

A	Option A: elections take place at the IUCN Congress	A physical WCC with elections on site should be held due to the following reasons: 1. IUCN is a Member-Driven Union. The members get the opportunity to come together only one time every four years. The real representation of the Members is through in person presence in the WCC. It then gives the real character of the IUCN as a Union of Members. And in between the Congress, the Union is represented by its delegated processes, including the Council, Bureau and other indirect representational processes. Therefore, the voting must take place in the Congress, with physical presence of the Congress, no matter when it is held. 2. Electronic voting is not capable of including all the process, including having phase to phase interactive sessions or network meetings with the Candidates and will undermine the democracy that exists in the IUCN. 3. Electronic voting is a misleading wording. It can be done physically such as that in Hawaii using technology to count the votes more quickly and virtually for virtual internet vote which should be called e-vote. 4. The host government is willing to host the whole of the WCC, including the election which makes the integral part of the WCC. 5. Let us uphold the true spirit of the Union by ensuring election in the WCC.	Unnayan Onneshan	RashedAIMahmud.TITUMIR	Bangladesh	South and East Asia
A	Option A - IUCN elections	I prefer option A - reasons are: i) face-to-face interaction is more enabling to judge candidates and have wider understanding of contexts and issues ii) we enjoy the festive environment during election processes which gives us great satisfaction and feeling of ownerships iii) election during congress has been the culture of greater IUCN family and I think we must maintain this	Center for Natural Resource Studies	MMokhesur.RAHMAN	Bangladesh	South and East Asia
A	Option A in Marseille	Both arguments are reasonable. But preparing next Congress by current council is better idea.	Ramsar Network Japan	Mitsuhiro.NAGAI	Japan	South and East Asia
A	electronic vote	I think Physical vote is better as it enable us to learn more about the Potential candidates and facilitate in a better decision.	Jordanian Society for Desertification Control and Badia Development	Islam.MAGAYREH	Jordan	West Asia
A	Option A	I vote for option A on behalf of my AWO organisation Jordan.I believe having face to face interaction and elections is more effective as we will get the chance to exchange experiences, ideas, knowledge effectively among us and we can have better views and visions when it comes to the accuracy of our voting... Ms Nawal Haddadin secretary of the AWO		Nawal.HADDADIN	Jordan	West Asia
A	Option A, Pakistan National Committee of IUCN members	On behalf of HANDS as the part of PNC of IUCN we propose selecting option A as physical presence would give the chance to know the candidates much better.	Health and Nutrition Development Society	ShaikhMaaz.TANVEER	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	option A	there is a better chance to discuss opinions on whom to vote for when meeting people face to face.	Indus Earth Trust	ShahidSayeed.KHAN	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	OPTION A	We foresee that physical presence of candidates during elections presentations, and witnessing their status of emotional and enthusiasm towards their desired post, will certainly assist the member to decide on the best candidate that will serve the purpose of his/her role.	Bahrain Women Association - for Human Development	Mahnaz.KADHEMI	Bahrain	West Asia
A	Option A	Royal Botanic Garden- Jordan supports Option A elections take place at the IUCN Congress to be held in Marseille in 2021.	Royal Botanic Garden	Hatem.TAIFOUR	Jordan	West Asia

A	Option A	I would prefer to chose the "Option A". I think phisical presence and intercation may enable us more productivity.	Society for Empowering Human Resource	Abdul.Wadood	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Option-A	We support elections to take place at the IUCN Congress scheduled to be held in Marseille in 2021.	Strengthening Participatory Organization	Arifa.Mazhar	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	e support elections to take place at the IUCN Congress scheduled	hashmite fund supports Option A elections take place at the IUCN Congress to be held in Marseille in 2021.	Hashemite Fund for Development of Jordan Badia	Khaled.MARAFI	Jordan	West Asia
A	Discussion whether IUCN elections	I prefer option "A", Regards Pervez	Water, Environment and Sanitation Society	Pervez.IQBAL	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Option A	I prefer option A because the physical presence is necessary for evaluating the candidates	Centre for Peace and Development	Nasrullah.Nasrullah	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Support Option "A"	I suggest that physical voting system is better way to express ourselves and enable us to learn more about potential candidates for the election and we have to interact with the other committee members of the IUCN during election	Shehri: Citizens for a Better Environment	Amra.JAVED	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Option A	On behalf of The Royal Marine Conservation Society of (JREDS) Jordan we prefer option A. Best Regards, Mohammad	The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan	Mohammed.AL-TAWAHA	Jordan	West Asia
A	Physical vote is better	I support Physical vote is better as it enable us to learn more about the Potential candidates and facilitate in a better decision.	Scientific and Cultural Society of Pakistan	MuhammadZaheer.KHAN	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Option physical vote	I will go for physical vote option as it would enable me to vote for the better potential candidate.	Ghazi Barotha Taraqati Idara	FatehKhan.MALIK	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	IUCN Elections 2021	We are in favour of: Option A: elections take place at the IUCN Congress to be held in Marseille in 2021.	Snow Leopard Foundation	MuhammadAli.NAWAZ.1	Pakistan	South and East Asia

A	Option A	Option A is best . It will also provide us a learning opportunity and interaction with other environment experts.	Saibaan Development Organization	Sahibzada.jawad	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	IUCN council election	I would like to vote for Option A as I believe it would be important for members to get the chance to meet the candidates and interact with them face-to-face, this would be a crucial element of the member's assembly.	Live & Learn Environmental Education / Maldives	Zameela.AHMED	Maldives	South and East Asia
A	Vote A	Because a vote for a living , breathing human being is entirely different from a vote for a motion composed of words , concepts , precepts , recommendations et al , because it is only when one observes /listens at first-hand the nuances , cadences of a person that one can determine a gut feeling ...!.... , Vote A . Let our patience overcome Covid-19 and enable us to meet and decide face-to-face , eye-to-eye .	Baanhn Beli / Pakistan	Javed.JABBAR	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Vote	Option A Vote	Land Research Center / Palestine	Mohammed.ALSALIMIYA	Palestine	West Asia
A	option A Vote	option A Vote	The Environmental Education Center of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land / Palestine	Simon.AWAD	Palestine	West Asia
A	Support for Option A - in-person vote	San Diego Zoo Global expresses support for Option A to encourage direct, personal interaction and discussion at the Congress, leading to a better-informed vote.	San Diego Zoo Global / United States of America	Stacey.Johnson	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
A	Option A	We at the Center for Environmental Legal Studies would prefer Option A. We also believe that the Congress, whenever it takes place, should be held as a hybrid event as many may not be able to travel to Marseille.	Center for Environmental Legal Studies / United States of America	Smita.NARULA	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
A	Vote process	Dear IUCN Secretary, On behalf of IUCN member from Cambodia, I'm supporting to vote at the IUCN World Congress.		Savath.OM	Cambodia	South and East Asia
A	Option A	We support option A	Viên Kinh tế sinh thái / Viet Nam	chuyen.nguyenduy	Viet Nam	South and East Asia
A	Option A: Option Physical Vote	We would support option A: I'm supporting to vote at the IUCN World Congress. We consider that elections during the in-person meeting presents the opportunity to meet people in person and make a right decision.	Rural Aid Pakistan / Pakistan	MirzaMoqeeem.BAIG	Pakistan	South and East Asia

A	Support for Option A	My preference is the meeting and vote at the congress. It will be an opportunity to share, learn, and networking each other. I hope the pandemic will get well soon.	Thailand Environmental Institute Foundation / Thailand	benjamas.chotthong	Thailand	South and East Asia
A	Voted Option A	I suggested option A		Sopheak.SOM	Cambodia	South and East Asia
A	Support for Option A	I would support for option A because it is a time for biggest opportunities for IUCN members to participate, learning and sharing experiences around the world that we usually offer once in four years, which makes a big difference in terms of educating them about the role IUCN and our Members play collectively in shaping environmental agenda. By attending the Congress physically, our Members will also get the opportunity to meet with the candidates face-to-face and hear them live.	Culture and Environment Preservation Association / Cambodia	Luy.REAKSMEY	Cambodia	South and East Asia
A	Option A	I would like to vote for option A. The congress is also a good opportunity to learn and interact with colleagues.	Mai Khao Marine Turtle Foundation / Thailand	Aorn.SILAPASATITWONG	Thailand	South and East Asia
A	Option A	I would like to provide my vote on option A.	Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad / Bangladesh	Nilufar.BANU	Bangladesh	South and East Asia
A	option	Go for option A		Yogendra.CHITRAKAR	Nepal	South and East Asia
A	Option A: elections take place at the IUCN Congress to be held in	Option A: elections take place at the IUCN Congress to be held in Marseille in 2021	The NGO Forum on Cambodia / Cambodia	Vannara.TEK	Cambodia	South and East Asia
A	Vote for Option A: Elections take place at the IUCN Congress	I would prefer to vote at the IUCN Congress	Centre for Rural Technology / Nepal	Ganesh.SHRESTHA	Nepal	South and East Asia
A	preferred option for World congress	We prefer to go for option-A the physical voting	Khwendo Kor / Pakistan	Khalid.USMAN	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	We prefer to go for option-A	We prefer to go for option-A the physical voting	Pakistan Rural Initiatives for Emergency Preparedness, Response and Development / Pakistan	GulWail.Khan	Pakistan	South and East Asia

A	Hoste Hainse would like to go	Hoste Hainse would like to go with option A i.e. physical voting.	Hoste Hainse / Nepal	RishiKeshabBikram.SHAH	Nepal	South and East Asia
A	I would like to provide my	I would like to provide my vote on option A.	Pakistan Rural Initiatives for Emergency Preparedness, Response and Development / Pakistan	Yasir.Iqbal	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	support for option A	A physical Congress provides a better prospect of bringing together the highest possible number of participants compared to the sometimes-low participation rates in electronic votes.	The Applied Research Institute - Jerusalem Society (ARIJ) / Palestine	Jane.HILAL	Palestine	West Asia
A	Option A	I would support Option A because I am not sure if the electronic vote will fulfil the need of the electorate to fully understand what the candidates represent, and it will go against the members who have difficulties with an electronic system.	Trust for Conservation of Coastal Resources / Pakistan	Zubeda.YOUSUF	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	voting	I go for option A	National Trust for Nature Conservation / Nepal	Sarita.JNAWALI	Nepal	South and East Asia
A	views on e voting	i will go for Option A	Batabaraniya Susan Karya Samuha Nepal / Nepal	kiran.TIMALSINA	Nepal	South and East Asia
A	Option A preferred	On behalf of the Nigerian Environmental study Action Team, we are of the view that a physical congress in Marseille sometime in 2021 is expected to have physical elections. We share the views earlier presented in supporting this option, since a newly elected council starts functioning at the the end of the congress that elected it.	Nigerian Environmental Study Action Team / Nigeria	Gloria.UJOR	Nigeria	Africa
A	Preferred Option A	Preferred Option A	Sungi Development Foundation / Pakistan	Malick.SHAHBAZ	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Option A	physical Congress provides a better oppertunities to know about candidate. So I prefer option A.		TirthaRaj.SATOSHI	Nepal	South and East Asia
A	Preferred Option A	Physiscal election will be more lively to throught the congress. Should be better interection with the candidates.	Watawaranka Lagi Yuwa Sanjal / Nepal	Sanot.ADHIKARI	Nepal	South and East Asia

A	I will go for Option A	Option "A"	New World Hope Organization / Pakistan	MuhammadAjmal.KHAN	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Support for option A	Election is a process of electing, not just voting. Election should be transparent, democratic and justice. Election (including motion voting) is a process, definitely not just voting. The heart of the process is face-to-face contact and interaction.	Eco Foundation Global / China	zequn.Yan	China	South and East Asia
A	Support option A	There is a lot of works to do and to share in person. This is the biggest and very important event of IUCN, that we should not skip by reverse with the e-voting and so on. The relevant current mandate and tasks should be delayed and in case we still can not organize, we should take into high consideration to delay and be organized in the appropriated schedule when applicable. On the other hand, we should not cancel the IUCN Congress in Marseille. Regards Sophana Om Mlup Baitong, Cambodia	Mlup Baitong / Cambodia	Sophana.OM	Cambodia	South and East Asia
A	Option A	Voting for option A 1.As IUCN is a democratic institution the process of voting should be in keeping with the past democratic process by making voting physically Possible. It will be more transparent. 2. Women, handicapped people and senior citizens will not be able to perform as well in electronical voting. Also in many parts of the world internet availability and sustained electricity is a huge problem. 3. Election of candidate should be visible in a physical manner, to hear the candidates and arguments made in favour adds to the festivity and interest in IUCN elections as in the past. 4. Connectivity and networking becomes more important in physical voting. 5. As a candidate from South and South East Asia I feel I shall be at disadvantage if there is not direct physical vote to elect candidate like myself. 6. We should hope that the pandemic will end or will be controlled by proper behavioral change and successful vaccination and health programme for all and that we learn important lessons in conservation in future for a balanced natural world with the help of real people in real time.		HasnaJasimuddin.MOUDUD	Bangladesh	South and East Asia
A	Option A preferred as the	Option A preferred as the congress is not cancelled.	Bird Conservation Nepal/Nepal Panchhi Samrakchyan Sangh / Nepal	Ishana.THAPA	Nepal	South and East Asia
A	Option A preferred	We believe physical interaction and consultation is only possible when you are physically present in the Congress. This ensures electing better candidate. So we opt option A.	Haashar Association / Pakistan	Anees.KHAN	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Option A Election at IUCN Congress in Marseille	We support Option A elections take place at the IUCN Congress to be held in Marseille in 2021. IUCN council and motions are of crucial importance to IUCN. According to the Statue, they shall be subject to election during the IUCN Congress. At this key event of IUCN all the members have equal right to get full interactions and conversations physically, avoiding the possible technical issues during e-vote, thus better demonstrating the integrity and democracy nature of IUCN.	National Marine Data and Information Service	Guangshun.He	China	South and East Asia
A	Option Physical Vote	I think Physical vote is better as it enable us to learn more about the Potential candidates and facilitate in a better decision.	Pakistan National Committee of IUCN Members	Roomi.HAYAT	Pakistan	South and East Asia
A	Nous votons pour l'option A	Nous partons du principe que l'humanité doit savoir comment vivre avec la nouvelle pandémie COVID-19, comme toutes les autres zoonoses existantes.	Instituto da Biodiversidade e das Areas Protegidas / Guinea Bissau	Justino.BIAI	Guinea Bissau	Africa

A	Opção A	Les interactions en personne des Membres avec les candidats et les consultations entre Membres sont un aspect important du processus électoral.	Centro de Estudos Ambientais e Tecnologia Apropriada do Instituto Nacional de Estudos e Pesquisa / Guinea Bissau	Bucar.Indjai	Guinea Bissau	Africa
A	Les arguments fournis dans I	Les arguments fournis dans l'option A sont pertinents. Je soutiens cette option.	ENDA - Tiers Monde	aby.drame	Senegal	Africa
A	Nous soutenons l'option A	Il paraît évident que tenir le congrès dans un tel contexte s'avère chose impossible. Toutefois, l'élection des membres qui gouvernent cette instance constitue un réel fondement des institutions. Nous pensons que le faire en présentiel semble une bonne idée dans la mesure où le vote est fait sur une base de présentation des protagonistes, et où nous avons peut être l'occasion de les écouter. D'ici, nous voulons croire que des solutions seront trouvées au problème de COVID 19.	Alliance pour la Conservation des Grands Singes en Afrique Centrale / Cameroon	FranckLazare.TALAPOKAM	Cameroon	Africa
A	Congrès mondial de la nature 2020	Le processus le plus approprié pour les élections est l'option A, à savoir la tenue des élections pendant le Congrès à Marseille .	Reseau Association Khnifiss	Salek.AOUISSA	Morocco	Africa
A	Réponse consultation sur les élections de l'UICN	FODER partage les arguments en faveur d'une tenue des élections lors du Congrès reporté de Marseilles (Option A) et soutient cette option.	Forêts et Développement Rural	Laurence.WETENKOUGUEP-SOH	Cameroon	Africa
A	Election des membres	je soutien l'option A qui consiste à procéder aux élections pendant le congrès à Marseille en 2021. C'est un grand moment et je soutien qu'il soit vécu par les membres pendant l'évènement.	Oeuvre Malienne pour le Développement des Zones Arides	Ibrahima.SEMEGA	Mali	Africa
A	élection des membres	je soutiens l'option A en faveur de la tenue d'élections lors du congrès à Marseille en 2021	Association pour la Protection de l'Environnement et le Développement Durable de Bizerte	Najoua.BOURAOUI	Tunisia	Africa
A	les élections de l'UICN	Je soutiens l'option A.	Association intervillageoise de Gestion des Ressources Naturelles et de la Faune de la Comoé-Léraba	Mamadou.KARAMA	Burkina Faso	Africa
A	Les elections de l'UICN	Le processus le plus approprié pour les élections est l'option A, à savoir la tenue des élections pendant le Congrès à Marseille .	Grupo de Apoio à Educação e Comunicação Ambiental "PALMEIRINHA"	Nicolau.MENDES	Guinea Bissau	Africa
A	L'AMCFE est pour un vote pendant le congrès et non électronique	Nous estimons qu'il faut donner la chance aux membres de connaître physiquement les candidats et si possible échanger avec eux face à face pour ce faire une idée sur leur comportement et leur stratégie à travailler avec les membres.	Association Malienne pour la conservation de la faune et de son environnement	Moriba.NOMOKO	Mali	Africa

A	Il permet de mieux comprendre	Il permet de mieux comprendre les argumentaires des uns et des autres afin de les comparer et faire une élections objective	Groupe Action pour l'Enfance au Sahel	Drissa.KONE	Mali	Africa
A	Vote des membres du Conseil	Le vote direct présentiel est preferable (Option A) pour interagir avec les candidats et poser des questions sur leurs competences malgré que les membres actuels ont terminé leur mandat en juin 2020.	Association Marocaine pour la Protection de l'Environnement et le Climat	Brahim.HADDANE	Morocco	Africa
A	Je vote pour l'option A	Le Congrès physique est le meilleur moment de communion pour les membres de l'UICN. C'est la période pendant laquelle se nouent des contacts et d'échanges entre membres. Je vote pour l'option A car elle permet de voir les candidats pour qui, je dois voter.	Association Sénégalaise des Amis de la Nature	Djibi.SEYDI	Senegal	Africa
A	mode electoral	Nous sommes pour des elections au cours du congres	Association Tubane de Gikuzi	Athanase.MBONIMPA	Burundi	Africa
A	Le Benin soutient l'option A	Nous souhaitons la tenue des élections lors du Congrès de l'UICN (option A). Les élections constituent l'un des temps forts du Congrès.	Comité National des Membres de l'UICN au Bénin	Josea.DOSSOU-BODJRENOU	Benin	Africa
A	La Conservation de la Faune	La Conservation de la Faune Congolaise estime que le Congrès est le moment ultime pour les élections. Aussi, soutient-elle l'option A	Conservation de la Faune Congolaise	Pierre.OYO	Congo	Africa
A	Nous soutenons l'option A.	Nous soutenons l'option A.	Fondation pour les Aires Protégées et la Biodiversité de Madagascar	RantoHerilahatra.RANDRIANTSOA	Madagascar	Africa
A	Electronic vote	Option A is OK for ASUDEEC. As indicated, we will still have to vote electronically if Congress does not happen in 2021 as currently planned for.	Africa's Sustainable Development Council	Aime.NIANOGO	Burkina Faso	Africa

A	Soutien à l'option A	Il est indispensable de se concerter sur place pour faire un choix éclairé. Je pense qu'il faut voter sur place à Marseille.	Fondation d'Entreprise Biotope pour la Biodiversité / France	Frederic.MELKI	France	West Europe
A	Soutien à l'Option A	<i>Bonjour</i> <i>Il nous semble préférable que le mandat du Conseil actuel prenne fin à la clôture du Congrès de l'UICN à Marseille en 2021 de telle sorte que le nouveau Conseil puisse démarrer son mandat de façon plus sereine et sur des bases claires.</i>	Groupe Local d'Observation et d'Identification des cétacés de la Réunion / France	Virginie.BOUCAUD	France	West Europe
A	Soutien Option A	Soutien option A. explication de vote : L'élection du Conseil est l'un des temps forts du Congrès mondial ; il ne faut pas pousser à la virtualisation de son ordre du jour tant qu'il est prévu d'organiser un congrès « physique » à Marseille en 2021, ce qui est actuellement le cas.	Fédération des conservatoires d'espaces naturels / France	Bruno.Mounier	France	West Europe
A	Soutien de l'option A	Le Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle de Paris soutient l'option A. L'élection du Conseil est l'un des temps forts du Congrès mondial ; il ne faut pas pousser à la virtualisation de son ordre du jour tant qu'il est prévu d'organiser un congrès « physique » à Marseille en 2021, ce qui est actuellement le cas. Lors du congrès, une opportunité équitable est offerte à tous les candidats de se présenter et d'interagir avec les membres pour mieux	Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle / France	Helene.COLAS	France	West Europe
A	Option A	Au vue des arguments, le PRCM opte pour l' option A , qui semble être le processus le plus approprié et qui permettrait également une meilleure prise en main des enjeux	Partenariat Régional pour la Conservation des Zones Côtières / Senegal	Binta.KONATE.2	Senegal	Africa
A	Soutien à l'option A	Le vote est suffisamment important et constitue l'un des principaux fondements du Congrès. Il devrait se tenir en présentielle pour permettre des échanges directs et voir physiquement les candidats pour mieux orienter les choix.	Association pour la Gestion de l'Environnement et le Développement / Burkina Faso	Alain.TRAORE	Burkina Faso	Africa
A	Soutien Option A	Notre fédération est pour que les élections aient lieu lors du congrès, c'est effectivement important de les tenir lors d'une réunion physique car le choix est moins biaisé que par une présentation virtuelle puis un vote électronique et les discussions seront plus riches. Il vaut mieux qu'un conseil d'administration nouveau soit lancé avec des membres qui se sont rencontrés physiquement.	Fédération Française des Clubs Alpins et de Montagne / France	Ulrike.OHLHAUSER	France	West Europe
A	France Nature Environnement soutient l'option A	La tenue en présentiel du Congrès mondial de la nature à Marseille en 2021 étant toujours d'actualité en 2021, France Nature Environnement soutient l'option A. Dans le cadre d'un processus démocratique, il est toujours plus efficace et sympathique de dialoguer et décider en direct et ainsi engager la dynamique collaborative et la confiance nécessaires.	France Nature Environnement / France	christian.hosy	France	West Europe
A	Nous soutenons l'option A	Nous soutenons l'option A L'UICN doit donner l'exemple montrant qu'il ne faut pas baisser les bras face à la pandémie; il faudra juste prendre les mesures adéquates à cet effet et permettre aux membres comme cela s'est toujours fait de se rencontrer afin de se renforcer et de s'enrichir mutuellement.	Centre de Suivi Ecologique / Senegal	Taibou.BA.2	Senegal	Africa
A	Je soutiens l'option A	Les élections sont un fondement pour le Congrès. Voter en présentiel offre les meilleures garanties de transparence du vote des membres dans un processus électif qui se veut démocratique	Fondation des amis de la nature / Burkina Faso	Idrissa.ZEBA	Burkina Faso	Africa

A	Soutien à l'option A	Le Comité français de l'UICN soutient l'option A pour un vote lors du Congrès à Marseille. L'élection du Conseil est un des temps forts de l'Assemblée Générale, dont plusieurs points à l'ordre du jour ont déjà été programmés en vote électronique en janvier 2021, et il est nécessaire de pouvoir rencontrer et échanger avec les différents candidats avant de se déterminer pour le vote.	Comité national de l'UICN, France / France	Sebastien.MONCORPS	France	West Europe
A	Option A	IL est évident que dans le contexte actuel, il est difficile de présager de la tenue d'un congrès en présentiel. Sauf au cas où, un vaccin est obtenu d'ici là et que tous les congressistes peuvent en bénéficier. Cependant, cette perspective étant pour, au mieux, d'ici l'été prochain, on peut quand même espérer que le congrès pourrait se tenir courant Septembre 2021. Or tant qu'il y'a un espoir, aussi infime soit-il, il faut privilégier un vote en présentiel. Le vote électronique n'est pas la panacée et il n'est surtout pas à la portée de tous les membres. Et cela peut biaiser les élections et mettre en péril la légitimité du conseil	Comité national des Membres de l'UICN du Burkina Faso / Burkina Faso	Oumar.CISSE.4	Burkina Faso	Africa
A	España apoya la opción A	España está a favor la celebración de las elecciones durante el Congreso de la UICN (opción A). No obstante, en caso de que la celebración del Congreso tuviera que demorarse adicionalmente en vista de la actuación pandemia global, podríamos apoyar la votación en línea.	Ministerio para la Transición Ecológica y el Reto Demográfico	Miguel.AYMERICH	Spain	West Europe
A	Apoyo a la opción A	El Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras "José Benito Vives de Andrés" - INVEMAR apoya la opción A.	Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas y Costeras José Benito Vives de Andreis	FranciscoArmando.ARIAS-ISAZA	Colombia	Meso and South America
A	ECOVERSA apoya la opción A.	ECOVERSA apoya la opción A.	Corporación Ecoversa	FabianIgnacio.NAVARRETELEBAS	Colombia	Meso and South America
A	Apoyo la Opción A, elección de autoridades en Marsella	Desde la Fundación Moisés Bertoni apoyamos la opción A, para la elección de autoridades en la celebración del Congreso en Marsella 2021. La elección debería ser cara a cara, la utilización del voto electrónico solo se usa en casos extraordinarios y una elección tan importante como la elección de autoridades debería desarrollarse como históricamente se hizo, durante la celebración de la asamblea, hasta ese entonces las posturas y los votos podrían variar.	Fundación Moises Bertoni	Daniel.JACQUET	Paraguay	Meso and South America
A	Apoyo la opción A	Apoyo la opción A	ECOPAR -Corporación para la investigación, capacitación y apoyo técnico para el manejo sustentable de los ecosistemas tropic	Didier.SANCHEZ	Ecuador	Meso and South America

A	RNF soutient l'option A	RNF soutient l'option A Il est important symboliquement de maintenir l'élection du conseil en présentiel lors du Congrès mondial à Marseille en 2021 (Option A). c'est un des temps forts du congrès mondial et il faut privilégier la présentation et les interactions entre candidats avant les élections.	Reserves Naturelles de France	Marie.THOMAS	France	West Europe
A	Opción A es que las elecciones se realicen durante el Congreso	La Asociación Salvadoreña Pro Salud Rural apoya la opción A.	Asociación Salvadoreña Pro-Salud Rural / El Salvador	Sonia.LUNAGUZMan	El Salvador	Meso and South America
A	Discusión sobre elecciones presenciales o electrónica	La Fundación Hábitat y Desarrollo de Argentina apoya a la Opción A, porque consideramos que nada puede reemplazar al debate y a las negociaciones "in situ" como preámbulo de las elecciones presenciales. Los debates y las elecciones a distancia sólo van a burocratizar a la UICN y transformarán al Secretariado en un "mediador" electoral.	Fundación Habitat y Desarrollo / Argentina	Fernando.ARDURA	Argentina	Meso and South America
A	OPCION A: Elecciones durante el Congreso de la UICN	Para emitir una opinión objetiva e integral que no solo se base en los interés o percepciones individuales es muy importante saber, más allá de las opiniones encontradas de los Consejeros, por lo menos lo siguiente: 1. Si con la votación electrónica se suspenderá la Asamblea, y si no es así, que temas quedarán para el tratamiento en la Asamblea. 2. Si el Congreso se realiza luego de la elección, los miembros seguirán contando con el financiamiento previsto para asistir al Congreso, o únicamente habrá una reunión de alto nivel en la que NO todos los miembros podrán participar físicamente.	Asociación para la Conservación, Investigación de la Biodiversidad y el Desarrollo Sostenible / Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	CarmenEugenia.MIRANDALARREA	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Meso and South America
A	Apoyo a la opción A	Considero que llegar al Congreso con todo votado y decidido lo desvirtuará y vaciará de contenido. La razón de ser del congreso es la oportunidad de decidir juntos el rumbo y dirigentes de la unión, sin esto, el congreso podrá ser otras cosas, pero quedará muy lejos del espíritu UICN. De igual modo, valoro esencial alinearnos y apoyar a los compañeros del Comité Francés, quienes han apostado al máximo por el éxito de este congreso. Es verdad que hay muchas incertidumbres para el 2021, pero aún tenemos margen para que la situación mundial mejore y encontrar el momento para reunirnos en Marsella.	Aula del Mar - Malaga Asociación para la Conservación del Medio Marino / Spain	JuanAntonio.LOPEZJAIME	Spain	West Europe
A	Apoyo a la opción A	Apoyamos que se opte por la opción A.	Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre / Spain	Carlos.SANCHEZMARTINEZ	Spain	West Europe
B	Option B Election by Electronic Vote	In order to provide leadership certainty and to move forward with confidence, I would support the electronic vote. The huge uncertainty on when international travel will normalise means that we have no certainty on the WCC, if the Council adopts electronic voting, then IUCN can provide certainty and a smooth transition. The need for conservation leadership has never been more important and we should move towards certainty.	Zoos Victoria	Jenny.GRAY	Australia	Oceania
B	Council elections and Congress format	Malta would be of the opinion that the vote is taken electronically. Moreover, we would suggest to check on the possibility of having the Congress virtually, keeping in mind various technological requirements, time zone constraints and matter related to interpretations. In this regard and, noting the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, would be of the opinion to wait for further outcomes of the meeting/s of the IUCN Council to judge on the holding of the IUCN Congress in 2021.	Awtorità għall-Ambjent u r-Rizorsi	Darrin.STEVENS	Malta	West Europe
B	Options for IUCN elections	We support Option B as it is the most suitable option. By going for Option B, IUCN will demonstrate that its a flexible organisation and ready to adjust to the needs of the time and can conduct its business efficiently and effectively, even during most challenging situations. There is also no reason, why elections cant happen online, given that within IUCN we have systems in place to do that. Voting on motions is a good example which shows the readiness of the organisation to conduct elections. Also the current council has completed its term and its better to let the elections happen to elect the new council. Definitely a physical Congress offers a wonderful opportunity to meet and network, but we must be governed by the need of the	Environment Agency Abu Dhabi	Ayesha.AL-MEHAIRI	United Arab Emirates	West Asia
B	Support for Option B: Electronic Vote for Council	The Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Australia, supports proceeding with an electronic vote for Council. The elections have already been delayed from July 2020 and given the IUCN WCC is being further delayed, it is our view that elections should proceed by electronic vote.	Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning	Sheri.BURMEISTER	Australia	Oceania

B	Support for Option B: Electronic vote	Norwegian Environment Agency strongly supports Option B, electronic vote, as soon as possible.	Norwegian Environment Agency	olav.nord-varhaug.1	Norway	West Europe
B	Option B: electronic vote	We support the <i>Option B: elections are held by an electronic vote of IUCN Members during the first quarter of 2021</i> . Due to current pandemics COVID-19, as well as the impossibility of public gatheringsthe, option B is the most appropriate option to allow members to engage in the voting process.	Ministarstvo održivog razvoja i turizma (MRT)	Anela.SIJARIC	Montenegro	East Europe, North and Central Asia
B	E-Vote on elections: Option B	Teh German Federal Agency for Natur Conservations (BfN) prefers Option B.	Bundesamt für Naturschutz	Barbara.ENGELS	Germany	West Europe
B	Option B - Electronic vote	Recognizing the new to innovate to adapt to the times, and given the good tradition of electronic voting, the uncertainty about a physical congress, and the fact that the implementation of the New Programme should be entrusted to the new leadership, the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS) strongly favours option B	Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen	Jorge.Ventocilla.1	Belgium	West Europe
B	Electronic vote	We prefere elctronic vote due to the current pandimic disease.	Environmental Sciences Department	siraj.abdulla	Iraq	West Asia
B	Comment on e-voting for elections: Support for Option B	The Canadian Museum of Nature is in favour of e-elections of the new Council. We agree with many in the conservation community that we need to adjust to new ways of making decisions and should try and use tools available to us. We also feel it would be ideal to have a new Council in place to add new energy, experience and perspectives as we collectively address ongoing conservation issues and opportunities during these challenging times. We believe there are ways for candidates to leverage digital platforms to reach out to IUCN members and to share their story. By going	Canadian Museum of Nature	Jean-Marc.Gagnon	Canada	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B electronic Vote	Given the current circumstances, CNR supports option B	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche	Paolo.COLANGELO	Italy	West Europe
B	Option B	The Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve supports option B	Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve / United Arab Emirates	Gregory.SIMKINS	United Arab Emirates	West Asia

B	Option B Vote	On behalf of Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), I agree to Option B Vote up to a certain period due to pandemic. It is necessary however, to reconsider this option in the future Congress meetings and when things go back to normal. The situation now with the pandemic dictates the need for social distancing and travel is too risky for those who are vulnerable.	Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research / Kuwait	Samira.OMAR	Kuwait	West Asia
B	Support for option B - electronic vote	On behalf of Swedish Species Information Centre, SLU, I support Option B. The electronic vote would ensure a broader participation to the election than the limited number of people who will manage to attend the Congress in person. The support for electronic vote is also with the aim of having a new Council in place and active as soon as possible to start planning and implementing the important programme of the next quadrennium.	ArtDatabanken, Sveriges Lantbruksuniversitet / Sweden	Lena.Tranvik	Sweden	West Europe
B	The New Zealand Conservation	The New Zealand Conservation Authority supports Option B , in that the elections should be conducted electronically and held in the first quarter of 2021.	New Zealand Conservation Authority / New Zealand	Rick.MCGOVERN-WILSON	New Zealand	Oceania
B	Mode of IUCN elections-Option B	We select option B for voting prior to IUCN Congress. Regards Dr Bitapi C Sinha	Wildlife Institute of India / India	Bitapi.SINHA	India	South and East Asia
B	IUCN elections	I prefer Option B. The uncertainty of the pandemic makes difficult to predict if and when the Congress can be held IRL. Therefor, in the lighth of democracy it is better to hold the elections more or less in time, eg when their mandats ends and give the possibilites for the IUCN-members to vote for members of the Council and president as soon as possible to start planning and implementing the programme of the next quadrennium. The electronic vote would ensure a broader participation to the election than the limited number of people who will manage to attend the Congress in person.	Regeringskansliet (Sweden)	Michael.LOFROTH	Sweden	West Europe
B	Strong support for option B	Belgium (state member) strong supports option B. In his recent statement - Macron mentioned that the corona virus will stay with us until at least next summer (france has over 45.000 infections/day now). Around the world, number of daily corona infections is breaking records. A physical congress is further away then ever. We need to take our responsibility and adapt to this new reality - asap. Other organisations do the same and are planning well ahead. They replace their physical plenaries/member's assemblies by virtual ones to ensure an equitable & inclusive decision making	Politique scientifique fédérale	ALINE.VANDERWERF	Belgium	West Europe
B	Option B: elections are held by an electronic vote	BMU prefer Option B.	Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz und nukleare Sicherheit	Julia.Reinartz	Germany	West Europe
B	option B	my organization is supporting Option B to enhance the adoption according to the current COVID 19 situation.	The Supreme Council for Environment	Nouf.ALWASMI	Bahrain	West Asia
B	Support for Option B	Due to the uncertainty of the pandemic and the difficulties in predictin WHEN the Congress can take place - Option B is preferable	Ministry of Environment and Food, Environmental Protection Agency	Eva.JUULJENSEN	Denmark	West Europe
B	Option B - elections by electronic vote	On behalf of the United States and U.S. government agency members, we support option B, moving forward with elections by electronic vote. As other members have noted, there is still much uncertainty surrounding international travel, and it is difficult to anticipate the level of participation that will be possible for an in-person meeting in 2021. Therefore, in the interests of the continuity of the Union, we support an electronic process.	US Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs	Katlyn.SCHOLL	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean

B	Elections for IUCN Congress 2021	<p>Option B</p> <p>Given the current situation for the COVID-19 and during these uncertain times and as we are going to vote on the global programme and financial plan in Jan-Feb 2021 therefore its important for the new council to be elected before as well so that the Union continue its work. So we prefer Option B.</p>	Environment Authority	Thuraiya.ALSARIRI	Oman	West Asia
B	Council election-Option B e-voting	On behalf of the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, we support for the Option B (Electronic voting for the Council election) due to uncertainty of recovery of the Pandemic situation. Thank you.	Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation	Hari.BHADRAACHARYA	Nepal	South and East Asia
B	Option B Electronic Vote	The electronic vote should continue to allow the new council to start with its work. At this sstage it is not known when people would be able to travel with less resitricions, therefore the electronic vote would be appropriate.		Vongani.MARINGA	South Africa	Africa
B	IUCN elections	<p>The United Kingdom has a preference for option B, the earlier and electronic voting option.</p> <p>As others have said it is unclear when (or indeed if) a WCC will be held in 2021. Firstly, the uncertainties connected with the passage and resolution of the Covid-19 pandemic, and how and when that will be resolved in a way that will enable a truly inclusive WCC to take place, means that we cannot be certain when the next meeting will take place. Secondly, the backlog of international meetings will make the second half of 2021 very crowded, if indeed any are able to proceed. This log jam may well justify a further postponement of the WCC, such that we cannot now be certain when it will take place.</p>	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs / United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Trevor.Salmon	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	Voting for Option B	It is our view that the moral mandate of the existing Council has expired. We elected them for 4 years in 2016, and we need to hold electronic elections for a new Council as soon as possible. IUCN members are already familiar with electronic voting and, in fact, will be voting by electronic means on a number of IUCN-related issues including Work Plan, Financial Plan and other statutory matters. Candidates have been actively presenting their platforms and IUCN members have been participating in election-related fora since the pandemic started It is not reasonable to expect qualified candidates to run campaigns lasting 18 months. There is no guarantee that the Members Assembly can take place in Q3 2021 in Marseille, so we don't know that Option A is viable. However, we do know that Option B is viable.	Environment Public Authority / Kuwait	Shereefa.ALSALEM	Kuwait	West Asia
B	Electronic elections vote with regional office support	<p>Canada's State and Government Agency members agree that Option B is preferable (online voting in the first quarter of 2021) given the risk that an in-person World Conservation Congress may be significantly delayed given the pandemic.</p> <p>- Extending the existing Council terms until such time as we can have a face-to-face election would not be a significant violation of IUCN principles as the current circumstances are unique. However, as a conservation community we also need to consider new efficiencies in making decisions and maximizing the use of all tools available to us. Further, it would be preferable to have a new Council sooner rather than later. This should add momentum and energy to discussions of and action on IUCN member priorities in these unique</p>	Parks Canada Agency - Agence Parcs Canada / Canada	Noelia.tapp	Canada	North America and the Caribbean

B	Option B: elections by an electronic vote	Normally it would be ideal to have the elections at the Congress allowing voters to meet and interact with the candidates. However, considering terms of the current positions, potential impact on consistency and pace of the implementation of the next work program if elections are delayed, and the uncertainty that the pandemic brings, it seems more appropriate to have the elections taking place electronically, as we do not know for sure whether the WCC can take place within 2021, in which case we cannot delay the process even further.		Jaehoon.Jang	Republic of Korea	South and East Asia
B	Option B	The New Zealand Department of Conservation supports Option B. Given the extent of the postponement of Congress, which may extend further than either postponement option or even be cancelled entirely, it does not seem logical or fair to continue to keep the existing councillors all in place or prevent new councillors taking up their roles in a timely way. This is a prolonged extreme situation which merits a practical approach. We are comfortable with the electronic means available to enable Members to assess new candidates and be able to engage in the process. The likelihood that some existing councillors will successfully stand for a further term and the ability for those no longer councillors to contribute to congress planning through placement in a sub-committee also appears to address any continuity concerns for congress preparation and execution.	Department of Conservation / New Zealand	Danica.STENT	New Zealand	Oceania
B	Option B electronic Vote	It should be held by Electronic Vote. You don't know when the COVID Pandemic will end.	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change / India	Jigmet.Takpa	India	South and East Asia
B	Option B electronic Vote	On behalf of Conservation International, I would like to record our preference for Option B. Given the uncertainty of COVID-19 and our ability to potentially hold in person gatherings, option B provides the most democratic way that IUCN members can engage in the voting process for President and Council. It permits us to execute our rights and demonstrate good governance as a Union. In addition, Council has already made decisions to do electronic voting for seven items that usually take place at the in-person members assembly, it would seem obvious to do the same with elections. Even if we do have a WCC, it will be significantly smaller and will limit the in-person voting ability of many members who may not be able to travel due to health and safety reasons or shrinking budgets.	Conservation International	Kristen.WALKER-PAINEMILLA	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B electronic vote	We believe that an electronic vote in January is the best way for IUCN to continue to function in the midst of a pandemic. With uncertainty about holding large meetings in 2021, there is a need for the governance of IUCN to continue to function and support members.	International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies	Deborah.HAHN	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	WCS strongly supports Option B	Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The Wildlife Conservation Society strongly supports Option B, to undertake an electronic vote for Council in January 2021. While we appreciate the arguments advanced for Option A, we do not find them compelling for the following reasons: There is significant uncertainty as to when it will be safe to convene an in-person Congress. A physical meeting would presumably be scheduled for later in 2021, but even then, members from some countries might still not be able to travel. If a physical meeting cannot be held at that time, then presumably the remaining business of the Congress would have to be handled electronically anyway.	Wildlife Conservation Society	Susan.LIEBERMAN	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	A Rocha International supports option B	A Rocha International is in support of option B. This ensures that full participation of all members in the vote is possible. Any benefit that may come from being face-to-face will surely be minimal and offset by the high likelihood that many will not be able to be present if and when Congress finally meets.	A Rocha International	Jeremy.LINDSELL	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	Fully support Option B	NatureServe strongly supports Option B and feels that Synchronicity Earth has stated the case extremely well. While the world deals with the pandemic and associated issues of food security, joblessness, housing, and in some countries, racial justice, the issues of biodiversity loss and climate change continue to be crucial to the future of humanity. IUCN needs complete and stable leadership as soon as possible to be ready to address these issues once governments and philanthropists are able to focus on them again. We, the planet, cannot afford to wait another year to select the President and new Council.	NatureServe	sean.obrien	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Support for Option B	Whilst the European Association for Zoos and Aquaria (EAZA) can see benefits to having face-to-face interactions with candidates, the uncertainty around when the Members Assembly will be held, and indeed how many people will be able to attend, means that EAZA is in strong support of Option B. Interacting with the candidates in an online environment still offers ways to get to know them and it is most important that people are put in post as soon as possible. Now more than ever we need committed leaders who have the authority to take on their roles and move forward with the vital work of IUCN.	European Association of Zoos and Aquaria	Myfanwy.GRIFFITH	The Netherlands	West Europe

B	Strongly Supporting Option B	The WCS has concisely conveyed strong supporting arguments for an electronic vote. These arguments are supported by the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust. In particular, the uncertainty which will be prevalent throughout 2021 as to mass vaccination, travel and gatherings of 1000's of individuals ultimately means we cannot be sure that a physical congress will take place at any time in 2021. More realistically some form of electronic vote is the most likely outcome regardless of plans, if we are not to see current council terms extended indefinitely.	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	Lesley.DICKIE	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern	West Europe
B	Support for Option B	With so many uncertainties in the upcoming months, it is preferable to E-vote as soon as possible so that IUCN we can move forward.	International Primatological Society	karen.strier	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B Electronic Vote	On behalf of Island Conservation, I would like to record our support for Option B. Due to the uncertainty around COVID-19 and our collective ability to gather in person in 2021, option B is the most fair option to allow members to engage in the voting process. Even if we are able to hold a WCC, travel will likely still be restricted for many members due to continued virus and budget concerns, so Option B allows all members to participate.	Island Conservation	Penny.BECKER	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Strongly Support Option B	In the interest of good and effective governance of IUCN, we strongly support electing a new IUCN Council by electronic vote as soon as possible with installation immediately thereafter and hence strongly support Option B to have an electronic vote. The majority of Marseille motions were voted on electronically. Key matters such as adoption of the new 2021-24 program, the financial plan and new Commission Mandates will be voted on electronically. A new Council should be in place to implement these and other matters and to address critical issues facing IUCN in 2021. IUCN has experience with fair and equitable electronic voting and this can and should be readily applied to the Council elections. Much of the Congress is already virtual and the Council elections should follow suit. As noted by others, a physical Congress may not actually take place in 2021 and if so with likely reduced participation including taking into account Covid 19. An electronic vote for Council would be the most democratic means. As also noted by others, Council candidates should not have to wait	National Whistleblower Center	Scott.HAJOST	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Support for Option B: Electronic Vote for Council	In my role as a member of the SSC Steering Committee and as Co-Chair of the Freshwater Conservation Committee, I support Option B. I believe that it is important for IUCN to start the process of implementing its plans for the next four years under the guidance and leadership of the newly elected council. It is unclear when the next physical meeting for the Congress will be possible, and waiting until whenever that might happen would put a damaging delay on the ability to move forwards with the required institutional planning and decision-making. Therefore Option B is more realistic than Option A. In addition, it seems unreasonable to expect the existing candidates to continue campaigning on their platforms for an undetermined amount of time.	IUCN SSC Freshwater Conservation Committee 2017-2020	Ian.HARRISON	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	BirdLife International supports Option B	BirdLife International strongly supports Option B to undertake an electronic vote for Council in January 2021. Covid 19 means we are in extraordinary times, and we need to continue to adapt to operating remotely. There remains considerable uncertainty as to when a physical congress will take place and there are likely to be significant restrictions on international travel for some time. Electronic voting creates a level playing field and can ensure equal and effective participation of members in these important decisions. IUCN has a well developed and tested electronic system for discussion of several aspects of its work, including the voting on motions. We believe that it is important to move forwards with the Council elections, maintaining stability and leadership through next year and beyond.	BirdLife International	Melanie.HEATH	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	WWF supports option B – Electronic Option	WWF supports option B – Electronic Option. We are aware that this is not ideal and should be an exception to the rule. However, given that is not certain when we will be able to meet in person, it is important that the elections take place. We hope that there will be opportunities for all members to interact adequately with the candidates before the elections.	World Wide Fund for Nature - International	Luca.CHINOTTI	Switzerland	West Europe
B	Option B Electronic Vote	AWF supports an electronic vote given the continued uncertainty of the travel and meeting restrictions due to the COVID 19 pandemic and the evidence of turn-out from the recent round of e-voting on the motions, which appears consistent with past levels of participation.	African Wildlife Foundation - Kenya HQ	Andrea.Athanas	Kenya	Africa
B	OPTION B	EUROPARC Prefers OPTION B	EUROPARC Federation	Carol.RITCHIE	Germany	West Europe

B	Option B	The National Geographic Society supports option B to move forward with an electronic vote for elections before the Congress.	National Geographic Society	Catherine.WORKMAN	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B.	On behalf of the Sahara Conservation Fund and given the gravity of the health crisis that the world is facing, I do not see any option but to move to an electronic voting system. Ensuring that all eligible voters can access the portal and that there are controls against hacking/tampering and safeguards built-in to the system to mitigate duplications of votes should ensure that this approach is safe and secure.	Sahara Conservation Fund / United States of America	john.WATKIN.2	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B: electronic vote	On behalf of the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), I would like to express our support for option B . Although we understand the views from both sides, the pandemic has caused uncertainties that make it difficult to assess whether it will be safe or possible to host and attend a physical Congress in 2021. IUCN has an online voting system in place for motions so it would be possible to have a secure voting system for elections.	International Fund for Animal Welfare / United States of America	Lisa.KUBOTERA	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	OPTION B for Electronic Voting	Option to vote electronically will allow Members who cannot attend Congress in person to exercise their voting rights.	Regional Community Forestry Training Center / Thailand	JanalezzaEsteban.Thuaud	Thailand	South and East Asia
B	Option B	On behalf of Union of Czech and Slovak Zoos and its President we vote for OPTION B.	Unie Ceskych a Slovenskych Zoologickych Zahrad / Czech Republic	Josef.KINDL	Czech Republic	East Europe, North and Central Asia
B	Support for Option B - electronic vote	Due to the continued uncertainty with regard to the dates for the next Members Assembly, Fauna & Flora International supports Option B, the election of Council by electronic vote. This would allow a new Council to be established and delivery of IUCN's core work to progress without further delay.	Fauna & Flora International / United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Joanna.ELLIOTT.2	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	Support for Option B	The World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA), just like 10 of WAZA members have shared here, also supports Option B. The rationale behind this is the unpredictability already shared by others (travel restrictions, dates, attendance) and the need to establish a new Council. WAZA strongly supports that elections are held by an electronic vote of IUCN Members during the first quarter of 2021.	World Association of Zoos and Aquariums / Spain	Martin.Zordan	Spain	West Europe
B	Option B preferred	Given the uncertainty around when WCC will be held, and the likelihood that if a physical meeting is convened many IUCN members may not be able to attend in person, a electronic vote would be preferable.	The Born Free Foundation / United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	MARK.JONES	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	Option-B Election by Electronic Vote.	It is my suggestion to complete the Vote before Election at the early 2021.	Association for Rural Area Social Modification, Improvement and Nestling	Bikash.RAUTRAY	India	South and East Asia

B	Option B - Election by Electronic Vote	While there are still many variables, due to the pandemic, electronic voting enables more members to participate in voting without having to succumb to the risks of travel and COVID-19. Indeed there still remains the risk that the Marseilles Congress is postponed again. Electronic voting can take place closer to the end of the mandate of current Council members rather than extending them further.	Gallifrey Foundation	Antoinette.Vermilye.1	Switzerland	West Europe
B	Option B election by electronic vote	We support option b as being the most practical and most democratic approach under the present circumstances. Having certainty with the membership of the IUCN council is important to IUCN members, commissions and secretariat being able to continue to provide global leadership in a time when conservation issues could easily be sidelined. The lack of certainty regarding whether a Members Assembly can be held within a reasonable time frame suggests to us that delaying elections until the Marseille Congress is not in the best interest of IUCN members.	Institute of Foresters of Australia	William.JACKSON	Australia	Oceania
B	IUCN Congress: Discussion on IUCN elections	Option B as an exception to the rule, in the hope that in future we will be able to go back to the way voting used to be done ie at a physical congress.	Mauritian Wildlife Foundation	RabindraVikash.TATAYAH	Mauritius	Africa
B	ANA RITA PEREIRA ALVES	Prefiro a opção B, apoiando o voto eletrônico, porque com a situação atual desse Covid 19 teremos que agir assim para ganharmos tempo apoiando os candidatos e obtendo logo o resultado das votações.	Sociedade Civil Mimiraua	AnaRita.ALVES	Brazil	Meso and South America
B	Electronic elections	We support the option B - electronic elections because we need to adapt to the situation. If there are bureaucratic problems they can and should be resolved in the best possible way so that IUCN's work is not interrupted. We need to move forward	Associação de Preservação do Meio Ambiente e da Vida	miriam.PROCHNOW	Brazil	Meso and South America
B	Electronic elections	Option B	Eestimaa Looduse Fond	Silvia.LOTMAN	Estonia	East Europe, North and Central Asia
B	Option B	The lack of certainty regarding whether a Members Assembly can be held within a reasonable time frame suggests to us that delaying elections until the Marseille Congress is not in the best interest of the Union. We hope that effective e-voting mechanisms can be put in place for this round of voting, and voting in person will again be the norm once it is feasible to do so.	Community-Based Conservation and Development Research Center	Xiaodong.ren	China	South and East Asia
B	IUCN Congress: Discussion on IUCN elections	Although on behalf of the Namibia Nature Foundation, I tend towards Option B, a review of the current round of electronic voting on motions, will be instructive. What percentage of organisations have voted? As of Monday the 19th only 25 members in East & Southern Africa had actually voted, why? what was the final participation? So can we therefore have an overview of the participation in the e-voting on motions and if low reasons why, before weighing in on this discussion.	Namibia Nature Foundation	Angus.Middleton	Namibia	Africa
B	OPTION B - Electronic Vote	We support electronic voting, mainly because of the uncertainties of the pandemic.	Instituto Sociedade, População e Natureza	Fabio.VAZRIBEIRODEALMEIDA	Brazil	Meso and South America
B	Option B - Electronic Election	As we are voting on the global programme and financial plan in January – February 2021 the new Council needs to be in place as well so that the Union can continue its work.	Zoologisk Have København	Ann-Katrine.GARN	Denmark	West Europe

B	A favor de opción B	Nosotros también apoyamos la opción B. Hace varios meses que debimos haber elegido las autoridades para el nuevo cuatrienio y aun no tenemos certidumbre de cuando vaya a realizarse el Congreso. Naturalmente, todos quisiéramos poder reunirnos, conversar, discutir nuestras prioridades futuras y celebrar el trabajo de la Unión. Deseamos que esto ocurra lo antes posible, pero con la nueva ola de Covid-19 y el cierre de las fronteras en muchas partes del mundo, incluso si el gobierno de Francia decidiera hacer una reunión física en 2021, es muy poco probable que estaría abierta a la visita de delegados de todas las naciones donde hay Miembros de la Unión. Creemos que la opción electrónica cumple la función administrativa de permitir la renovación del liderazgo, a la vez que ofrece mayor equidad y brinda una mayor oportunidad de participación, independientemente de cuándo podremos viajar nuevamente.	PROVITA	Irene.ZAGER	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Meso and South America
B	Option B	Since we have no idea when we will be able to gather in a normal fashion again, I support Option B. WE should allow the next President to get on with the job and not wait an indefinite amount of time.	Thinking Animals, Inc.	Bonnie.Wyper	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B - Electronic vote	We choose B, because the meeting is delayed again. We do not know when it will be held. The new responsible persons should be allowed to take the charge to move work on as soon as possible.	International Alliance of Protected Areas	Rongjie.Zhang	China	South and East Asia
B	Option B	Environmental Defense Fund supports proceeding with an electronic vote to maintain IUCN Council leadership during these uncertain times. While in person voting is preferable, the timeframe and constraints imposed by the COVID pandemic means that electronic voting appears necessary for optimal IUCN function and to enable full participation in selection of the President and Council.	Environmental Defense Fund	Doria.GORDON	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Strongly supporting Option B	<i>Synchronicity Earth strongly supports Option B. It is our view that the moral mandate of the existing Council has expired. We elected them for 4 years in 2016, and we need to hold electronic elections for a new Council as soon as possible. IUCN Members are experienced with electronic votes, and the candidates have already been presenting themselves to the Members through electronic means. It is not reasonable to expect candidates to run campaigns lasting 18 months, and we fear that some outstanding candidates might have no option but to withdraw. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that the Members Assembly can take place in September 2021 in Marseille, so we do not even know that option A is viable. However, we do know that Option B is viable. IUCN needs to move ahead, and needs a new Council to lead it through the critical challenges of 2021 and beyond. While we can understand that some Members would prefer to get to know the candidates face-to-face in Marseille, we do not even know that this will be possible during 2021, and we consider that the downsides of retaining a Council whose mandate has effectively expired to be a much greater problem. It is for these reasons that we believe that IUCN must have the boldness to choose Option B.</i>	Synchronicity Earth	Simon.STUART	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	Strongly supporting Option B - Electronic Vote	Looking forward to the future, the world needs to look at creating alternatives to in-person voting and events, as difficult as this may be to accept. With multiple stressors including pandemics and climate change, it is preferable to set up future-friendly systems such as electronic voting now. Even now, as climate change accelerates, the carbon footprint of air travel will be less and less acceptable, especially to environmental organizations such as members of the IUCN. Many of us would all rather have the direct contact of face-to-face meetings, but this is 2020, and these are the cold hard facts of the world we live in. In addition, Mission Blue supports voting on, and having in place a new Council as soon as possible, to move forward in a multitude of critical areas as we work together to save our blue planet. We support Option B.	SYLVIA EARLE ALLIANCE (DBA MISSION BLUE)	Deb.CASTELLANA	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B	Given the circumstances and the uncertainty over when the World Congress will take place given pandemic restrictions, WWT believes it would be best to undertake IUCN elections electronically and support Option B. We have read the arguments for waiting until Congress and, although compelling, on balance we think the members are best served by a newly elected leadership with a mandate. To mitigate the issue raised, we suggest the Council members consider how members could engage with candidates remotely prior to election and whether some form of 'officer-elect' process could be used so that existing Council members could offer some impartial support to new members prior to full installation of the new Council at Congress.	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust	James.ROBINSON	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	Many thanks for the	Many thanks for the opportunity to vote. With the ongoing pandemic, I strongly support option B, to undertake an electronic vote for Council in January 2021.	Emirates Environmental Group	Habiba.ALMARASHI	United Arab Emirates	West Asia
B	Aaranyak support for Option B	Due to uncertainty still prevails related to effective control of COVID-19 pandemic, and as the IUCN council term has already expired, Aaranyak, as a member of IUCN, would opt for Option-B to let members vote electronically.	Aaranyak	bibhab.TALUKDAR	India	South and East Asia

B	EDN supports Option B	Earth Day Network would like to voice its strong support for option B.	Earth Day Network	jason.gooljar	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	ZSL support for Option B	The Zoological Society of London supports option B. While we accept that the Congress offers a unique opportunity to meet and interact with candidates for Council, the reality is that many IUCN Members are very likely to be compromised in their ability to attend WCC, if indeed it takes place at all. The mandate for the current Council has expired and we agree with the sentiment of others that we have the means to press ahead. This said, we believe that this online discussion, and overall confidence in Option B, would perhaps be helped if it were supported by the results of the recently concluded electronic voting process and showed that it did indeed enjoy "good participation" of IUCN Members.	Zoological Society of London	hoffmannm	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	Commonland supports Option B	The uncertainty due to the pandemic still continues and will not be going away in January 2021. Its why we prefer option B as it will gives us time to know the candidates better, while this will certainly not be possible when we chose for option A.	Commonland	Willem.FERWERDA	The Netherlands	West Europe
B	Marine Research Foundation (Malaysia) Supports Option B	There is still much uncertainty surrounding the timing of the next WCC. In addition, there potentially are limits to who will be able to attend the WCC in Marseille, which would mean a potentially inaccurate representation of the floor. However, electronic voting is open to everyone, and has already been proven successful. The world can not continually postpone events because of the pandemic - we need solutions not delays. I vote for Option B.	Marine Research Foundation	nicolas.pilcher	Malaysia	South and East Asia
B	ZOO supports Option B	<i>Zoo Outreach Organization supports Option B. 2020 is special for the various compromises worldwide. It has provided new options globally and electronic elections for a new Council is an opportunity to adapt to the times. Since the candidates are already reaching out to the members electronically, there is no need to push the already delayed election process to the next uncertain WCC meeting, which is dependent on several factors varying considerably across the globe for members to be present personally.</i>	Zoo Outreach Organisation Trust	sanjay.MOLUR	India	South and East Asia
B	Singapore Zoological Gardens supports Option B	Singapore Zoological Gardens supports Option B. It is clearly the most viable option as there is no guarantee that the Members Assembly can take place in September 2021 in Marseille. We believe that IUCN needs to move ahead, and that includes establishing a new Council to address the many upcoming challenges. Waiting for the IUCN WCC to happen will cause unnecessary delays. Also, online voting has proven to work well, and we feel that members should be familiar and comfortable with the process. We sincerely hope that IUCN will choose Option B.	Singapore Zoological Gardens	sonja.LUZ	Singapore	South and East Asia
B	Strongly prefer option B	Global Wildlife Conservation strongly supports Option B. Given the uncertainty of COVID-19, and with infection rates rising again in many places, we are concerned that an in-person vote will disenfranchise many members who will be unable to attend a physical congress due to safety concerns, travel restrictions, and budget shortfalls. We agree that the mandate of the existing Council has expired and that the elections need to be held as soon as possible. There is no guarantee that a physical WCC can take place in 2021. Members will already be voting electronically on a number of important governance issues.	Global Wildlife Conservation	Penny.LANGHAMMER	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Support for Option B	We agree with the views expressed by Conservation International and others in support of Option B, electronic voting. Given the uncertainty of COVID-19 and our ability to potentially hold in person gatherings, option B provides the most democratic way that IUCN members can engage in the voting process for President and Council. It permits us to execute our rights and demonstrate good governance as a Union. In addition, Council has already made decisions to do electronic voting for seven items that usually take place at the in-person members' assembly, it would seem consistent and manageable to do the same with elections. Even if we do have a WCC, it will be significantly smaller and will limit the in-person voting ability of many members who may not be able to travel due to health and safety reasons or shrinking budgets.	Bank Information Center	Lawrence.CONNELL	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Support for Option B: Electronic Vote for Council	Development Alternatives, India, strongly endorses Option B. Since the Union has established the effectiveness of electronic voting for so many important decisions already, there is no reason for delaying the elections any longer than necessary.	Development Alternatives	Ashok.KHOSLA	India	South and East Asia

B	Support for Option B	Isha Outreach is in support of Option B for electronic vote. Given future uncertainties around the pandemic as well as disproportionate challenges that certain groups will face in being physically present at the Congress, we feel that an electronic vote is most fair and appropriate. Thank you.	Isha Outreach	Tara.Pahwa	India	South and East Asia
B	Support for Option B: Electronic Vote for IUCN Council.	On behalf of Fondo Procuencia Valle de Bravo, A. C. I express our preference for option B. IUCN has come a long way in developing a more agile process for motion discussion and voting. The use of electronic tools is in general a great way to achieve communication and decision making goals in a big and truly world wide organisation. These platforms also provide new opportunities for council selection in view of our current uncertainties for the IUCN World Conservation Congress. We must adapt given current circumstances. Additionally, nature and the degradation processes going on will not wait, other international organisations are moving fast and adapting to this new reality. If we are to be "the voice of nature" at the highest level of world wide discussion, our agenda to renew our leadership must go on without delay.	Fondo Pro-Cuenca Valle de Bravo A.C.	Alejandro.CUSI	Mexico	Meso and South America
B	Support for Option B	The Center for Large Landscape Conservation supports Option B. The work must carry on despite the impacts of the COVID pandemic.	Center for Large Landscape Conservation	Gary.Tabor.1	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	OPTION B: electronic vote	The Council's mandate has already expired and we cannot be sure that a face-to-face Congress can actually take place in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the lack of a proven effective vaccine and the uncertainty of new outbreaks. It is crucial and urgent to define the new composition of the Council to ensure the implementation, as soon as possible, of new actions to improve and strengthen the IUCN. Thus the electronic vote in early 2021 is undoubtedly the best option for the optimal operation of IUCN.	Fondo para la Biodiversidad CONABIO	Sofia.TREVIñOHERES	Mexico	Meso and South America
B	WRI Supports Option B	WRI agrees with the arguments of those who support Option B, which we see as important for getting on with IUCN's business in an uncertain time, especially given the COVID-19 developments in Europe over the past week or two.	World Resources Institute	Chip.BARBER	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	44197	I strongly support option B, hold electronic vote in January 2021 and elect the new council, new commission leaders and new President	Faunam A.C./PG7	Ramón.PEREZ-GILSALCIDO	Mexico	Meso and South America
B	Support for Option B: Electronic Vote	Keystone Foundation, India understands that remote electronic voting does pose challenges, though it is imperative. What we need to do is ensure that people understand the technology, process and schedules are planned to accommodate time zones etc. We need to adapt and adopt, be responsive. We cannot halt the process of change. We support the electronic vote as outlined in Option B.	Keystone Foundation	Anita.VARGHESE	India	South and East Asia
B	Support for Option B: Electronic Vote for Council	Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests, India, endorses Option B (Electronic Vote for Council). The electronic voting was easy and streamlined for voting for the 100+ motions so Council Elections should take place and there should not be a delay. Also technically the tenure for current Council is complete and being a representative forum we should be fair with our procedures and be equally enthusiastic about the e-voting for selection of our new council. And uncertainty looms over the world due to the pandemic and we don't know what more can happen in coming days.	Network for Certification and Conservation of Forests	Sachin.Jain	India	South and East Asia
B	Option B for the IUCN elections	The chances of physical holding IUCN's Congress seems meager considering the second and third waves of pandemic. Therefore we should go for digital voting for all types of elections including the election of president and online holding of our congress. Kind regards, Zia	AWAZ Foundation Pakistan: Center for Development Services	Zia.REHMAN	Pakistan	South and East Asia
B	support for Option B	Dear all: Living in France I know the situation related to the Covid crisis and I am sure that the Marseille Conference will not take place in June and will have to be postponed again. And we cannot just wait and wait to take important decisions. Therefore, I strongly support Option B	Association Beauval Nature pour la Conservation et la Recherche	Eric.BAIRRAORUIVO	France	West Europe

B	Option B. Electronic voting	Option B. We at OMCAR Foundation prefer Option B electronic voting.	OMCAR Foundation	vedharajan.balaji	India	South and East Asia
B	Support for Option B	INTACH, India endorses Option B as this enables all members to participate. Not all members make it to WCC even when travel restrictions were not there. Moreover, IUCN has a robust e-voting system which is being used currently for other important decisions and votes.	Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage	Ritu.SINGH	India	South and East Asia
B	Support for Option B	InterEnvironment Institute, US, an IUCN Member since 1980, strongly supports Option B. The voting process shouldn't be allowed to drag on for months.	InterEnvironment Institute	ThaddeusTed.TRZYNA	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B in Marseille	On behalf of China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation, we see option B-electronic vote as the most practical solution when considering the current situation under coronavirus pandemic.	China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation	Yanqing.WANG	China	South and East Asia
B	Electronic Vote, Support for Option B	Prokriti O Jibon Foundation (Nature & Life Foundation) support for option B, electronic voting.	Prokriti O Jibon Foundation	Shamim.AHMED	Bangladesh	South and East Asia
B	Support for Option B: Electronic Vote	The Corbett Foundation, India, strongly endorses Option B: Electronic Vote . Given the uncertainty due to COVID-19 pandemic, electronic vote option is the most pragmatic to go ahead with.	The Corbett Foundation	Kedar.GORE	India	South and East Asia
B	Support for Option B - electronic vote for Council	ECO prefers Option B and most New Zealand members, as we understand it do as well. Reasons: Option A is fundamentally unsafe, uncertain, and may not be viable at all. Option A is also prohibitively expensive with very expensive airfares that are prone to frequent cancellations, zero insurance against COVID-related disruptions and hence huge risks of costs of medical treatment if needed, and for us, would require 2 weeks of managed isolation when we return. The overall costs would be huge. Greenhouse gas emissions would be high. The idea mooted by colleagues that there are places with low COVID that the meeting could be shifted to is probably not feasible. Such countries would probably not welcome thousands of conference goers. Option B by contrast is doable and much more democratic - it would allow all member bodies to vote so would be more democratic. It should be accompanied by a series of electronic candidate meetings at a variety of times to accommodate different time zones. Questions could be asked. About interpretation into IUCN's official languages, there is a programme that is in use in diplomatic e-meetings that provides for simultaneous interpretation - CCAMLR is using one for its meeting as I write this, so that can be dealt with. It can be expensive, but given the savings of costs elsewhere, and simultaneous translation would be used anyway, it would probably be within IUCN's budget. Greenhouse gases would be saved.	Environment and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand	Catherine.Wallace	New Zealand	Oceania
B	Support option B	After revising the arguments and legal consulting status. my organization is supporting Option B to enhance the adoption according to the current COVID 19 situation.	The Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development	Muttasim.ALHAYARI	Jordan	West Asia
B	Support for Option B: Electronic Vote for Council	From my side, one of the strongest point for supporting the electronic voting "Option B" is the need to give alla the members the same possibility to exercise their right of choosing, selecting, and electing their delegates. Therefore, from my point of view, this way of electronic voting (for Councillors, President and all the other positions) should be part of the IUCN Statute rules.	Comitato Italiano IUCN	Corrado.TEOFILI	Italy	West Europe

B	Support for Option B: Elections of the IUCN Council	<p>Wildlife Trust of India strongly supports Option B. The mandate of current Council to continue is over and we should not delay the election. We suggest to hold electronic elections for the new Council at the earliest and by now IUCN members are quite used to working on virtual platforms and online voting should not be a problem. They have already used online consultation for discussion on motions and have voted electronically.</p> <p>We are unsure if the Members Assembly will at all take place in 2021 in Marseille looking at the current pandemic situation and the second wave that has hit many countries. Even if it happens, not sure how many people are willing to travel. Hence, option-A does not look to be a viable option. We sincerely believe that in this challenging time, a new Council will be better placed to lead IUCN and move ahead with its mandate and plans and work creatively using online platforms and modern technology. In the current scenario, Option B seems to be the most viable option and we request IUCN to conduct electronic voting to elect the new Council.</p>	Wildlife Trust of India	Vivek.MENON	India	South and East Asia
B	Option B	yes, given the current epidemic circumstances we have to go with option B, even though it is not the ideal option and some may need technical support/access to do the same. The new team has to be in place at the earliest as there is lot to be done now!	Centre for Media Studies	Vasanti.RAO	India	South and East Asia
B	Election of the IUCN Council	On behalf of the CUTGANA (Univeversity of Catania, Italy) I would like to state our preference for Option B	Università degli Studi di Catania - Centro universitario per la tutela e la gestione degli ambienti naturali ed agro-ecosistemi	Giovanni.SIGNORELLO	Italy	West Europe
B	Voting For electronic election option B	I think it will be mor appropriate with covide 19 and less carbon footprint.	Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature	yehya.khaled	Jordan	West Asia
B	Elections of the Council: support option B	Due to the pandemic, we would support option B considering also that electronic vote will enable more members to participate to the election	Istituto Pangea -Onlus- Istituto Europeo per l'Educazione e la Formazione Professionale per l'Ambiente	Rita.DESTEFANO	Italy	West Europe
B	Option B electronic Vote	Dear colleagues, I prefer the Option B Electronic Vote. All the best, Angioletta Voghera	CED-PPN Centro Europeo di Documentazione sulla Pianificazione dei Parchi Naturali (DIST-Politecnico di Torino)	Angioletta.VOghERA	Italy	West Europe
B	Strongly Supporting Option B.	On behalf of the Association for Forests, Development & Conservation-AFDC, I would like to record our preference for Option B. Given the uncertainty of COVID-19, and noting that it is impossible to predict when pandemic will end, we find option B provides the most democratic way that IUCN members can engage in the voting process with risking it by engaging in person gatherings. Additionally, all council members already do electronic voting for several items that usually take place at the in-person members assembly, it would seem obvious to do the same with elections.	Association for Forests, Development and Conservation	Sawsan.BOUFAKHREDDINE	Lebanon	West Asia
B	Option B	The Endangered Wildlife Trust strongly supports Option B. The existing Council was elected for 4 years in 2016, and we need to hold electronic elections for a new Council as soon as possible. IUCN Members are experienced with electronic votes, and the candidates have already been presenting themselves to the Members through electronic means. There is no guarantee that the congress will even be able to place in September 2021 so we do not even know that option A is viable. However, we do know that Option B is viable. IUCN needs to move ahead, and needs a new Council to lead it through the critical challenges of 2021 and beyond. We do not know if face-to-face meetings and elections will be possible in 2020. We also believe that IUCN needs to adopt an electronic way of working ASAP in order to accommodate future pandemics and possible lockdowns and reduce our own carbon footprint. This is an opportunity to do so.	Endangered Wildlife Trust	yolan.friedmann	South Africa	Africa
B	supporting elections of the Council by electronic vote	Unione Zoologica Italiana definitely prefers Option B. The uncertainty of the pandemic makes difficult to predict if and when the Congress can be celebrated in person. IUCN needs to have a new Council and president as soon as possible to start planning and implementing the programme of the next quadrennium. The electronic vote would ensure a broader participation to the election than the limited number of people who will manage to attend the Congress in person.	Unione Zoologica Italiana onlus	luigi.BOITANI	Italy	West Europe

B	Option B electronic vote	On behalf of the Sibthorp Trust I would like express support for the e vote in order to remove uncertainty and ensure the fullest participation in the process.	The Sibthorp Trust	Edward.MALTBY	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	Option B electronic vote	Emirates Nature-WWF also supports option B. Given the uncertain circumstances with COVID 19, we recognize that the IUCN Congress might be further delayed. At the same time IUCN would need to continue progressing on matters related to its mandate. As the world has started to adopt to the new reality, virtual meetings have become of paramount importance to connect people, organizations and colleagues. With the help of technology, IUCN members would be able to vote and interact with a freshly elected council to advance on key issues related to IUCN.	Emirates Nature-WWF	Laila.ABDULLATIF	United Arab Emirates	West Asia
B	Option B to hold electronic voting during first quarter of 2021	I support holding an electronic vote during the first quarter of 2021 as the safest option considering the COVID situation. However, I strongly urge that members with electronic voting limitations be given the option to submit a mail-in ballot (or other alternative) as a reasonable accommodation for voting.	Hawai'i Conservation Alliance Foundation	Paul.Conry	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	OPTION B ELECTRONIC VOTING	A Rocha Ghana opts for electronic voting for two reasons: 1. The election of a new council now is necessary as the mandate of the current council comes to an end. We do not need to wait to vote in a new council at the congress in Marseille, France. 2. Marseille in-person congress is not 100% guaranteed, it depends on the global situation with COVID-19 and in case Marseille is postponed, we will have an electronic voting so why don't we have it now?	A ROCHA GHANA	Daryl.BOSU.1	Ghana	Africa
B	Option B is critical in this Year of Biodiversity	Rainforest Trust strongly supports Option B, electronic elections. With the upcoming Convention on Biological Diversity Conference of the Parties planned for 2021 and other activities moved from 2020, the coming year is too important for the future of life on Earth for IUCN to be led by lame duck leaders, regardless how qualified. We need a new team, with a full mandate, to represent IUCN and our members and drive the conservation agenda forward in this critical Year of Biodiversity. Moreover, member organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, now have access to internet tools to allow for full and equitable engagement with the candidates and participation in the election. In fact, should a physical WCC actually occur in 2021, it is more likely that attendance at that event would be inequitable because of differences in access to Covid-19 vaccines etc.	Rainforest Trust	James.DEUTSCH.1	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B: elections are held by an electronic vote of Members	We believe that, given the limitations of the Corona pandemic and the uncertainty of the congress date, and on the other hand the close connection of many people with cyberspace in the current situation, electronic voting is an appropriate, fair and democratic way to elect the council members at the appointed time.	Center for Conservation and Development of Sustainable Ecosystems (ZIPAK)	mina.esteghamat	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	West Asia
B	I think option B, E vote, is	I think option B, E vote, is best in the current circumstances. Whether we even have a congress in 2021 is uncertain, given the recent resurgence of COVID 19 in Europe. An e vote will at least give certainty to some aspects of the future, and allow current and new Council members to get on with their lives.		kelvin.PASSFIELD	Cook Islands	Oceania
B	Option B - Electronic Vote	While recognizing the value of in-person discussions and voting, the Pew Charitable Trusts supports moving to an electronic vote on an exceptional basis given continued uncertainty over the date of the next Congress and questions about whether all IUCN members will be able to attend the next Congress in person. We believe it is important for IUCN to continue its conservation work despite the covid pandemic and that moving forward with the elections will allow it to do so more effectively.	The Pew Charitable Trusts	Guinnevere.Roberts	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B	Option B, the electronic vote, seems to make the most sense given the uncertainty of whether there will even be a Marsailles meeting in 2021	Turks & Caicos Reef Fund Inc.	Don.STARK	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe

B	Option B - Electronic Voting	Given the unprecedented situation of the pandemic, we believe its best to go electronically with voting the new members, so that they can continue the work of the Union and fully participate in its working, without waiting, as the situation is uncertain in many ways.	Green Future Foundation	Lima.ROSALIND.2	India	South and East Asia
B	Supporting Option B-- Electronic Vote	Given the uncertainties associated with the global pandemic, and the high likelihood of travel restrictions extending into 2021, Jackson Wild supports a timely electronic vote. The critical issues facing our planet continue to mount and IUCN must move forward. Leadership and action cannot wait--delaying these important decisions hurts us all.	Jackson Wild (aka Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival)	Lisa.SAMFORD.1	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B	We are going through unprecedented conditions and to adapt I think we can keep going online.	Lebanon Reforestation Initiative	Joseph.Bechara	Lebanon	West Asia
B	Support Option B	It is the opinion of the Margaret Pyke Trust that option B is preferable. Council has already determined that an electronic vote for seven items usually taking place "in-person" is the best course of action for those seven items, and we do not see any particular reason for the Council elections to be treated any differently. Even if a physical meeting is possible in 2021, there is no clarity as to when it might be, and we feel it is important that the new Council is in post to implement the new Programme.	Margaret Pyke Trust	David.JOHNSON	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	Election before or during Congress	Option B The Centre for Environment and Development Studies strongly supports Option B. The world is moving on through electronic means. IUCN Members are experienced with electronic votes, and the candidates have already been presenting themselves to the Members through electronic means. There is no guarantee that the Members Assembly can take place in September 2021 in Marseille, so we do not even know if option A is possible. IUCN needs to move ahead, and needs a new Council to lead it through the critical challenges of 2021 and beyond. It is for these reasons that we believe that IUCN should choose Option B	Centre d'Etude de l'Environnement et du Développement au Cameroun	Pricelia.TUMENTA.2	Cameroun	Africa
B	Option B - Electronic Election	We would like to vote for Option B	Centre of Live and Learn for Environment and Community	Nguyet.DO	Viet Nam	South and East Asia
B	electoral debate and elections of the IUCN Council	Option B: Election by an Electronic Vote It would have been to vote in person, but given the current circumstances and uncertainties around how long will these last, it would be prudent to conduct electronic voting.	World Wide Fund for Nature - India	Ravi.Singh	India	South and East Asia
B	Option B electronic vote	On behalf of BIAZA and bearing in mind the uncertainties over the feasibility of future physical conferences, I would like to add our support for an electronic vote.	British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums	nicky.NEEDHAM	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	West Europe
B	Option B	On behalf of my organization, I am glad to have opportunity to express our opinions for the first time since join as a member. I strongly believe two things – the shows must go on and changing attitude. The pandemic impact is uncertain and really we don't what is awaiting for upcoming. So obviously, I am vowing for the option B comprising of some suggestion as all the member may not have comfort or technically sound in this process. 1. Each country IUCN office can arrange necessary training/ briefing session through zoom to give comfort to all members. 2. A voting manual /video document can be prepared and shared to all members across the world so that they can easily understand the whole process.	Jiban Bikash Karjocrom	MirzaShamimAhasan.HABIB	Bangladesh	South and East Asia

B	voting	We support the option B - electronic voting for elections because we need to adapt to the COVID situation. If there are bureaucratic problems they can and should be resolved in the best possible way so that IUCN's work is not interrupted.	Shirkat Gah - Womens Resource Centre	HumairaMumtaz.SHEIKH	Pakistan	South and East Asia
B	Option B	Dear Colleagues, Vogelbescherming Nederland (BirdLife Netherlands) supports option B, considering the given arguments. Kind regards and good luck to all of you. Manon Tentij	Vogelbescherming Nederland	Manon.TENTIJ	The Netherlands	West Europe
B	Option B: Electronic vote	H.E.J. Research institute of Chemisttu supports a prior electronic voting due to the global pandemic COVID-19 situatio. The congress time can be utilized in discussing the fruitful strategies to combat COVID-19.	H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry	Muniza.SHAIKH	Pakistan	South and East Asia
B	option B	As the COVID-19 pandemic is still in a vague place, electronic voting seem more fitting.	West Asia - North Africa (WANA) Institute	Reem.ALHADDADIN	Jordan	West Asia
B	Option B - Electronic vote	Due to the uncertainties caused by Covid19 and the availability of reliable and efficient technology, the option for electronic voting is the most viable and coherent at this time.	Sociedade para a Conservação das Aves do Brasil - SAVE Brasil	pedro.DEVELEY	Brazil	Meso and South America
B	Option B Electronic Vote	In view of the persistant delays and postponement of WCC to be held in Marseille twice due to COVID-19, the option for electronic voting is supported enabling the newly elected IUCN President and council members to perform their unintererupted role and responsibilities irrespective of WCC meeting.	SACAN Foundation	MushtaqAhmad.GILL	Pakistan	South and East Asia
B	Option B	Considering our possible inability to hold in-person events in the near future due to COVID-19, we strongly urge for Option B as the most democratic way forward for the IUCN elections.	Balipara Tract & Frontier Foundation / India	Saurav.Malhotra	India	South and East Asia
B	Biodiversity And Nature	Biodiversity And Nature Conservation Association (BANCA) agree to option B to move forward with an electronic vote for elections before the Congress.	Biodiversity And Nature Conservation Association / Myanmar	MinThiha.Zaw	Myanmar	South and East Asia
B	e-vote: Option B	I have been speaking with many colleagues as I consider how to vote on this important matter. Just a few weeks ago, I (and they) was quite supportive of an in-person meeting and election in Marseille. Reasons for this view were included (1) a clean "hand off" from one Council to the next, (2) opportunities to have time to meet with and fully understand the positions each of the candidates, (3) technology limitations in some parts of the world which might disenfranchise some members. Now, views have changed, owing in part to heightened concerns about Covid-19 as cases increase in many parts of the world. Furthermore, the confidence that a vaccine will be widely and equitably available in time for a September 2021 WCC have diminished significantly. In addition, many smaller organizations have lost a lot of their income and other funding, and are therefore unlikely to be able to travel internationally in 2021. International travel is banned by my university and will likely continue well into 2021. This is not the outcome I was expecting just a few weeks ago. One value of in-person meetings is to better become acquainted with colleagues and with other cultures. This can only happen with personal interactions. However, as I state, I have lost confidence that Covid-19 will be managed sufficiently, equitably, and globally in time for a fully programmed WCC.	Cornell Botanic Gardens / United States of America	christopher.dunn	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean

B	OPTION B	OPTION B please The IUCN must get on with its work, which includes new leadership. Assuming that the WCC meets in November 2021 is just that, an assumption. Therefore let's do the vote on-line and usher in new leadership as required in our Union protocols. Members are very accustomed to electronic voting. Let's get on with it. Thank you all for your work on behalf of a strong, more vital, and relevant Union.	The WILD Foundation / United States of America	Vance.Martin	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	WCC will likely be postponed to 2022 - Vote by option B NOW!	IUCN members must be allowed to Vote now. We expect that WCC will be held in 2022 as over a year of conferences are trying to reschedule for late 2021 (when existing conferences have already booked!). So do not expect WCC before June 2022! Let's get on with it.	Rasmussen Family Foundation / United States of America	Paul.SALAMAN	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B (e-vote)	ELI supports the e-vote option. It is fast, efficient, and allows members who are not able to go to the Congress to vote easily. Moreover, with the sustained struggles with the pandemic, there is no certainty that the Congress can (or should) be held in 2021. The vote should proceed, and an e-vote would be the best way to do so under the circumstances.	Environmental Law Institute / United States of America	Carl.BRUCH	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Support for option B- electronic vote	On behalf of Lincoln Park Zoo, I would like to express my support for option B- electronic vote. Given the current status of the global pandemic and the uncertain timeframe when convening in person will be feasible, we think this will be the best approach to move forward.	Lincoln Park Zoo / United States of America	Sunny.Nelson	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B	Safari Club International Foundation supports Option B for an electronic vote.	Safari Club International Foundation / United States of America	Joseph.GOERGEN	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B Electronic Vote	The Honolulu Zoo supports Option B for an electronic vote due to the current times with COVID19. We need to continue moving forward with addressing conservation concerns and issues. Electronic vote seems to be the safest way to do this during this pandemic....Aloha and mahalo.	Honolulu Zoological Society / United States of America	Laura.DEBNAR	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Support for Option B - electronic vote	<i>The Association of Zoos and aquariums supports Option B. We believe that IUCN Members are experienced with electronic votes, and the candidates have already been presenting themselves to the Members through electronic means. Also, given the uncertainty around future meeting planning, we urge proceeding with a process that we are confident is viable and certain. In such uncertain times, we urge IUCN to move ahead, and to establish a new Council to lead it through the critical challenges ahead. For these reasons we believe that IUCN should choose Option B.</i>	Association of Zoos and Aquariums / United States of America	Craig.Hoover	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Support for Option B - electronic vote	Marine Conservation Biology Institute strongly supports Option B to vote electronically. Given the ongoing uncertainty for 2021 due to COVID19 pandemic we urge the IUCN to move forward and establish a new council. Electronic voting is the only safe way to do so.	Marine Conservation Biology Institute / United States of America	Lance.Morgan	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	support for Option B	The Center for Conservation Strategy of The New York Botanical Garden supports Option B.	Center for Conservation Strategy, The New York Botanical Garden / United States of America	Brian.Boom	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Support for Option B - electronic vote for IUCN Council	The Natural Resources Defense Council strongly supports Option B, wherein elections are held by electronic vote of IUCN Members during the first quarter of 2021. Nature is in crisis. Ecosystems around the world are in steep decline, jeopardizing their ability to provide the foundational services humans rely on to thrive. Around a million species are threatened with extinction, many within decades, and approximately half of those species have insufficient habitat for long term survival. The IUCN has a significant role to play in countering this crisis and a new Council will be in a better position to start that work now and provide the continuity over the next years we need to ensure IUCN rises to the challenge. Given the urgency of the challenge we face, we must act now to put a new Council in place.	Natural Resources Defense Council / United States of America	Zak.Smith	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean

B	support for Option B	Dear colleagues, I prefer the Option B electronic Vote. Best wishes	China Green Carbon Foundation / China	Yeyun.HE	China	South and East Asia
B	evoting	i prefere option B because global pendamic time is not suitable for physically present.	Samrachayan Bikash Foundation / Nepal	shailendra.POKHAREL	Nepal	South and East Asia
B	Physical voting a the congress	My organization is in favour of physical voting at the congress, because it's a tradition, we learn more about the candidates and it provides an opportunity to interact more, it creates a festive environment that we enjoy. We have to think that we had to compromise with many things., national and international, beacuse of COVID. WE put our confidence on the present council through voting and trust they could lead us to the next congress.	Nature Conservation Management / Bangladesh	MdAbdurRob.MOLLAH	Bangladesh	South and East Asia
B	Option B	Herp Conservation Ghana supports Option B. We need to hold electronic elections for a new Council as soon as possible which makes option B ideal. Morally speaking the mandate of the existing Council has expired. We need fresh hands to stir the affairs of the IUCN in such a crucial time. We believe that the candidates have made themselves already very known to us through their promotional videos and emails. Moreover, IUCN Members have demonstrated that they are experienced with electronic votes. We are particularly concerned that there is no guarantee that the Members Assembly can take place in September 2021 in Marseille, so we do not even know if option A is really an option at all. However, we do know that Option B can work and get the organization on its feet and running. For the reasons expressed above, we believe that IUCN should choose Option B.	Herp Conservation Ghana / Ghana	Caleb.OFORIBOATEG	Ghana	Africa
B	In Favour of Option B electronic vote	<i>Applied Environmental Research Foundation India , supports Option B. It is our view that the moral mandate of the existing Council has expired. We elected them for 4 years in 2016, and we need to hold electronic elections for a new Council as soon as possible. IUCN Members are experienced with electronic votes, and some of the candidates have already been presenting themselves to the Members through electronic means. Pandemic and restriction on travel may not allow to have Members Assembly in September 2021 in Marseille, so we do not even know that option A is viable. Therefore we prefer to support Option B electronic Vote .</i>	Applied Environmental Research Foundation / India	Archana.GODBOLE	India	South and East Asia
B	IUCN council elections	Support for option B	Gujarat Ecology Society / India	Deepa.GAVALI	India	South and East Asia
B	Support for option B	TERRE policy centre go for option B for obvious reason that the the new council needs to elect as soon as possible. This is the way to go.	TERRE Policy Centre / India	Vinitaa.APTE	India	South and East Asia
B	Option-B Election by Electronic Vote	Support for option B	Thardeep Rural Development Programme / Pakistan	GhulamMustafa.SOOMRO	Pakistan	South and East Asia
B	Mode of IUCN elections-Option B	We select option B for voting prior to IUCN Congress. Regards, Dinesh Reddy Foundation for Ecological Security	Foundation for Ecological Security / India	DineshReddy.MALIPEDI	India	South and East Asia
B	Option B	Electronic voting is preferable and it will save time	Regional Centre for Development Cooperation / India	Kailash.DASH	India	South and East Asia

B	Mode of IUCN elections-Option B	Mode of IUCN elections-Option B We select option B for voting prior to IUCN Congress. Regards Dr. Pankaj Joshi Sahjeevan, Bhuj-Kachchh	Sahjeevan / India	PankajNaranbhai.JOSHI	India	South and East Asia
B	Option B	Syrain Society for Conservation of Wildlife support option B Electronic voting Electronic voting will allow all members to exercise their right to express opinion and vote on all IUCN topics. especially since many members may not have the opportunity to participate in Congress because of many reasons and difficulties.	The Syrian Society for the Conservation of Wildlife / Syrian Arab Republic	Akram.EISSADARWICH	Syrian Arab Republic	West Asia
B	WCC vote	Option B	Central Institute for Natural Resources and Environment Studies / Viet Nam	Hoangvan.THANG	Viet Nam	South and East Asia
B	Support for Option B	People are now familiar with the electronic mode. Rather than delaying the elections, it should be held.	Centre for Environment Education - Nehru Foundation for Development / India	kartikeya.SARABHAI	India	South and East Asia
B	Option B preferred	We are voting for <i>Option B</i> .	Haribon Foundation for the Conservation of Natural Resources / Philippines	GREGORIO.DELAROSAJR	Philippines	South and East Asia
B	Option B preferred	We are voting for option B	Jordanian Society for Organic Farming / Jordan	Mohammad.MAJDALAWI	Jordan	West Asia
B	I want to go for Option B	I want to go for Option (B): Arguments made by those members of Council in favour of holding elections by electronic vote early in 2021 (Option B).	Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation / India	Ravi.KAMBOJ	India	South and East Asia
B	CIEL supports Option B--with some reservations	The Center for International Environmental Law expresses its support for Option B, recourse to electronic voting, under the present extraordinary circumstances. While it is certainly to be hoped that the WCC can be successfully convened later in 2021, present circumstances make this more a possibility than a certainty. Moreover, barriers to travel and physical participation may exist for many member organizations for some time to come. Accordingly, CIEL considers proceeding with Option B advisable at the present time. CIEL notes, however, that the present system of electronic participation may pose significant barriers to effective participation for a wide array of reasons, including but not limited to the profound digital divide between members both within and among regions. As demonstrated in the voting analysis posted by the IUCN Secretariat on 10/26, regional participation rates in electronic voting vary widely. Moreover, the quantitative data on voting rates offer little insight into the qualitative nature of the voting process and whether members felt they had sufficient time and information to take decisions in which they have a high degree of confidence. These concerns are neither trivial, nor momentary. The COVID-19 pandemic provides an opportunity to review systems for decisionmaking in many international fora--including IUCN--to ensure they are as equitable and inclusive as possible. As a matter of priority, therefore, CIEL strongly encourages the Secretariat to solicit input from members on the timeframes, tools and flexible approaches that might best facilitate their meaningful and informed participation in the process.	Center for International Environmental Law / United States of America	Carroll.MUFFETT	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B electronic vote	Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales apoya la opción B. La votación y discusiones online han sido prácticas habituales de la UICN en los últimos tiempos, y están además en línea con los tiempos que corren. Necesitamos una UICN flexible, ajustada a las	Greenviet Biodiversity Conservation Centre / Viet Nam	Long.Ha.1	Viet Nam	South and East Asia

B	Option B for electronic elections	As a new member, I am glad to have the opportunity to express our opinions. The pandemic will be with us for a long time. WHO has expressed that it will possibly ebb out late 2022, early 2023. The Swedish authorities has decided that our current level of restrictions, will be in place at least until 2021. Even if nobody can know, it is very unsure if it will be safe to arrange a big meeting early autumn 2021. And even if it can be arranged, it is fair to assume that many members will not be able to come due to safety risks and travel implications. IUCN must be able to adapt it's ways of operating and to do that in a more agile way. Council has announced that the programme, the financial plan and a set of motions relating to governance issues, will be up for e-dialogue and later e-voting. For us, it feels natural to	Ajte, the Swedish museum for Saami culture and the mountain region	Elisabeth.pirak-kuoljok	Sweden	West Europe
B	Option B	We support option B as putting the new leadership in place is important as we move into the post 2020 efforts.	Chicago Botanic Garden	Gregory.MUELLER	United States of America	North America and the Caribbean
B	Option B	As the Marseille WCC is still uncertain, option B should be better. Furthermore, electric vote will enable people who could not travel to vote. In the future electric vote and virtual congresses could be a cost effective, environmental friendly and low carbon option and should be promoted.	International Network for Bamboo and Rattan	Jayaraman.Durai	China	South and East Asia
B	Option B	A poll completed by the Australian Committee for IUCN gains the insight that 100% of the respondents* believe that Option B - voting electronically is the best way forward. Please find the letter to the President attached. *with a response rate of 17% - a response 5%-30% is identified as typical for online polls	Australian National Committee of IUCN Members	madelon.willemsen	Australia	Oceania
B	Option B	Dr. Bruno Oberle, I am writing on behalf of the Canadian Committee of the IUCN (CCIUCN) regarding the decision to hold elections in person during the Congress or by electronic vote ahead of the Congress. It is CCIUCN's recommendation that "option B", elections are held by an electronic vote of the IUCN members during the first quarter of 2021 be adopted. Many of the issues identified with e-voting are manageable with some creativity and innovative thinking. It is critical that the IUCN continue to move forwards, demonstrating that it is capable of modernizing and adapting to new situations as they are presented. The pandemic has posed new challenges for everyone and it is unlikely to be the last major disruption to the lives of people around the world. Now more than ever, the IUCN must lead its members by example, reimagine the organization's processes and take the opportunity to further democratize the election process for members	National Committee of Canada	Lisa McLoughlin	Canada	North America and the Caribbean
B	Pour que les élections se tiennent par vote électronique	Bien qu'une interaction physique avec les différents candidats est fortement recommandée dans ce genre d'élection, je pense qu'actuellement l'alternative la plus pratique et la plus raisonnable, est d'opter pour l'option B, c'est-à-dire de veiller à assurer la tenue des élections d'une façon électronique, dès le début de l'année 2021. Les raisons sont d'une part l'expiration du mandat de l'actuel Conseil et le risque de la non disponibilité de certains conseillers et surtout l'expansion de la pandémie de COVID 19 à l'heure actuelle qui laisse penser que la tenue d'un congrès mondial présentiel de la nature dans les six prochains mois est de plus en plus éloignée que jamais. En plus on vient d'achever un processus de vote électronique de 109 motions et les membres se sont familiarisés avec.	Ministère de l'Environnement	Hatem.BENBELGACEM	Tunisia	Africa
B	Avis SREPEN-RNE	Pour la SREPEN-RNE, les élections de l'IUCN devraient avoir lieu par vote électronique avant le congrès.	Société Réunionnaise pour l'Etude et la Protection de l'Environnement Ile de la Réunion	Bernadette.ARDON	France	West Europe
B	Option B - vote électronique en janvier 2021	La meilleure option selon moi est celle du vote électronique en janvier 2021 (Option B). Etant donné que le mandat du conseil actuel a pris fin, il est temps de renouveler les membres du conseil et repousser le vote de 6, 12 mois, voire un an ou plus, n'est pas souhaitable. A l'heure actuelle, nous n'avons aucune garantie que le prochain Congrès Mondial puisse effectivement avoir lieu en 2021, ni que les membres n'étant pas basés en Europe puissent voyager et assister en toute sécurité à ce Congrès en France. Enfin le point important selon moi est qu'un vote électronique est plus juste et plus équitable puisqu'il permet à tous les membres de participer et faire entendre leur voix (même ceux qui ne peuvent participer physiquement au Congrès qui aura lieu à une date ultérieure). Durant leur campagne, les	Synchronicity Earth	Sophie.GRANGECHAMFRAY	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern	West Europe
B	BEES est pour l'option B	Les arguments de par et d'autres sont pertinents mais le meilleur choix et plus pratique est l'OPTION B	Benin Environment and Education Society	Maximin.DJONDO.2	Benin	Africa
B	L'option B n'est pas la	L'option B n'est pas la meilleure mais étant les conditions sanitaires mondiales et le manque de visibilité pour les mois suivants, cette option reste incontournable. Sachant que les membres actuels ont fini leurs mandats et ne peuvent travailler avec le même enthousiasme, d'où la nécessité du renouvellement pour la relève. Je soutiens cette option car certainement très peu de membres feront les déplacements		Charfi.FAOUZIA	Tunisia	Africa

B	Fanamby soutient l'option B	Reporter le vote pour une durée indéterminée alors qu'il y est possible de le faire en ligne ne serait pas judicieux. Il est temps de nous adapter à la situation sanitaire actuelle et renouveler les membres.	FANAMBY	SergeNirina.Rajaobelina	Madagascar	Africa
B	vote enligne	Etant donnée l'improbabilité absolue liée à la situation sanitaire, il faut a mon sens permettre de voter enligne et donc choisir l'option B, l'option A plonge tous l'exécutif dans le flou, et par consequant impacte directement l'efficacité de l'Union. Go for B		Arafet.BENMARZOU	Tunisia	Africa
B	Nous soutenons l'option B.	Nous soutenons l'option B.	Association Les Amis des Oiseaux	Hichem.Azafaf	Tunisia	Africa
B	Option B	Nous soutenons l'option B. Nous devons continuer a avancer ensemble sans etre dans la meme salle.	Madagasikara Voakajy	Hanta.Julie.Razafimanahaka	Madagascar	Africa
B	Soutien l'option B	Etant donné la situation actuelle avec la pandémie, il est judicieux de procéder au vote électronique.	Madagascar Institut pour la Conservation des Ecosystèmes Tropicaux / Madagascar	Benjamin.ANDRIAMIHAJA	Madagascar	Africa
B	Option B - vote électronique en janvier 2021	Je soutiens l'option B en ces moments de Covid-19, en esperant vous rencontrer dans de meilleures conditions.	GHADI / Lebanon	FADI.GHANEM	Lebanon	West Asia
B	Voting for option B	I support Option B	Al Shouf Cedar Society / Lebanon	NIZAR.HANI	Lebanon	West Asia
B	A regret, mais Option B (vote électronique)	Bien que nous rejoignons l'importance de la nécessité de maintenir les débats nourris en présentiel, néanmoins et au regard du manque de visibilité concernant l'actualité sanitaire, ces temps d'échanges "physiques" risquent de glisser vers le 2nd semestre 2021. Ce qui nous amène à un horizon lointain pour prendre des décisions. Nous proposons de mettre à profit les temps d'échanges pendant le congrès pour discuter des processus décisionnels et de leur mise en oeuvre. En raison de l'évolution de la pandémie de Covid-19 et des contraintes qui en découlent, l'AFIE se prononce sur l'option B	Association Française Interprofessionnelle des Ecologues / France	Blanche.GOMEZ	France	West Europe
B	Les élections de l'UICN	Je soutiens l'option B L'option B va favoriser une grande participation des membres suite à la situation sanitaire actuelle.	Dynamique des Groupes des Peuples Autochtones	Patrick.SaidiHEMEDI.1	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Africa

B	Apoyo la Moción B	Debido a la premura de los candidatos de realizar los cambios estando en una Pandemia mundial, es la única opción viable	Ministerio de Vivienda Ordenamiento Territorial y Medio Ambiente	Rossana.BERRINCRISTOBO	Uruguay	Meso and South America
B	creemos que la opción B es	creemos que la opción B es más realista. ánimo a tod@s!	Sociedad Geológica de España	Manu.MONGEGANUZAS	Spain	West Europe
B	Apoyamos la Opción B	Estoy de acuerdo con la Opción B, para celebrar mediante elecciones por votación electrónica a principios del 2021, para los distintos cargos de la UICN, será una forma de avanzar con los procesos y no estancarse, mientras se define la fecha incierta del Congreso.	Asociación Mesoamericana para la Biología y la Conservación	Guisselle.MONGEARIAS	Costa Rica	Meso and South America
B	Argumento a favor de opción B	Estoy completamente de acuerdo con la opción B para celebrar mediante elecciones por votación electrónica a principios del 2021, para los distintos cargos de la UICN, es la única manera en que podamos continuar manteniendo la Gobernabilidad que hasta ahora tenemos en la UICN, aun no se sabe con exactitud que pasara con la Pandemia del Covid-19, estamos viendo los nuevos comportamientos que este ha tenido en Europa con los rebotes, por lo que nadie puede asegurar cuando se pueda hacer el Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza.		MiguelGonzalo.ANDRADECORREA	Colombia	Meso and South America
B	Argumento a favor de opción B	Desde el Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt, estamos de acuerdo con la opción B para celebrar las correspondientes elecciones por votación electrónica a principios del 2021, ya que de esta manera se podría continuar manteniendo la gobernabilidad que hasta ahora se tiene en la UICN. No hay certeza sobre que pasará con la situación asociada al Covid-19, y por ende cuando se pueda hacer el Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza de forma presencial.	Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt	Hernando.GARCIAMARTINEZ	Colombia	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo a la opción B - Congreso de UICN	Como presidente de VITALIS A.C. compartimos nuestro apoyo a la opción B. La pandemia llegó para quedarse por algún tiempo, y si seguimos esperando, estaremos corriendo el riesgo de debilitar la gobernabilidad de la Unión, retrasando la incorporación de nuevos liderazgos, y limitando en alguna medida la continuidad de algunos programas. Saludos cordiales, Dr. Diego Díaz Martín VITALIS A.C. @ONGVitalis	VITALIS A.C.	diego.diazmartin	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo a la opción B	We are in favor of option B.	Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas	Claudio.VALLADARESPADUA	Brazil	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo a la opción B	Desde el Instituto Sinchi, apoyamos la opción B, pues sería mas conveniente en términos de seguridad, evitando así riesgos a la salud por el virus COVID 19. Atentamente, Luz Marina Mantilla Cárdenas Directora general Instituto SINCHI	Instituto Sinchi	LuzMarina.MANTILLA	Colombia	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo a la opción B	Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales apoya la opción B. La votación y discusiones online han sido prácticas habituales de la UICN en los últimos tiempos, y están además en línea con los tiempos que corren. Necesitamos una UICN flexible, ajustada a las últimas tendencias y particularmente dar respuesta a este escenario que atravesamos y la incertidumbre que plantea una pandemia. No se sabe cuánto más se puede extender esto, sus impactos, y si efectivamente podrá realizarse el congreso de manera presencial. El sistema de votación online ha probado ser seguro, intuitivo, claro. Creemos que es importante que se de una cantidad de días razonable para llevar adelante con tranquilidad la votación, al menos 10 días corridos. Dado que se estará aprobando un programa de trabajo nuevo para la	Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales	Ana.DIPANGRACIO	Argentina	Meso and South America

B	Apoyamos opción B	La Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental (SPDA) apoya la opción B	Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental	Isabel.CALLE	Peru	Meso and South America
B	Apoyamos opción B	Es importante tomar en cuenta que una solución para el COVID19 puede llevarse hasta el 2022. Actualmente Europa está pasando por una segunda ola del virus y así va a ser la tónica en todos los países del mundo, lo que podría afectar el desplazamiento de miembros al congreso.	Corporación Educativa para el Desarrollo Costarricense	Gabriel.RODRIGUEZBENAVIDES	Costa Rica	Meso and South America
B	Opción B	Desde Eco Redd apoyamos la opción B	Eco Redd	Laura.DUMET	Peru	Meso and South America
B	Votación electrónica. Grupo Jaragua apoya la opción B	Votamos por la opción B con el fin de facilitar la continuidad de las operaciones mundiales de la UICN, dada la situación de la pandemia causada por el COVID-19 y la incertidumbre de fechas para decidir de manera presencial.	Grupo Jaragua	Yvonne.ARIASCORNIELLE	Dominican Republic	North America and the Caribbean
B	Apoyo Opción B.	Desde La Fundación Humedales, estamos de acuerdo con la opción B para celebrar las elecciones por votación electrónica a principios del 2021. Así podremos seguir trabajando, retomando procesos y dando continuidad a la gobernalidad de la Unión. Por otro lado este nuevo escenario nos está enseñando, entre otras cosas, que se puede seguir con muchas actividades de forma virtual y es un gran momento para flexibilizar y adaptarnos a este tipo de circunstancias y de nuevas formas de proceder.	Fundación Humedales	Mauricio.VALDERRAMA	Colombia	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo a la opción B	Instituto Conservación Internacional do Brasil apoya la opción B.	Instituto Conservation International do Brasil	Miguel.Moraes	Brazil	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo la opción B / support to option B	2021 será un año crítico en la agenda de la conservación mundial. Si bien queremos vernos de manera física, mientras más rápido nos adaptemos a la nueva realidad, más certidumbre tendremos en torno al liderazgo de los tres pilares de la UICN en dicha agenda. Las personas que ocupen puestos de elección, si son elegidos o elegidas lo más rápidamente posible, tendrán tiempo para prepararse e involucrarse en los diferentes espacios como las COP de cambio climático y biodiversidad. Por ello, considero oportuno, que la opción B será la más práctica y democrática.	Reforestamos México A.C.	Ernesto.HERRERA	Mexico	Meso and South America
B	Elecciones de UICN	Apoyamos la opción B- CULTURA AMBIENTAL	CULTURA AMBIENTAL	Gabriela.PIGNATARO	Uruguay	Meso and South America
B	Argumento en favor de la opción B	Representando al Comité Nacional Pro defensa de la Fauna y Flora declaro que estamos completamente de acuerdo con la opción B. Esta opción propicia celebrar mediante votación electrónica -para los distintos cargos de la UICN- las elecciones de la Unión a principios del 2021. Creemos que esta elección electrónica permite mantener la gobernalidad que hasta ahora tenemos en la UICN. No sabemos que puede pasar con la Pandemia del Covid-19 y en este contexto nadie puede asegurar cuando se pueda hacer el Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza.	Comité Nacional pro Defensa de la Fauna y Flora	Mauricio.Valiente	Chile	Meso and South America
B	A favor de la opción B	No hay garantías ni un calendario realista para celebrar el Congreso en 2021. Las elecciones deben celebrarse por vía telemática y proceder a la renovación de los equipos directivos y de gobierno de la UICN, no alargar su mandato por varios meses (?) sin un final claro.	Fundació Catalunya-La Pedrera	Miquel.RAFAIFORNIELES	Spain	West Europe

B	Desde Vida Silvestre Uruguay	Desde Vida Silvestre Uruguay votamos por la opción B, asegurando la correcta transición de los equipos directivos y la más amplia participación de quienes integran la Unión. Afectuoso saludo! Cristhian Clavijo Representante UICN Vida Silvestre Uruguay	Vida Silvestre Uruguay	Cristhian.Clavijo	Uruguay	Meso and South America
B	Opciones con relación a votaciones IUCN	En representación de la Organización PRO COSARA, estamos de acuerdo con la Opción B, que las elecciones se realicen mediante una votación electrónica de los miembros de la IUCN. Saludos cordiales	Asociación Pro Cordillera San Rafael	AliciaRaquel.EisenkolbiCloss	Paraguay	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo a Moción B	Desde la Fundación ProSierra Nevada de Santa Marta apoyamos la opción B puesto que permite una votación amplia de manera electrónica ante la incertidumbre generada por la pandemia.	Fundación Pro-Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta	Santiago.GIRALDOPELaEZ	Colombia	Meso and South America
B	Discusión sobre las elecciones	Apoyo la Moción B Como representante de Guyra Paraguay. Gracias	Asociación Guyra Paraguay Conservación de Aves	Jose.CARTES	Paraguay	Meso and South America
B	Votación Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza de la IUCN 2020	Apoyamos la opción B El contexto actual global, nos obliga a hacer uso de herramientas online para poder llegar a más miembros de la Unión.	Centro de Apoyo a la Gestión Sustentable del Agua y el Medio Ambiente "Agua Sustentable"	Paula.PACHECOMOLLINEDO	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Meso and South America
B	Discusión sobre las elecciones	APOYO la MOCIÓN B Ante la incertidumbre del contexto, desde Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina consideramos que la opción de celebrar las elecciones por la vía electrónica lo antes posible sería la mejor decisión para que UICN avance en temas tan centrales como la elección de sus referentes.	Fundación Vida Silvestre Argentina	Mayra.MILKOVIC	Argentina	Meso and South America
B	Saludo para todos, la	Saludo para todos, la votación electrónica esta bien, opción B.	Fundación Natura	Clara.SOLANO	Colombia	Meso and South America
B	Elecciones mediante votación electrónica	Apoyamos la Opción B, votación electrónica. Ya que existe la incertidumbre de que se pueda celebrar el Congreso en el 2021, aún con todas las medidas de seguridad conlleva riesgos, además no se sabe si realmente los miembros o quienes de estos podamos participar en forma presencial. Sabemos las dificultades que implica la votación electrónica, sobre todo para aquellos que tienen un limitado acceso a tecnologías. Consideramos se contemple un esquema de organización para la votación que posibilite en estos casos una mayor participación y democracia, pensando en las regiones y miembros que están en esta desventaja. Se visualicen estructuras, tiempos y escrutinio para que todos puedan participar y se garantice la confianza.	Instituto de Medio Ambiente y Comunidades Humanas de la Universidad de Guadalajara	MariaGuadalupe.GARIBAYCHAVEZ	Mexico	Meso and South America
B	OPCION B	Consideramos que con el propósito de precautelar la gobernabilidad y el respeto a la normativa de la IUCN, sugerimos que se aplique la Opción B.	Protección del Medio Ambiente Tarija	Roberto.CABRERABALVOA	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo a la OPCIÓN B	En la opinión de FUNBA, las elecciones por vía electrónica son necesarias, dada la incertidumbre de fecha para el Congreso en Marsella.	Fundación Biosfera del Anahuac A.C.	Beatriz.PADILLAMARTINEZ	Mexico	Meso and South America

B	Apoyo a opción B	Ya expiró el mandato del Consejo y que no se tiene la certeza de tener condiciones favorables para tener un congreso presencial el 2021. Es importante no seguir posponiendo una decisión que se puede tomar por vía electrónica.	Pronatura Sur, A.C.	Claudia.MACIASCABALLERO	Mexico	Meso and South America
B	Opcion B	En IDSM nosotros apoyamos a OPCION B	Instituto de Desenvolvimento Sustentável Mamirauá	Helder.LIMAQUEIROZ	Brazil	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo a la opción B	La Fundación para la Conservación del Bosque Chiquitano (Bolivia) está de acuerdo con la opción del voto electrónico de las autoridades en el primer trimestre del 2021. La incertidumbre generada por la pandemia es grande y celebramos el ajuste adaptativo (como debe ser en una institución que se enfoca en sistemas socio-ecológicos complejos) de la propuesta de la UICN.	Fundación para la Conservación del Bosque Chiquitano / Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Roberto.VIDESALMONACID	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Meso and South America
B	Apoyamos Opción B	Apoyamos la Opción B, votación electrónica, al momento y al parecer durante el próximo año no habrá forma segura de hacer la votación de manera presencial.	Corporación Grupo Randi Randi / Ecuador	Carla.VALDOSPINOS	Ecuador	Meso and South America
B	OPCIÓN B	Estamos de acuerdo con la opción B.	Fundación Charles Darwin para las Islas Galápagos / Ecuador	Johanna.CARRION	Ecuador	Meso and South America
B	OPCIÓN B	Estamos de acuerdo con la opción B dada la incertidumbre de realización del congreso presencial y dado que ya expiró el mandato de la directiva saliente	Pronatura Península de Yucatán A.C. / Mexico	EfrainAntonio.ACOSTALUGO	Mexico	Meso and South America
B	APOYO OPCIÓN B	Alternare, A.C. está a favor de la Opción B, votación electrónica. El comportamiento que ha mostrado durante las últimas semanas la pandemia de COVID-19 sobre todo en la UE, aunado a los pronósticos de un crudo invierno no permite pensar que nos podamos reunir en el corto plazo para celebrar el Congreso. A nuestro juicio la votación electrónica es la opción más viable para iniciar la implementación del nuevo Programa de la UICN, afrontar la situación crítica en la que se encuentran los recursos naturales del planeta y demostrar el liderazgo de la UICN.	ALTERNARE A.C. / Mexico	MariaGuadalupe.DELRIOPESADO	Mexico	Meso and South America
B	APOYO OPCION B	La Fundación Ecohabitats apoya la opción B, para elecciones por votación electrónica a principios del 2021. Ante la incertidumbre de esta situación Covid-19, y la posibilidad de una mayor participación gracias a los medios virtuales, consideramos es la mejor opción. Gracias	Fundación Ecohabitats / Colombia	LilianaPatricia.PAZBETANCOURT	Colombia	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo la opción B	Apoyamos la opción B para mantener los principios democráticos de la UICN, si bien se reconoce que la pandemia ha modificado la celebración del Congreso, también el actual Consejo se votó por un periodo de 4 años que ya terminó y se cuenta con la infraestructura para realizar las elecciones vía electrónica, al igual que las mociones.	Herpetario de la Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México / Mexico	Roberto.ROMERORAMIREZ	Mexico	Meso and South America

B	sistema de votación elecciones UICN	Desde Fundación Natura Bolivia estamos de acuerdo con la opción B de votación electrónica. En todo este año nos hemos adaptado a nuevas formas de trabajo que creemos hay que seguir potenciando y enriqueciendo para la amplia participación de los miembros.	Fundación Natura Bolivia / Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	MariaTeresa.VARGASRIOS	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo a la opción B	Estoy de acuerdo con la opción B para celebrar mediante elecciones por votación electrónica a principios del 2021, para los distintos cargos de la UICN, es la única manera en que podamos continuar manteniendo la Gobernabilidad que hasta ahora tenemos en la UICN, aun no se sabe con exactitud que pasara con la Pandemia del Covid-19, estamos viendo los nuevos comportamientos que este ha tenido en Europa con los rebrotes, por lo que nadie puede asegurar cuando se pueda hacer el Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza.	Centro de Extensión Universitaria e Divulgación Ambiental de Galicia / Spain	Carlos.VALES	Spain	West Europe
B	Votación Electrónica Virtual	MOPAWI - La Agencia para el Desarrollo de la Mosquitia respalda la Opción "B" que promueve la Votación Electrónica para las Elecciones, en lugar de una opción presencial ante la incertidumbre de cuando habrán condiciones para una Celebración presencial del Congreso Mundial UICN en Marsella, ya aplazado dos veces ante la amenaza del Covid-19. Gracias por la consideración de mi voto por la Opción B.	Agencia para el Desarrollo de la Mosquitia	Osvaldo.MUNGUIASIERRA	Honduras	Meso and South America
B	Apoyamos OPCION B	Ante la incertidumbre de la pandemia Covid-19 en la mayor parte del mundo, apoyamos la opción B, para fortalecer la gobernanza y gobernabilidad de la Unión.	Asociación de Desarrollo Productivo y de Servicios Tikonel	Francisco.XANTeLOBOS	Guatemala	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo a la opción B, COICA	Apoyamos la opción B, en virtud de que consideramos importante tener definidos claramente los periodos de funciones de los distintos cargos de la UICN, previo al Congreso Mundial, con las ventajas ya expuestas en la lista de argumentos en favor de esta opción.	Coordinadora de Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica	JoseGregorio.DIAZMIRABAL	Ecuador	Meso and South America
B	Apoyo opción B	Apoyo a la opción B Sotzil como organización de pueblos indígenas, plante que es necesario que el consejo tenga claro su periodo de trabajo para desarrollar una planificación estratégica frente a los impactos que el planeta esta afrontando en temas de uso manejo y conservación recursos naturales.	Asociación SOTZ'IL / Guatemala	FranciscoRamiro.BATZINCHOJ	Guatemala	Meso and South America

B	Option B	<p>Apoyamos la opción B.</p> <p>Es importante el consejo tenga definido su periodo de trabajo para enfrentar los impactos de la naturaleza esta teniendo por lo que urge tener a un consejo trabajando en forma activa y con el respaldo de las organizaciones miembro.</p>	Fundación para la Promoción del Conocimiento Indígena / Panama	ONEL.MASARDULE	Panama	Meso and South America
B	Congreso o votación electrónica antes del Congreso UICN	<p>La Federación por la Autodeterminación de los Pueblos Indígenas (FAPI) apoya la opción B, para elecciones por votación electrónica a principios del 2021. Es grande aún la incertidumbre por la nueva ola de contagios Covid-19, por lo que considerando la situación, creemos que será mejor garantizar mayor participación desde plataformas virtuales.</p> <p>Cordial saludo, junto con nuestros deseos de salud y bienestar para todos/as.</p> <p>Hipólito Acevei,</p>	Federación por la Autodeterminación de los Pueblos Indígenas / Paraguay	Hipolito.ACEVEIGUAINER	Paraguay	Meso and South America

Working group on Elections

Ali Kaka and Ana Tiraa (Co-chairs)

Background

- The President in consultation with 4 VPs and subsequently Bureau established a Working group of 6 Council members
- The members consisted of a balanced representation of gender, standing committees, commissions and views on council elections
- The WG members: Co-Chairs Ali Kaka and Ana Tiraa (VPs); Commission representatives, Kathy McKinnon and Antonio Benjamin; Standing Committee Chairs of GGC, Jennifer Mohamed Katerere and PPC Jan Olov Westerberg
- The WG (and Secretariat providing support) met by Skype on 3 Occasions and corresponded by email in between meetings

Background contd...

- 9th and 15 Oct the WG met virtually to establish and finalise the text and format on information and questions to members e-discussion on whether IUCN elections should be held during the Congress or by electronic vote ahead of Congress
- On 19 Oct, the Secretariat launched the E-discussion inviting members to share their views on holding IUCN elections by e vote or at physical Congress.
- The deadline for views was 29 October. This allowed for 10 days for feedback from members
- A total of **369** of the total of **1426** members participated in the online discussion. This is approx **28%** of our membership

Results

- The results which were circulated to Council gives you the details on the results of this consultation with our members
- Please See Results provided by Sarah today
- President, If I may I will quickly run thru the main points of the results and then give the final outcome of the WG meeting last night and handover to you for further deliberations

Final meeting of WG held on 1 Nov 2020

- At the final meeting of WG the results of the discussion compiled by the Secretariat were reviewed.
- Further details were added to the results which you have before you today. These include:

A break down, of the opinions of those members that took part, in the Categories A, B, C and the corresponding %.

Conclusion:

- The WG concluded its meeting on 1 Nov with the following recommendation:

1. Council decides on whether to go to E vote for council elections.

Or

2. Council decides to ask members to e-vote on whether to have an E election for council, yes or no.

Note to Ali, if council says no to 2 then by default elections will be held at Physical Meeting.

October 3, 2020

Memo to: Zhang Xinsheng,
President, International Union for the Conservation of Nature

Re: Request for a Council meeting

The IUCN Council met on the 14th of September 2020 for its 100th meeting. The meeting discussed the World Conservation Congress (WCC) of 2020, postponed by Council until early 2021.

The Council noted the report of the Congress Preparatory Committee (their meeting of the 4th of September 2020), and the meeting of Bureau (9th of September 2020) which discussed the CPC report and forwarded the recommendations to Council. Among these was the recommendation to continue planning for WCC2020 in a two-pronged manner: in the first quarter of 2021, having e-votes on a number of issues traditionally addressed in the Members Assembly that are essential for the smooth functioning of the Union, followed later in the year by a physical meeting comprising the Forum, Exhibition, Espace Génération Nature, and any remaining Member Assembly issues that would benefit from a physical meeting.

The Council endorsed this two-pronged approach, and this decision has been communicated to members.

Council adjourned without reaching an agreement on the format for the elections for President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors, and Commission Chairs. Two alternatives were discussed: a postponement of elections until such a time as when a physical election can be held and with this a prolongation of the current Council, or a e-election in the first quarter of 2021. The meeting was adjourned, and Council agreed that the meeting should continue in the week beginning on the 21st of September 2020.

Given the need to make a decision on the format of elections, we, the signatories of this letter, deeply worried for the future of our union and respecting the integrity of the Council, and constituting more than 1/3 of Council as regulated in article 51 of our statutes,

Requests that an immediate meeting of Council shall be called to consider the following draft decision:

The IUCN Council

Requests the Director General to submit to Members the choice, through a formal vote, of whether to hold elections for President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors, and Commission Chairs, either electronically in the first quarter of 2021 or at a physical meeting of Congress when this is scheduled. If the members vote for a postponement of elections, this also gives the current council a prolonged mandate.

If a physical meeting cannot be scheduled before December 31, 2021, then the elections would be held electronically no later than this time and immediately after a decision on cancellation of physical congress has been announced. The format of elections, if held electronically, would follow the processes and systems already identified by the Secretariat in the memo submitted at the 100th meeting of Council.

SIGNATORIES

Angela Andrade, Councillor, Meso and South America

Carlos Durigan, Councillor, Meso and South America

Hilde Eggermont, Councillor, West Europe

Jan Olov Westerberg, Councillor, West Europe

Jon Paul Rodriguez, Councillor, chair Species Survival Commission

Jonathan Hughes, Councillor, West Europe

Kathy Mackinnon, Councillor, chair World Commission on Protected Areas

Kristen Walken Painemilla, Councillor, chair Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy

Lider Sucre, Councillor, Meso and South America

Marco Vinicio Cerezo Bladon, Councillor, Meso and South America

Michael Hosek, Councillor, East Europe, North and Central Asia

Peter Cochrane, Councillor, Oceania

Ramiro Batzin, Councillor, representative for Indigenous Peoples

Sean Southey, Councillor, Chair Commission on Education and Communication

Shaika Salem Al Dhaheri, Councillor, West Asia West

Sixto Inchaugesti, Councillor, North America and the Caribbean

Tamar Pataridze, Councillor, East Europe, North and Central Asia

Legal framework within which either IUCN Council or Members may decide to hold the elections of Council by electronic vote

Addressed to: IUCN Council (Council)

Origin: Sandrine Friedli Cela, Legal Adviser, with inputs from Luc De Wever, Secretary to Council

Date: 18 November 2020 (revised 27 November 2020¹)

A. Background

At its 100th meeting on 14 September 2020, Council considered different options regarding holding of IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020 in Marseille (hereafter the “Congress 2020”), and decided, in view of the COVID-19 pandemic, to postpone Congress 2020 for the second time and to submit a number of decision items, which were part of the draft Agenda of Congress 2020 to an electronic vote of the IUCN Members to be held in the beginning of 2021 ([Council Decision C100/3](#)). Council decided to continue its consideration of the question whether the motions referred by the Motions Working Group to the Congress 2020 for continued debate and vote and/or the elections for a new Council, also in the draft Agenda of the Congress 2020, should also be submitted to an electronic vote of the IUCN Members.

On the 3rd of October 2020, more than 1/3 of Council Members asked the President to convene a meeting of the Council to consider their proposal to submit to an e-vote of IUCN Members the question whether the elections should be held by e-vote prior to the Congress2020.

At the proposal of the President and Vice-Presidents, and with support from the Bureau, a working group of Council members prepared an online consultation of IUCN Members (not a vote) to gather their opinion on whether the elections of the IUCN Council should be held by e-vote in early 2021, or at the Congress 2020 in Marseille. The consultation took place between 19 and 29 October 2020.

The working group met to discuss the results ahead of the Council meeting and proposed two options for decision by the Council. The first was that the Council decide whether or not the elections should take place by e-vote ahead of Congress. The second option was to submit that same question to IUCN Members by e-vote.

¹ This legal opinion has been revised to include clarifications on a couple points discussed during the second part of the 101th Council meeting on the 20 November; this revision does not affect the initial opinion expressed.

At its 101st meeting on 2 November 2020, Council discussed the feedback of the online consultation of IUCN Members. Council did not reach a conclusion, but decided to pursue its discussion at a next meeting, to be convened as soon as possible.

This legal opinion clarifies the legal framework within which either the IUCN Council or IUCN Members may take a decision regarding a potential e-vote for elections, in view of the questions raised during the Council meetings, in particular regarding the conditions of article 48 of the Statutes and majority requirements applicable to the different types of decisions under consideration.

B. Rationale for basing Council's decision of the 14th of September 2020 on article 48 of the Statutes

i) Circumstances which justify to base Council's decision on article 48 of the Statutes

IUCN Statutes set the framework within which Council has the authority to determine the date of the World Conservation Congress (hereafter the Congress). Council may determine the date “*after considering the suggestions of Members*” (article 23 of the Statutes) and taking into account the fact that Congress “*shall meet in ordinary session every fourth year*” (article 24 of the Statutes). As it is, the interval between sessions of the IUCN Congress is not exactly four years (48 months or 1'460 days). Rather, it is variable and allows the Council some flexibility in fixing the date depending on the specific proposals received from candidate host States, the venue, a number of logistical aspects and other key factors (e.g. other important conservation-related events taking place).

The Council had initially determined that the 2020 Congress would take place in Marseille from 11 to 19 June 2020, and has, subsequently, decided to postpone it to 7 to 15 January 2021² in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, while maintaining its denomination as the IUCN 2020 World Conservation Congress³. At its meeting on the 14 September 2020, Council has decided to postpone the 2020 Congress for a second time “to a later date in 2021 to be mutually agreed with the Host Country”. Such a date, which is not yet determined, could be, in principle, in the third quarter of 2021.

Because of the exceptional circumstances linked to the COVID-19 pandemic and, particularly, the second postponement of the Congress 2020, it will not be possible for the Congress 2020 to take place within the timeframe specified in Article 24 of the Statutes. Indeed, the new dates envisaged would be within the fifth calendar year since the last ordinary session of the Congress held in Hawaii from the 1st to the 10th of September 2016, and would, therefore, fall beyond this statutory timeframe.

² Council decision C/X taken by electronic vote – 25 March 2020 – new dates for the IUCN Congress 2020.

³ Council decision C/XIII taken by electronic vote – 11 May 2020 - Congress branding

Because the Statutes neither provide expressly for a possibility to postpone an IUCN Congress nor to extend the four-year timeframe set in article 24 of the Statutes, and because the postponement of the Congress 2020 has implications on essential decisions pertaining to the World Conservation Congress (such as the IUCN Programme and Financial Plan, the Commissions' mandate and the Council's term of office), it could be argued that this decision pertains to the World Congress. However, Council may, pursuant to article 48 of the Statutes, take a decision in exceptional circumstances that would normally pertain to the World Congress, with a majority of two-thirds of votes cast⁴. The current pandemic clearly represents such exceptional circumstances. Thus, Council took its decision to postpone the Congress 2020 and submit a limited number of matters, which were on the agenda of the ordinary session of the Congress 2020 to an e-vote in January 2021 on the basis of this article ([Council Decision C100/3](#)).

ii) *Possibility for IUCN Members to contest a Council's decision based on article 48 of the Statutes*

All decisions taken by Council based on article 48 of the Statutes¹ may be rescinded if a majority of Members eligible to vote in Category A votes or in Categories B and C combined signifies its disapproval within three months of the date of the notice of such a decision. In the context of the second postponing of Congress 2020, this means that IUCN Members have until 16 December to signify their disapproval of the Council decision taken on 14 September 2020. If the required majority is met in either Category A or in Categories B and C combined, Council's decision will be cancelled automatically. In such case, Council ought to reconsider the matter and take a new decision.

C. Rationale for submitting key matters, which were on the draft Agenda of the Congress 2020, including elections, to an e-vote of IUCN Members

i) *Matters that may be decided by e-vote as per article 94 of the Statutes*

Members in Categories A, B and C have the right "to vote in sessions of the World Congress or by mail ballot" (art. 12 (b) (v) of the Statutes). As per article 94 of the Statutes, a mail ballot (in French "vote par correspondance" and in Spanish "votación por correspondencia") can take place upon request by Council or by at least one fifth of the total voting rights of Members eligible to vote in either Category A or in Categories B and C combined. A decision by mail ballot is, normally, understood as a decision where ballot papers are distributed to voting members (and typically returned) by post.

⁴ Article 48 of the Statutes reads: "In exceptional circumstances, the Council may by a two-thirds majority of votes cast, take measures that by Statute are prerogatives of the World Congress. In such cases, the Members of IUCN eligible to vote shall be notified promptly of these measures. If a majority of the Members eligible to vote in Category A or in Categories B and C combined, responding not later than three months of the date of the notice, signifies its disapproval, the measures shall be rescinded."

In 2015, a process for voting by electronic means was established in Regulation 94, so that article 94 of the Statutes has to be interpreted in conjunction with Regulation 94. Regulation 94 reads “*Where a mail ballot is required under the Statutes, an electronic ballot shall be carried out in accordance with the following procedure: (...)*”. This means that, as per Regulation 94, the term “mail ballot” stated in article 94 of the Statutes is understood as meaning an “electronic ballot” carried out with an electronic system enabling to cast a vote (hereafter referred to as “e-vote”).

As per article 94 of the Statutes, “**All matters within the competence of the World Congress may be decided by mail ballot**” (emphasis added). Decisions taken by e-vote have the same validity as decisions adopted during sitting of the Members’ Assembly (art. 12 (b) (v) of the Statutes) and there is no limitation to the type of decisions that can be taken by e-vote.

While the intent of article 94 of the Statutes was to enable the Council or IUCN Members to bring a limited number of questions for decision when required between the sessions of the World Congress, nothing precludes Council to use this mechanism to submit to an e-vote *all* key matters within the competence of the Congress as per article 20 of the Statutes. This would be justifiable in view of the extraordinary circumstances and be conform to the Swiss regulation on measures to combat the coronavirus also applicable to IUCN⁵. An e-vote may therefore include the approval of IUCN 2021-2024 Programme and Financial plan, the approval of the Commissions mandates, the vote on motions and the elections, among other decisions. Such an e-vote has to be distinguished from a virtual Members’ Assembly⁶, where different rules would apply.

⁵ This clarification on Swiss regulations was added to reflect the clarification provided by the Legal Adviser at the Council meeting of the 20 November 2020. Indeed Swiss law is applicable to IUCN, which is registered as a Swiss association as per article 1 of the Statutes.

The Ordinance 3 on Measures to Combat the Coronavirus (COVID-19) (Status as of 3 November 2020) allows General Assemblies, which would normally be held physically, to be held by electronic means during the pandemic, in deviation of the legal requirements under Swiss law. Article 27 of this ordinance (Chapter 4 Company Meetings) reads as follow:

“1 In the case of company meetings, the organiser may, regardless of the probable number of participants and without complying with the period of notice for convening meetings, order the participants to exercise their rights exclusively:

a.in writing or online; or

b.through an independent proxy appointed by the organiser.

2 The organiser shall decide within the period specified in Article 29 paragraph 4. Notification of the order must be given in writing or published online no later than four days before the event.”

It has been clarified that this also applies to associations, for which decisions of the Members Assembly may take place by vote in writing (paper form) or by electronic means.

⁶A virtual meeting would imply an opening and closing of the session of the Congress, live debates on the different topics referred to in the adopted agenda of the Members’ Assembly, the establishment of minutes of the Assembly, giving an account of the proceedings and debates (as per Rule 85) and an electronic system allowing to vote at the time of the virtual Assembly.

ii) *Conditions for holding of an e-vote on elections prior to the Congress 2020*

Pursuant to article 41 of the Statutes, the term of office of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors and Chairs of Commissions runs from “*the close of the ordinary session of the World Congress at which they are elected, until the close of the next ordinary session of the World Congress*”. This means that, by virtue of the postponement of the Congress 2020 to a later date in 2021, the Council’s term is automatically extended until the close of the session of the Congress 2020, unless Council or IUCN Members decide to submit the elections to an e-vote of IUCN Members prior to the Congress to be held in Marseille in 2021.

Elections are one of the essential functions of the World Congress (article 20 of the Statutes) and pertain the Members’ Assembly⁷. Like the approval of the IUCN Programme and Financial plan⁸, the approval of the Commission’s mandate⁹ or the report of the Director General on the work of IUCN and on the consolidated accounts of IUCN¹⁰, elections are linked to an ordinary session of the World Congress¹¹, taking place “every fourth year” (article 24 of the Statutes). Thus, they are meant to take place at the World Congress (see for example, Rule 74).

Therefore, even if article 94 of the Statutes does not exclude the possibility to hold elections via an e-vote of the World Congress (see previous chapter i))¹², this should be done only in exceptional circumstances, such as when an ordinary session of the World Congress cannot take place within this statutory timeframe. With a second postponement of the Congress 2020 to later in 2021 (*i.e.* way beyond the statutory timeframe), the uncertainty about the date of the Congress 2020, and the risk of a possible cancelation at a later stage, the holding of elections by e-vote could be deemed as justifiable. Indeed, it could be argued that holding the elections by e-vote as soon as possible is deemed appropriate to ensure that the Council’s term does not exceed the approximately four year period defined in the Statutes and for which the Congress had elected the current Council in 2016¹³.

On the other hand, it could also be argued that maintaining the elections during the Congress 2020 in Marseille is deemed appropriate to ensure that the current Council carries out its duties in relation with the preparation of the Congress 2020 until the event takes place. Indeed, the elections of a new Council prior to the Congress 2020 would imply, among other, that some members of the Congress Preparatory

⁷ Except for vacancies that may be filled by Council in accordance with article 43 of the Statutes.

⁸ See articles 20 (e), 88 (e) of the Statutes, Rule 45bis (a)

⁹ Regulations 69 and 70

¹⁰ See articles 84 and 88 (d) of the Statutes

¹¹ See article 41, of the Statutes and Regulations 30, 34, 40

¹² Note that Council has already filled vacancies in Council (as per article 43 of the Statutes) through an e-vote in conformity with article 95 of the Statutes.

¹³ The qualifications required for the positions in Council attached to the Call for Nominations for the elections at the 2016 Congress stated the following in a footnote “*Article 24 of the Statutes provides that the World Congress shall meet in ordinary session every fourth year and therefore the duration of the term of office is approximately four years*” (emphasis added)

Committee and of the Motions Working Group, appointed by the current Council, may not be re-appointed by the new Council (for example, because they are not running for a second term).

Because there is no order of hierarchy between article 24 of the Statutes (setting the principle of a four-year timeframe for ordinary session of World Congresses) and article 41 of the Statutes (setting the principle that the term of Council runs from on ordinary session of the World Congress to another ordinary session of the World Congress), Council will need to weight the various arguments, and decide what is in the best interest of IUCN.

Submitting the elections to an e-vote of IUCN Members would be consistent with the decision of Council taken on 14 September 2020 to, exceptionally, submit to an e-vote in early 2021 essential matters of the Congress 2020 Agenda, namely the adoption of (i) the IUCN Programme and Financial plan, (ii) the Commission mandates and (iii) the governance motions. Indeed, if it is deemed acceptable that these essential decisions, which, pursuant to Rule 45bis¹⁴, require to reserve adequate time for discussion and voting during the Members' Assembly, be submitted to an e-vote prior to Congress, it would seem reasonable to deem acceptable that elections, which are also an essential decision, but for which a debate is not required, be held prior to the Congress 2020 using an electronic voting system. The process for electronic ballot set forth in Regulation 94 would, however, need to be adjusted, *mutatis mutandis*, to the specificities of the elections process in order to meet the requirements set for elections taking place at Congress (see also article 96 of the Statutes). In conformity with Rule 77ter and Regulation 40ter, the Election Officer shall monitor and ensure the accuracy of such electronic election system.

Should Council decide to refer the elections to an e-vote of IUCN Members, it would be advisable that Council considers the appropriate measures for a successful hand over to the new Council and to facilitate a smooth continuation of the work undertaken in relation to the preparation of the Congress 2020 in Marseille.

In any case, the elections would have to take place through an electronic vote of IUCN Members should the Congress 2020 finally be cancelled due to the exceptional circumstances.

D. Who may decide whether elections should be held by e-vote prior to Congress 2020?

Because the World Congress has the authority to elect the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors and Chairs of the Commissions (article 20 (h) of the Statutes), it seems reasonable to consider that it should be the one deciding i) whether it is appropriate to extend the term of the Council it has elected

in 2016 beyond the four-year timeframe set forth in article 24 of the Statutes and reflected in the Council members' terms of reference, or ii) whether to hold the elections by e-vote prior to the Congress 2020.

However, as explained in section B i) above, in exceptional circumstances, Council may take decisions that would normally pertain to the World Congress. Therefore, in view of the extraordinary circumstances linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, Council may either i) decide to hold the elections by e-vote based on article 48 of the Statutes or ii) submit to an e-vote of IUCN Members the question whether to hold the elections by e-vote.

i) Basis for Council's decision to hold e-elections

Even if the question of the elections was not decided at the same time as the postponing of the Congress 2020 and the submission of a limited number of decisions pertaining the World Congress by e-vote (Council decision C100-3), a decision of Council to submit the elections to an e-vote prior to Congress 2020 would have to be based on article 48 of the Statutes. Indeed, both decisions are interconnected and may only be taken by Council in exceptional circumstances. The same legal basis and the same majority of two-thirds of votes cast should apply to such a decision.

As explained in section B ii) above, a decision of Council to refer the elections to an e-vote prior to Congress 2020 may be rescinded if a majority of Members eligible to vote in Category A or in Categories B and C combined signifies its disapproval within three months of the date of the notice of such a decision. In order to avoid such a situation, Council may consider referring the question whether to hold the elections by e-vote directly to IUCN Members.

ii) Referring the question whether to hold e-elections to IUCN Members

Instead of using the possibility provided to Council in article 48 of the Statutes, Council may, as proposed by one third of the Council Members in their letter from October 3 addressed to the President, refer the question whether the elections should be held through e-vote directly to IUCN Members. Such a decision of Council would be based on article 94 of the Statutes and would therefore be taken by a simple majority of votes cast, in absence of any other specific majority requirement (article 55 of the Statutes).

The downside of submitting the question of the elections to an e-vote of Members would be a potentially longer process as per Regulation 94. Indeed, should IUCN Members vote in favour of elections through e-vote, the combined required notices and periods for voting (*i.e.* on the initial question to Members and on the elections itself) would bring the conclusion of the election process to the second quarter of 2021, thus, weakening the rationale of holding elections prior to Congress 2020 (if held in the third quarter of 2021). In order for such an e-vote to be effectively implemented, should IUCN Members vote in favour of e-elections, it would be necessary a) to adapt the deadline for the e-vote on the principle of submitting

the elections to an e-vote to the specific circumstances of such a vote, and b) to immediately (*i.e.* without waiting for the result of the e-vote of IUCN Members) launch the development of the system enabling an e-vote on elections (requiring approximatively four months).

IUCN Members would take such a decision by a simple majority of votes cast in Category A and in Categories B and C combined, in the absence of a specific provision requiring a qualified majority for this matter (article 31 of the Statutes). In addition, since the question submitted to an e-vote of Members would be on a matter of procedure (namely, the method and the date of voting on elections), there is no reason to apply a different majority than that on amending the Rules of the Procedure of the Congress, namely a simple majority (Article 29 d) of the Statutes).

Furthermore, IUCN Members also have the possibility (as per article 94 of the Statutes) to request that the elections be held by e-vote prior to the Congress. Should at least one fifth of the total voting rights of Members eligible to vote in either Category A or in Categories B and C combined formally request that such an e-vote takes place, an e-vote on elections would have to be organized as soon as possible. Therefore, it would not be justifiable to impose a higher majority than a simple majority if the question is referred to an e-vote of Members.

E. Consequences of holding the elections by e-vote¹⁵

Other than the decisions referred to in Rule 45bis requiring to reserve adequate time for discussion and voting during the Members' Assembly (see section C ii), the elections are one of the essential matters in the business of the Members' Assembly (albeit taking place without a debate of IUCN Members). Should the Council decide to proceed with the elections through an e-vote (in addition to the votes on the Programme and Financial Plan, the Commission's mandates, the governance motions and the other matters decided by Council on 14th of September), this would mean that all essential decisions of the Members' Assembly on the draft Agenda of the ordinary session of the Congress 2020, would have been concluded. In such a case, the vote on essential matters of the Members' Assembly in the agenda of the World Congress would be considered as being replaced by the vote "by mail ballot" as per article 94 of the Statutes (see also art. 12 (b) (v) of the Statutes). The physical Congress taking place at a later stage, with an entirely revised Agenda for the Members' Assembly, would be considered, formally speaking (*i.e.* for the purposes of the Statutes), as an extraordinary session of the World Congress. This would not preclude maintaining the branding of the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020. "Indeed, the purpose of such (extraordinary) Congress in Marseille would be to handle all matters on

¹⁵ See "Supplementary explanation on the statutory implications of the two options under Council's consideration regarding the process for Council's elections in the context of Covid-19 pandemic and IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020" issued by the Legal Adviser on 15 October 2020 for the online discussion of IUCN Members, which also clarifies the consequences of holding the elections at the Congress in Marseille, and is added as **Annex A** to the current opinion.

the initial draft agenda of the 2020 Congress that could not be decided by an e-vote of IUCN Members, namely the World Conservation Forum, the Exhibitions and the other matters of the Members' Assembly (such as strategic discussions or decisions on motions defining the policy or pertaining the governance of IUCN referred to the 2020 Congress respectively by the Motions Working Group or the Governance and Constituency Committee). There would be no need to (re-) convene such extraordinary session of the World Congress but only to inform IUCN Members about the revised draft Agenda and the new date of the 2020 Congress"¹⁶.

Normally, decisions taken by e-vote enter into force at the close of the e-vote because the closing of the e-vote is assimilated to the closing of an ordinary session of the World Congress. However, if elections were conducted by e-vote in the first quarter of 2021, it would be preferable to define that the date of the publication of the results be the date at which the term of office of the current Council members ends and that of the newly elected Council members begins. In case a second round is required for the election of the function of President, such a date would be the date of the results of the second round as this this e-vote would be the one concluding the e-vote on elections. This would guarantee that all outgoing Council members would end and all newly elected Council members would start their respective terms at the same moment.

Pursuant to article 41 of the Statutes, the term of the newly elected Council runs until the "next ordinary session of the World Conservation Congress". For the sake of clarity, the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020 in Marseille would not be considered as the next ordinary session of the Congress.

The deadline for the nominations for President directly by IUCN Members, as per Regulation 32 in conjunction with Article 27 of the Statutes, would be calculated, backwards, from the date of the opening of the e-vote on elections.

F. Conclusion

By virtue of the postponement of the Congress 2020 to a later date in 2021, the Council's term is as per article 41 of the Statutes, automatically extended until the close of the session of the Congress 2020, unless Council or IUCN Members decide to submit the elections to an e-vote of IUCN Members prior to the Congress to be held in Marseille in 2021.

Even if article 94 of the Statutes does not exclude the possibility to hold elections via an e-vote of IUCN Members prior to Congress, this should be done only in exceptional circumstances, such as when an ordinary session of the World Congress cannot take place within the statutory timeframe set forth in article 24 of the Statutes. The process for electronic ballot set forth in Regulation 94 would, however, need to be adjusted, *mutatis mutandis*, to the specificities of the elections process in order to meet the

¹⁶ These last two sentences in inverted commas were added as clarification in response to some points raised during the discussion at the Council meeting of the 20 November 2020.

requirements set for elections taking place at Congress. In conformity with Rule 77ter and Regulation 40ter, the Election Officer shall monitor and ensure the accuracy of such electronic election system.

Because the World Congress has the authority to elect the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors and Chairs of the Commissions (article 20 (h) of the Statutes), it seems reasonable to consider that it should be the one deciding i) whether it is appropriate to extend the term of the Council it has elected in 2016 beyond the four-year timeframe set forth in article 24 of the Statutes and reflected in the Council members' terms of reference or ii) whether to hold the elections by e-vote prior to the Congress 2020.

However, pursuant to article 48 of the Statutes, Council may, in exceptional circumstances, take decisions that would normally pertain to the World Congress. The current pandemic clearly represents such exceptional circumstances. Council may therefore decide to hold the elections by e-vote. In this case, a two-thirds majority of the Council members casting a vote need to be in favour of submitting the elections to an e-vote in order for such a decision to be adopted. In view of the exceptional circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic and because there is no order of hierarchy between article 24 of the Statutes (setting the principle of a four-year timeframe for ordinary session of World Congresses) and article 41 of the Statutes (setting the principle that the term of Council runs from an ordinary session of the World Congress to another ordinary session of the World Congress), Council will need to weight the various arguments, and what is in the best interest of IUCN.

Submitting the elections to an e-vote of IUCN Members early 2021 would be consistent with the decision of Council taken on 14 September 2020 to exceptionally submit to an e-vote, in early 2021, other essential matters of the Congress 2020 Agenda, namely the adoption of (i) the IUCN Programme and Financial plan, (ii) the Commissions mandates and (iii) the governance motions.

Instead of using the possibility provided to Council in article 48 of the Statutes, Council may also consider referring the question whether the elections should be held by e-vote to IUCN Members. Such a decision of Council would be based on article 94 of the Statutes and would therefore be taken by a simple majority of vote cast (as per article 55 of the Statutes).

In case Council decides to refer the question to IUCN Members, a simple majority of votes cast in Category A and in Categories B and C combined would need to be in favour of submitting the elections to an e-vote in order for such a decision to be adopted (article 31 of the Statutes). In order for such an e-vote to be effectively implemented, should IUCN Members vote in favour of e-elections, it would be necessary a) to adapt the deadline for the e-vote on the principle of submitting the elections to an e-vote to the specific circumstances of such a vote and b) to immediately (i.e. without waiting for the result of the e-vote of IUCN Members) launch the development of the system enabling an e-vote on elections (requiring approximatively four months).

Furthermore, IUCN Members have the possibility (as per article 94 of the Statutes) to request that the elections be held by e-vote prior to the Congress. Should at least one fifth of the total voting rights of Members eligible to vote in either Category A or in Categories B and C combined formally request that such an e-vote takes place, an e-vote on elections would have to be organized as soon as possible.

Should the Council or IUCN Members decide to proceed with the elections through an e-vote (in addition to the votes on the Programme and Financial Plan, the Commission's mandates, the governance motions and the other matters decided by Council on 14th of September), this would mean that all essential decisions of the Members' Assembly on the draft Agenda of the ordinary session of the Congress 2020, would have been concluded. In such a case, the vote on essential matters of the Members' Assembly (as per article 20 of the Statutes) in the agenda of the Congress 2020 would be considered as being replaced by the e-vote (i.e. the vote "by mail ballot" as per articles 12 (b) (v) and 94 of the Statutes). The physical Congress taking place at a later stage, with an entirely revised Agenda for the Members' Assembly, would be considered, formally speaking (*i.e.* for the purposes of the Statutes), as an extraordinary session of the World Congress "and would aim to handle all matters on the initial draft Agenda of the 2020 Congress that could not be decided by an e-vote of IUCN Members, namely the World Conservation Forum, the Exhibitions and the other matters of the Members' Assembly"¹⁷. This would not preclude maintaining the branding of the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020.

Should the elections be held by e-vote early 2021, the term of office of the outgoing Council would end and that of the newly elected Council would start at the date of the publication of the results of the elections. In case a second round was required for the election of President, such a date would be the date of the publication of the results of the second round as this e-vote would be the one concluding the e-vote on all elections. Nominations for President may be made directly by IUCN Members up to two months prior to the opening of the e-vote on elections.

Ends

¹⁷ This part in inverted commas was added as clarification in response to some points raised during the discussion at the Council meeting of the 20 November 2020.

Annex A

//

Supplementary explanation on the statutory implications of the two options under Council's consideration regarding the process for Council's elections in the context of Covid-19 pandemic and IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020

(Provided in the context of the online discussion of IUCN Members on whether IUCN elections should be held during the Congress or by electronic vote ahead of the Congress, held 18th to 29th of October 2020)

Origin: S. Friedli Cela, IUCN Legal Adviser Date: 15 October 2020

A. Background

At its 100th meeting on 14 September 2020, Council considered different options regarding holding of IUCN's Congress and decided, in view of the COVID-19 pandemic, to postpone the Congress for the second time and to submit a number of decision items, which were part of the draft Agenda of the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020 (hereafter the "Congress") to an electronic vote of the IUCN Members to be held in the beginning of 2021 in accordance with Article 94 of the Statutes and Article 94 of the Regulations ([C100/3](#)). Council also decided to continue its consideration of the question whether the motions referred by the Motions Working Group to the 2020 Congress for continued debate and vote and/or the elections for a new Council, also in the draft Agenda of Congress, should be submitted to an electronic vote of the IUCN Members in the beginning of 2021.

Prior to deciding on the most appropriate process for the elections, Council would like to hear IUCN's Members view about the options currently under consideration, namely holding the elections during the

Congress in Marseille (Option A) or refer the elections to an electronic vote prior to Congress (Option B).

This paper summarizes the legal framework within which Council may decide to propose one option or another and the main statutory implications related to each of the options. It is intended as a supplement to the introductory note of Council in the context of the consultation of Members referred above.

B. Legal framework for determination of the date of the Congress and for submission of decisions by electronic vote

IUCN Statutes set the framework within which Council has the authority to determine the date of the World Conservation Congress (hereafter the Congress). Council determine the date "after

considering the suggestions of Members”, (article 23 of the Statutes) and taking into account the fact that Congress “shall meet in ordinary session every fourth year” (article 24 of the Statutes). Because of the exceptional circumstances linked to the COVID-19 pandemic and, particularly, the second postponement of the Congress, it will not be possible for the Congress to take place within the statutory timeframe.

As per IUCN’s Statutes, the statutory timeframe of the Congresses, also directly impacts the periodicity of i) the IUCN quadrennial Programme (article 46 (c) of the Statutes) and the Financial Plan, necessary for its implementation (article 20 (e) of the Statutes; Regulation 91); ii) the Commission’s mandate (Regulation 70) and iii) the Council’s term of office (article 41 of the Statutes) as those processes are linked to ordinary session of the Congress.

Since Council has already decided to submit to an e-vote of IUCN Members (C100/3), among others, the Programme and Financial plan and the Commissions’ mandate, this analysis focuses exclusively on the impact of the postponement of the Congress on the term of office of Council members.

Pursuant to article 41 of the Statutes, the term of office of the President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors and Chairs of Commissions runs from “the close of the ordinary session of the World Congress at which they are elected, until the close of the next ordinary session of the World Congress. The appointed Councillor shall serve for the remainder of the term for which the other Councillors are elected.”. This means that, by virtue of the postponement of the Congress to a later date in 2021, the Council’s term is automatically extended until the close of the session of the Congress that will take place in Marseille in 2021, at a date still to be determined.

In view of the exceptional circumstances and the fact that, through the postponement of the Congress, the term of office of the Council will go beyond the four year periodicity set forth in article 24 of the Statutes, it seems reasonable that Council considers the possibility to submit the elections to an e-vote of IUCN Members, in the same way it has considered and decided to exceptionally submit to an e-vote in early 2021 essential matters of the Congress Agenda, namely the adoption of (i) the IUCN Programme and Financial plan, (ii) the Commission mandates and (iii) the governance motions. These are key and, pursuant to Rule 45bis, require to reserve adequate time for discussion and voting during the Members’ Assembly.

C. Consequences of holding the elections during the Congress (option A)

Pursuant to article 41 of the Statutes, the term of office of the Council Members elected at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawaii in September of 2016 and that of the Council Members appointed afterwards by Council, will run until the close of the IUCN Congress to be held in Marseille in 2021, at a date to be mutually agreed with the Host Country. This means that, depending on the

date of the Congress, the Council's term of office may exceptionally be (approximately) five years instead of four.

The term of office of the newly elected President, Treasurer, Regional Councillors and Chairs of Commissions will run from the close of the 2020 Congress in Marseille, until the close of the next ordinary session of the World Congress.

As per Regulation 32 in conjunction with Article 27 of the Statutes, nominations for President may be made directly by IUCN Members up to two months prior to the opening of the session of the World Congress. This means that the deadline, which was set for the 7 November 2020 prior to the Congress opening on 7 January 2021, has automatically been postponed to a later date which will be dependent on the new date determined for the World Congress.

Should the Congress finally be cancelled due to the exceptional circumstances, the elections would have to take place through an electronic vote of IUCN Members as soon as possible after such cancellation. In such a case, the term of office of the current Council members would end and that of the newly elected Council members would begin at the date of publication of the results of the elections (see option B for more details).

D. Consequences of holding the elections by electronic vote prior to Congress (option B)

Other than the decisions referred to in Rule 45bis requiring to reserve adequate time for discussion and voting during the Members' Assembly (see section B above), the elections are one of the essential matters in the business of the Members' Assembly.. Should the Council decide to proceed with the elections through an e-vote (in addition to the votes on the Programme and Financial Plan, the Commission's mandate, the governance motions and the other matters decided by Council on 14th of September), this would mean that all essential decisions on the draft Agenda of the ordinary session of the Congress initially planned for January 2021 would have been concluded. In such a case, the vote on essential matters in the agenda of the World Congress would be considered as being replaced by the vote "by mail ballot" as per article 94 of the Statutes (see also art. 12 (b) (v) of the Statutes). The physical Congress taking place at a later stage, with an entirely revised Agenda for the Members' Assembly, would be considered, formally speaking (i.e. for the purposes of the Statutes), as an extraordinary session of the World Congress. This would not preclude maintaining the branding of the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020.

Normally, decisions taken by e-vote enter into force at the close of the e-vote because the closing of the e-vote is assimilated to the closing of an ordinary session of the World Congress. However, if elections are conducted by e-vote in the first quarter of 2021, it would be preferable to define that the date of the publication of the results be the date at which the term of office of the current

Council members ends and that of the newly elected Council members begins. In case a second round is required for the election of the function of President, such a date would be the date of the results of the second round as this this e-vote would be the one concluding the e-vote on elections. This would guarantee that all outgoing Council members would end and all newly elected Council members would start their respective terms at the same moment.

Pursuant to article 41 of the Statutes, the term of the newly elected Council runs until the “next ordinary session of the World Conservation Congress”. For the sake of clarity, the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020 in Marseille would not be considered as the next ordinary session of the Congress.

The deadline for the nominations for President directly by IUCN Members, as per Regulation 32 in conjunction with Article 27 of the Statutes, would be calculated, backwards, from the date of the opening of the e-vote on elections.

//

End of *Annex A*



Update of the Secretariat's *“Note for the Council on the process and systems for elections by electronic vote prior to Congress”* of 12 September 2020 (attached)

1. Extension of the e-voting system for elections: takes min. 4 months at a cost of CHF 22,000.
2. If the decision to hold elections by e-vote is taken on 20 November 2020, the e-vote may open on 7 April 2021 (taking into account public holiday periods). See hereafter a possible timeline.
3. Cost of interpretation / translation of candidate presentations and presidential candidate debate(s): CHF 50,000



Possible timeline for electronic election process

20 Nov 2020	Council decides to hold elections prior to Congress
Dec 2020 - Mar 2021	The Secretariat will : <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Enable interactive candidate pages on the Congress website (active since March 2020)2. Post on the Congress website pre-recorded videos of candidate presentations and their response to questions received in advance from Members (three official IUCN languages)3. Live streamed presidential candidates debate and their response to questions received in advance from Members - posted on the Congress website (three official IUCN languages)
7 - 21 Apr 21	Electronic vote on elections (all positions)
28 Apr 2021	Publication election results (if no 2 nd round for President needed)
	If a 2nd round is necessary for presidential elections [Rule 81 (i)] :
5-7 May 2021	Second presidential candidates debate
12-26 May 21	Electronic vote (2 nd round for President)
31 May 2021	Publication election results (all positions)

Note for the Council on the process and systems for elections by electronic vote prior to Congress

During its 88th Meeting on 9 September 2020, the Bureau requested the Secretariat to advise the Council on the process and systems that would be applied if the elections were held by electronic vote prior to the Congress.

1. Systems to be applied for holding elections by electronic vote prior to Congress, should the IUCN Council decide to do so.

By the Director Global Information Systems (GISG)

1) Which system/platform would be used, what would be the financial costs, will the system be ready in mid-February 2021?

Should Council request the Secretariat to organize the Electronic Election of Council, we propose to develop an extension to the current system that has been used for the voting of motions and will be used for all other the matters submitted to Congress for decision by e-vote. This extension will allow to fulfil the specific requirements of the election process. Members are already familiar with the tool and its user interface.

To ensure a fast delivery and have a solution ready by the proposed timelines (mid-February 2021), we propose to hire the same external company used for developing the current system for motions for these new extensions. If GISG receives the approval to go ahead by the latest Sept 18th, 2020, we can have a fully working and tested version for February 2021.

We currently anticipate the cost of the development of the extensions to be around 15k CHF, however no formal offer has been received at the time of publishing this document.

2) Which level of security will be applied?

As with the motion voting process, each Authorized Vote Holder (designated by each Member organization) representing a voting Member will receive a unique link that will enable her/him to access the electronic voting system in a secure way. Only registered voting Members will receive this unique link, tailored for their voting rights, voting power and Member category.

Using this link, the voting Member will access a secure site using an encrypted connection (via https connection) between her/his computer device's internet browser and our voting server.

After completing the election process the Authorized Vote Holder will confirm all her/his selections by using a submit button at which time the ballots will be securely saved on our servers based in Gland, Switzerland. No further changes will be allowed after submission.

In case of major issue within our main data centre, we will have a backup server available in our disaster recovery data centre located in Meyrin, Switzerland, as per our regular disaster recovery process for all IUCN Global Systems.

After submission of ballot and storage of data, the Authorized Vote Holder will receive an automated message informing that his/her vote has been cast, but contrary to the vote

on motion and other matters, there will be no mention of the content of her/his specific ballot, because elections are by secret ballot. In case the person that cast the vote was not the Authorized Vote Holder, s/he can then report immediately to the Election Officer(s) for fraud / ballot interception. Appropriate measures can then be taken by the Election (Deputy) Officer.

The voting servers will be located within IUCN protected infrastructure, behind firewalls and will be monitored in order that potential internet attacks can be minimized (such as DDoS, ransomware, malware, etc...). Direct access to the various administration components won't be allowed from outside IUCN premises in order to minimize any risk of illegal access and alteration of the data. The systems will be closely monitored 24x7 during the election period to ensure the highest level of security possible.

3) Which level of confidentiality can be ensured for the data?

The ballots data is stored in a database through sets of multiple tables and binary files and not accessible in any ways to any IUCN Secretariat user, with the exception of 1) our IT systems administrator(s) dedicated for the support and maintenance of that specific software and related hardware and 2) the IT analyst(s) in charge of the Electronic Vote tool. These administrators and IT analyst(s) have specific terms in their IUCN work contracts requiring them to work under strict confidentiality rules. They have potentially access to all Electronic Voting system data. This protocol is similar to the one used when elections take place at Congress with an e-voting system. To ensure that we take confidentiality to the highest levels and as an example, our financial systems are externally audited every year and these accesses have been validated as compliant to industry best practices. For your information, the Director General, any of the Global and Regional Directors, the Legal Adviser, Secretary to Council nor the Director of Global IS have such privileged accesses. For information also, any direct access to databases by administrators will be logged and any action on the data can also be recorded.

Only the designated (Deputy) Election Officer will get access rights to the consolidated reports/results but they won't have access to the individual ballots. This is the same protocol as for elections taking place at Congress with an electronic voting system. It is planned that also one IT analyst (with eventually a backup person due to Covid-19 threat) will also be given access rights under the supervision of the (Deputy) Election Officer in order to develop specific reports if required after the elections are completed.

The ballots data will be kept within the servers for a certain period of time, to be determined, for auditing purposes, under the supervision of the (Deputy) Election Officer. The IT analyst(s) will also remain available in order to develop any further reports as demanded by the auditing process. Again, no one will be given direct access rights to individual saved ballots.

We need to point out that as with any Internet connected system no one can guarantee 100% security on any servers, network and end-user device. There will be always residual risks linked to various potential issues (e.g. voters' own email system being compromised, voters' own device being compromised by a virus, operating system security issue discovered by supplier, router attacks on some Internet providers) however IUCN's IS Group will take, as usual, all reasonable measures to ensure a high level of protection and will inform immediately the (Deputy) Election Officer in case a threat is identified that could impact our electronic voting process.

2. The process for the electronic vote

By the Director of the Union Development Group

The process follows the structure of the online e-voting process as described in Regulation 94 for all matters submitted to an e-vote as per Article 94 of the Statutes and aims as much as possible to reflect the provisions on voting at the World Congress (Article 96 of the Statutes), taking into account the specificities of elections. The process will therefore adjust some of the deadlines while ensuring that the overall length of the process up to the beginning of the e-vote will cover at least 14 weeks as required by Regulation 94.

The table hereafter gives an overview of the process for both the decision items submitted to the e-vote and the elections, in order to show the coherence of both timelines.

In order not to interfere with the e-vote on the motions (7-21 October 2021) which could possibly confuse IUCN Members, the first phase begins on 21 October 2020. The e-vote itself for both the decision items and the elections coincide: from 17 February to 3 March 2021.

If no 2nd round for the presidential elections is required, all decisions adopted through the electronic vote, including elections, will become effective on the date of publication of the results of the e-vote, i.e. on 10 March 2021, with the exception of the IUCN Programme and Financial plan that will enter into force retroactively on the 1st of January 2021. Should a second round be necessary for the election of the IUCN President, all decisions adopted through the electronic vote, including elections, will become effective on the date of publication of the results of the 2nd round, i.e. 7 April 2021.

	Subject of the e-vote: i. IUCN 2021-2024 Programme and Financial Plan ii. Dues Guide 2022-24 iii. Members' Rescission list iv. Appointment of External Auditors v. Financial Statements 2016 to 2019 vi. The motions to amend the Statutes and other governance issues proposed by the IUCN Council vii. Mandates of the IUCN Commissions.	Subject of the e-vote: Elections
	Supervised by the Legal Adviser: Sandrine Friedli Cela, Legal Adviser (Regulation 94.f)	Supervised by the Election Officer: Professor Denise E. Antolini and the Deputy Election Officer (to be appointed) (Rule 74)
21 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice of the electronic vote (opening and closing date, Regulation 94.a) • Publication on the Congress website of all proposals submitted to the e-vote 	
28 October 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening of the online discussion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November (dates to be determined): IUCN Members will be invited to submit questions for all candidates (except candidates for President) on a Union Portal page visible

		<p>to all IUCN Members during a 2-week period. Questions would be answered by candidates on their current campaign pages on IUCN's Congress website and/or selected by the moderator(s) for the recorded presentations (which are scheduled for another period – between 6 Jan to 20 Jan 2021 – see below).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 December: IUCN Members are invited to submit questions for candidates for President, on a Union Portal page visible to all IUCN Members.
9 December 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close of the online discussion 	
10 December – 13 January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As soon as possible but by 13 January at the latest, Council (or, by delegation, the standing committees) evaluates the results of the online discussion, reviews the proposals as required, and approves the final versions of all proposals for submission to the e-vote (with or without amendments to be voted on). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 6 and 20 January: recorded candidate presentations will be posted as a supplement of the existing interactive IUCN web site for candidates (for all elected positions except the President).
20 January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication on the Congress website of the final versions of all proposals submitted to the e-vote 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between 20 January and 3 February 2021 (precise date to be determined): 1st Presidential Candidate Debate (Moderated, live streamed, recorded and posted on the Congress website).
17 February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening of the e-vote 	
3 March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing of the e-vote 	
10 March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of the results of the e-vote (in case no 2nd round for the election of President is required) 	
If necessary: 2nd round of the election of the IUCN President		
Between 11 and 23 March 2021		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Presidential Debate (Moderated, live streamed, recorded and posted on the Congress website) between the two presidential candidates (Rule 81.i). Precise date to be determined by the (Deputy) Election Officer.
24 March 2021		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening of e-vote for the 2nd round of the election of the IUCN President
31 March 2021		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close of the 2nd round of the election of the IUCN President
7 April 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of the results of the e-vote 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of the result of the 2nd round of the election of the IUCN President

12 September 2020