



## **IUCN Statement on “Modalities and Institutional Arrangements of the Platform” at the First Session of a Plenary Meeting to Determine Modalities and Institutional Arrangements for IPBES**

**4 October 2011, Nairobi, Kenya**

Thank you Mr Chairman,

IUCN supports the proposal in the Working Document UNEP/IPBES.MI.1/4 (paragraph 33.b) and related elaboration in Information Document Inf.13 to consider the role and the participation of interested relevant non-governmental stakeholders.

IUCN welcomes the recognition of the Busan Outcome that the plenary should encourage and take into account inputs and suggestions from all relevant stakeholders.

In our view, an Ex Officio modality would provide for the most appropriate involvement for the non-governmental stakeholders in IPBES.

To ensure an interface between IPBES plenary and relevant stakeholders from the civil society understood in its broadest sense, IUCN proposes the creation of a permanent institutional mechanism, adequately funded, which could be linked to the Secretariat.

This mechanism will stimulate expression of needs and interests from non-government stakeholders, coordinate their contributions on all best practices which could be relevant to the mandate of IPBES to avoid duplication, inform and communicate on IPBES products to all relevant stakeholders who may not be members of the platform.

Concerning the creation of subsidiary body or bodies, IUCN favours the option that enhances efficiency, effectiveness and provides adequate and equitable participation of government nominees and representatives of non-government stakeholders.

The nomination of members of any subsidiary body should be transparent. Representatives should be individuals nominated following agreed criteria.

While the supporting, administrative and technical functions proposed in document MI.1/4 could be undertaken by adequate subsidiary bodies of the plenary, our view is that there is still a need for an independent panel specifically dedicated to monitor the quality of knowledge mobilized by IPBES.

Finally, IUCN support the proposal made in the working document concerning openness in the composition of the working groups.

Thank you.

*Stated by Cyrie SENDASHONGA, Head of the IUCN Delegation to the First Session of the Plenary Meeting to Establish an IPBES.*