



Extraordinary Council meeting, 28 September 2022

DECISION

The IUCN Council,

*Having heard* the concerns raised by Council members during the Extraordinary Council meeting of 28 September 2022, regarding the governance of IUCN knowledge products, a perceived trend towards their monetization, and the recently established IUCN Academy,

*Having received* the Director General's (DG) response both in writing and verbally during the meeting,

*Disappointed* in the level of transparency on the part of the DG in response to Council's repeated requests for information and clarification on these issues;

*Noting* Council's responsibilities under Article 37 of the IUCN Statutes for the oversight and general control of all affairs of IUCN, notably setting the strategic direction and policy guidance for the work of the Union, and *recalling* the DG's obligation to provide the Council with adequate information enabling it to exercise its functions,

*Desirous* to support the DG with the development of an appropriate model that delivers the financial sustainability of IUCN's knowledge products and the IUCN Academy, in full compliance with IUCN's policies, with the ultimate aim to better service the IUCN Members and components,

Requests the Director General to:

1. develop, by the end of 2022, in time for Council approval at its 108<sup>th</sup> meeting to be held in person in Abu Dhabi, a strategy on knowledge products, building on the comments and concerns raised by Council members during the Extraordinary Council meeting. Such a strategy should:
  - Present the different knowledge products of IUCN, with a summary of their governance, legal status, use, funder restrictions etc.;
  - Propose a strategy plan supporting the financial sustainability of each product, as well as a clear rationale and intent for the proposed funding approach;
  - Propose a process for consultation with IUCN Members, Commission members, partners, data providers and donors on the proposed plan;
  - Address the roles of the relevant components of the Union in implementing the strategy; and
  - Demonstrate delivery of the approved IUCN Programme.
2. develop, for Council review and endorsement at its 108<sup>th</sup> meeting, a strategy for the IUCN Academy. This strategy must include details of its intent, how it would contribute to building capacity of IUCN Members, and clarity on the roles of the components of IUCN and partners in its governance and delivery; and
3. put on hold any initiatives related to revenue generation from knowledge products within IUCN, or changes to their governance arrangements, as well as any new initiatives in the



context of the IUCN Academy until Council approves the above-mentioned strategies and plans.