



Media Brief

Curtain Raiser on the World Conservation Congress held on August 30, 2012 at IUCN Pakistan Country Office, Karachi

The World Conservation Congress 2012

The IUCN World Conservation Congress is the world's largest and most important conservation event. Held every four years, it aims to improve how we manage our natural environment for human, social and economic development. The theme of the Congress is Nature+ (Nature+ climate, Nature+ food, Nature+ development, Nature+ people & governance, Nature+ life)

The 2012 World Conservation Congress will be held from 6 to 15 September 2012 in Jeju, Republic of Korea. Leaders from government, the public sector, non-governmental organizations, business, UN agencies and social organizations will discuss, debate and decide solutions for the world's most pressing environment and development issues.

The Congress starts with a Forum where IUCN Members and partners discuss cutting-edge ideas, thinking and practice. The Forum leads into the Members' Assembly, a unique global environmental parliament of governments and NGOs.

The Congress has two main components:

Forum

The Forum is a public gathering hosted by the world's conservation community, bringing together people from all over the world to discuss, share and learn. Addressing the world's most pressing sustainable development challenges, the Forum offers a unique platform for debates, workshops, dialogues, roundtable discussions, training courses, music and exhibitions. Over around 800 events will be organized in the Congress comprising 5 World Leaders Dialogues, 150 Workshops, 130 Knowledge Cafes, 50 Conservation Campuses, 150 Posters, 7 Thematic pavilions and 100 Exhibition booths.

Members' Assembly

The Members' Assembly, the highest decision-making body of IUCN, brings together IUCN Members to debate and establish environmental policy, to approve the IUCN Programme and to elect the IUCN Council.

Resolutions and Recommendations on important conservation issues will be adopted by this unique global environmental parliament of governments and NGOs, guiding IUCN's policy and programme of work as well as influencing many other organizations around the world. All Members in good standing can propose motions (draft decisions) to the World Conservation Congress. 177 motions have been submitted which will be discussed, debated and adopted at the Congress.

At the Members' Assembly, Members also vote on IUCN's programme of work for the following four years, elect the IUCN President and Council, and manage the business affairs of the Union.

Pakistan Members:

Representatives of 23 IUCN member organizations from Pakistan comprising senior officials and leaders of both Government organizations and NGOs are participating in the Congress. As Mr. Javed Jabbar, IUCN Vice President and Regional Councillor will be completing his second term and final 4-year term as Councillor (membership of Council by elected office holding person is restricted to a maximum of two consecutive 4-year terms), Mr. Malik Amin Aslam Khan former Minister of State for Environment has been unanimously nominated candidate from Pakistan for the position of Regional Councillor for the 2012-2016 term.

Mr. Javed Jabbar will serve as the Chairperson of the Credentials Committee of the World Conservation Congress and as Vice President will be a Member of the Congress Steering Committee. He will also preside over a session of the Members' Assembly and has been invited to speak at 3 workshops.

List of Pakistan delegates:

1	Javed Jabbar	IUCN Vice President and Regional Councillor
2	Ali Rashid Tabrez	National Institute of Oceanography
3	Shehzad Jehangir	National Council for Conservation of Wildlife
4	Rahim Yousaf	Planning and Development Department, FATA
5	Maryam Bibi	Khwendo Kor
6	Shahid Sayeed Khan	Indus Earth Trust
7	Muhammad Zaheer Khan	Scientific and Cultural Society of Pakistan
8	Muhammad Younus	Baanhn Beli
9	Meher Marker Noshirwani	Trust for Conservation of Coastal Resources
10	Saifullah Khan	H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry
11	Roland deSouza	Shehri: Citizens for a Better Environment
12	Bano Saira	Shirkat Gah - Womens Resource Centre
13	Muhammad Gulfam	SUNGI Development Foundation
14	Mahmood Ahmad Khwaja	Sustainable Development Policy Institute
15	Naseer Ahmed Memon	Strengthening Participatory Organization
16	Zeenia Shaukat	Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research
17	Sher Khan	Aga Khan Rural Support Programme
18	Atta-ur- Rehman	Haashar Association
19	Saleem Zaman Khan	Taraqee Foundation
20	Ejaz Ahmed	World Wide Fund for Nature – Pakistan
21	Mohammad Tahseen	South Asia Partnership – Pakistan
22	Malik Amin Aslam Khan	Candidate, Regional Councillor
23	Asad Khan	Khwendo Kor

Sustainable Development Policy Institute, a Member of IUCN in Pakistan has submitted a motion titled: "Legally binding Global Mercury Treaty to protect wildlife, ecosystems and health" to be presented and discussed in the IUCN Members' Assembly for adoption. This motion calls on the Director General of the IUCN to work with the IUCN Commissions and membership networks for the promotion of enhanced awareness regarding adverse health effects of mercury exposure and protection. About 91 institutions/stakeholders from 40 countries across the world, including nine 9 international & regional networks and 22 organizations from six cities in Pakistan have extended support for this Motion.

A team of 14 members of the IUCN Pakistan staff led by Mr. Shah Murad Aliani, Country Representative is also participating in the event for facilitation of the Congress arrangements at Jeju and to support the Pakistan team. Besides, IUCN Pakistan is also organising the following special events at the World Conservation Congress:

- Launching of the film "Pearls in Sand" – About reviving the centuries-old water management system in Pakistan
- Launching of films on the Mangroves and Juniper forests of Pakistan followed by a talk by Javed Jabbar
- Launching of Integrated District Development Visions for bottom-up environmental planning in Pakistan

Members of the Pakistan Delegation will take an active interest in the Assembly and Forum proceedings.