# 109ª Reunión del Consejo de la UICN

**Celebrada de forma presencial en la sede de la UICN en Gland, Suiza, los días 24 y 25 de mayo de 2023**

## DECISIONES[1]

| Dec. # | Decisión del Consejo |
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| **Orden del día** (Punto 1 del orden del día) | |
| C109/1 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>Adopta el orden del día de su 109ª reunión. (Anexo 1) |
| **Informe del Director General** (Punto 2 del orden del día) | |
| **2.2 Informe Anual de la UICN 2022** | |
| C109/2 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*A propuesta del* Director General,<br>Aprueba el Informe Anual de la UICN 2022. |
| **2.3 Estados Financieros Auditados 2022** | |
| C109/3 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*A propuesta del* Director General,<br>*Por recomendación del* Comité de Finanzas y Auditoría,<br>Aprueba los estados financieros auditados 2022 y señala que su aprobación final corresponde al Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza de la UICN. |
| **2.4 Objetivos estratégicos del DG para 2023** | |
| C109/4 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>Remite la aprobación de los objetivos estratégicos del DG para 2023 a la Junta Directiva sobre la base de una propuesta de la Directora General Interina para finales de julio y teniendo en cuenta las aportaciones de los miembros del Consejo. |
| **Prioridades y objetivos estratégicos del Consejo para 2022-2025** (Punto 3 del orden del día). | |
| **3.2 Visión estratégica** | |

[1] La redacción definitiva de las decisiones está sujeta a la aprobación por el Consejo de las actas resumidas, de acuerdo con el artículo 52 del Reglamento.

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| C109/5 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br><br>*Habiendo examinado* el informe del Presidente del CFA sobre el análisis de la estrategia y la gobernanza financieras*;*<br><br>1. Pide al Comité de Gobernanza y Constituyentes y al Comité de Programa y Políticas que colaboren con el CFA para afinar los análisis financiero y de la gobernanza financiera de conformidad con sus respectivos mandatos;<br><br>2. Pide al Presidente del CFA y al Tesorero que presenten su informe al Comité Directivo de la Estrategia a 20 años;<br><br>3. Pide al Director General que integre las principales conclusiones de los análisis financiero y de la gobernanza financiera del CFA en el análisis de situación y otros documentos que contribuyan al desarrollo de la estrategia a 20 años, y pide además al Director General que proporcione una respuesta de gestión a las principales conclusiones y recomendaciones del informe;<br><br>4. Pide al Comité de Finanzas y Auditoría que siga analizando las opciones para aumentar las reservas; y que colabore con la Secretaría para presentar al Consejo los puntos de decisión relacionados con este análisis. |
| **3.3 Implementación de las resoluciones 2021 que requieran una acción por parte del Consejo** | |
| **3.3.1 Decisión 148 del Congreso 2021: Facilitar la presencia y participación efectiva de los Miembros en futuras sesiones del Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza** | |
| C109/6 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br><br>*Habiendo examinado* el informe del Grupo Consultivo para la revisión de los Estatutos y el Reglamento de la UICN y las Reglas de procedimiento del Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza establecido por el Consejo de conformidad con la decisión 148 del Congreso 2021 (documento del Consejo C109/3.3.1/1 rev),<br><br>*Por recomendación del Comité de Gobernanza y Constituyentes (CGC),*<br><br>1. Aprueba las enmiendas a los Estatutos, Reglamento y Reglas de Procedimiento propuestas por el Grupo Consultivo (Anexo 2) con el fin de someterlas a un debate en línea de los Miembros de la UICN y posteriormente a una votación electrónica, con el objetivo de garantizar que los cambios sugeridos sean aplicables a tiempo para ser efectivos durante la preparación del próximo Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza;<br><br>2. Decide:<br><br>a. aplicar el procedimiento definido en el artículo 94 del Reglamento con el calendario que figura en el anexo 3;<br>b. que el debate en línea mencionado en el apartado 1 de la presente decisión constituirá el debate en línea mencionado en el apartado a. del artículo 94 del Reglamento;<br>c. que se convoquen tres sesiones de un grupo de contacto como parte de la discusión en línea para garantizar una participación efectiva de los Miembros de la UICN y con el fin de lograr un texto de consenso que pueda someterse a votación; |

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| | d. solicitar a los miembros del Consejo, al comienzo de la discusión en línea, que colaboren con los Comités Nacionales y Regionales para promover la discusión sobre las enmiendas propuestas entre los Miembros de la UICN y una mayor participación de los mismos en la discusión y votación en línea;<br>3. Pide al CGC que prepare recomendaciones para el Consejo en relación con:<br>a. unas modificaciones del artículo 94 del Reglamento con el fin de acortar el tiempo necesario entre el inicio del procedimiento y su conclusión por una votación electrónica, y<br>b. la posible introducción en los Estatutos de la UICN de un requisito de quórum para las decisiones de la Asamblea de Miembros, para su aprobación por el próximo Congreso.<br>4. Además, recuerda que de acuerdo con los Estatutos, será posible organizar o expresarse en las reuniones de los grupos de contacto en cualquiera de las lenguas oficiales de la Unión (español, inglés y francés). |
| **3.3.2 Impacto de los conflictos armados sobre la biodiversidad** | |
| C109/7 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>Toma nota del informe de progresos del Grupo de Trabajo del Consejo sobre el impacto de los conflictos armados sobre la biodiversidad,<br>Alienta al Grupo de Trabajo a que continúe su labor en consulta con las Comisiones y a que informe sobre los progresos realizados al Consejo de la UICN en su próxima reunión. |
| **3.3.3 Actualización del CPP y el CGC sobre los progresos realizados en la implementación de otras resoluciones de 2021 que requieren una acción por parte del Consejo** | |
| C109/8 | **Resolución 123 del Congreso 2021 sobre biología sintética**<br>El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Por recomendación del* Comité de Programa y Políticas (CPP),<br>*Tomando nota* de los comentarios recibidos del Ministerio Federal Alemán de Medio Ambiente, Conservación de la Naturaleza, Seguridad Nuclear y Protección del Consumidor, Deutscher Naturschutzring, Re:Wild y la Wildlife Conservation Society sobre el proceso de implementación de la Resolución 123 del Congreso 2021, y *respaldando* las respuestas detalladas a estos comentarios preparadas por el Grupo de Trabajo sobre la Resolución 123 del CPP;<br>*Acogiendo* con beneplácito que el CPP haya supervisado el proceso aleatorio estratificado para seleccionar posibles miembros de la asamblea de ciudadanos de la UICN sobre biología sintética; y<br>*Reconociendo además* que se trató de un proceso claro y transparente;<br>Aprueba los "*Términos de Referencia para los organismos involucrados en la implementación de la Resolución 123 de la UICN (Marsella, 2020): Hacia el desarrollo de una política de la UICN sobre biología sintética en relación con la conservación de la naturaleza*" así como el "*Proceso para la implementación de la Resolución 123 del Congreso 2021 (Marsella, 2021): Hacia el desarrollo de una política de la UICN sobre biología sintética en relación con la conservación de la* |

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| | *naturaleza*" aprobados por la Decisión C108/2 del Consejo (noviembre de 2022), tal como revisados en respuesta a los comentarios recibidos de los Miembros de la UICN. (Anexo 4); |
| C109/9 | **Resolución 119 del Congreso 2021: Doctrina del Descubrimiento**<br>El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Programa y Políticas,<br>*Con respecto a* la Resolución 119 del Congreso 2021: Doctrina del Descubrimiento,<br>Establece un Grupo de Trabajo sobre Verdad y Reconciliación de acuerdo con la propuesta presentada, que incluya miembros de la CPAES, la CMDA y Miembros de la UICN,<br>Pide al grupo de trabajo:<br>• elaborar un plan de trabajo detallado en un plazo de 3 a 6 meses para incluir a miembros del Consejo, Miembros de la UICN y representantes de las Comisiones con experiencia adecuada;<br>• integrar las resoluciones de la UICN relevantes para la Doctrina del Descubrimiento en un enfoque integral;<br>• desarrollar una estrategia de comunicación explícita; y<br>• entregar un informe sobre las implicaciones de una renuncia a la Doctrina del Descubrimiento, que podrá incluir la presentación de una moción patrocinada por el Consejo para el próximo Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza;<br>Pide a la Secretaría de la UICN y a la CPAES que trabajen juntas para recaudar fondos para las actividades del grupo de trabajo y los mecanismos asociados. |
| **3.4 Implementación de la respuesta del Consejo a la Evaluación externa de la gobernanza de 2019** | |
| C109/10 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Gobernanza y Constituyentes,<br>1. Hace suyo el informe del Grupo de Trabajo sobre la Evaluación externa de la gobernanza, y<br>2. Encomia los progresos realizados por el CCG y alienta la continuación de su labor. |
| **3.5 Posicionamiento internacional** | |
| C109/11 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Valorando* la labor realizada por la Secretaría en materia de posicionamiento internacional y *alentando* una colaboración aún mayor con el Consejo, las Comisiones y los Miembros,<br>1. Pide al CPP que, con el apoyo de la Secretaría:<br>• realice un análisis de los resultados políticos prioritarios que la UICN debería perseguir hasta 2025 junto con las principales vías para lograrlos; |

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| | • emprenda un análisis urgente de las deficiencias en áreas clave en las que la UICN debería desarrollar una política;<br>2. Pide al Grupo de Trabajo sobre la COP28 que se asegure de que el nexo entre políticas climáticas y de biodiversidad se extienda más allá de la promoción de soluciones basadas en la naturaleza y desarrolle específicamente mensajes clave, coherentes con la política general de la UICN, sobre los impactos de las nuevas intervenciones de mitigación, como la captura y almacenamiento de carbono (CAC) y la geoingeniería, para que estos sean revisados por el CPP y finalizados a tiempo para la COP28;<br>3. Pide al Director General que fortalezca un compromiso sistemático con los Miembros de la UICN, especialmente a través de los Comités Nacionales y Regionales, para transmitir los mensajes de la Unión. |
| **Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza de la UICN 2025** (Punto 4 del orden del día) | |
| **4.1 Selección del país anfitrión** | |
| C109/12 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Gobernanza y Constituyentes,<br>*Reconociendo* que se llevó a cabo un minucioso proceso de selección y teniendo en cuenta la propuesta del país anfitrión candidato, el informe de evaluación y las recomendaciones de la Secretaría, así como todos los demás hechos pertinentes,<br>Decide aceptar la oferta de la Agencia Ambiental de Abu Dabi de organizar el Congreso Mundial de la Naturaleza de la UICN 2025 en Abu Dabi, Emiratos Árabes Unidos, del 9 al 15 de octubre de 2025. |
| C109/13 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Gobernanza y Constituyentes,<br>*Observando que* en los últimos años se han recibido muy pocas ofertas para acoger el Congreso de la UICN,<br>*Reconociendo* el proceso en curso de revisión de los Estatutos y la estrategia a 20 años,<br>Pide a la Secretaría que revise los requisitos del proceso de selección del país anfitrión para futuros Congresos Mundiales de la Naturaleza de la UICN, en particular en cuanto a criterios financieros, ambientales y sociales, con el objetivo de fomentar la diversidad en futuras ofertas. |
| **Asuntos relacionados con los constituyentes** (Punto 5 del orden del día) | |
| **5.1 Cuotas de membresía** | |

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| C109/14 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br><br>*Por recomendación del* Comité de Gobernanza y Constituyentes (CGC), que había examinado la propuesta de cuotas de membresía para organizaciones vinculadas a un sitio determinado presentada por el Grupo de Trabajo del Consejo sobre Cuotas de Membresía (GT Cuotas),<br><br>*Teniendo en cuenta el mandato otorgado al Consejo 2021*-2024 por los Miembros de la UICN en el párrafo 2.a de la decisión adoptada por voto electrónico en febrero de 2021:<br><br>1. Reconoce que la propuesta de modificar las cuotas de membresía para organizaciones vinculadas a un sitio determinado, teniendo en cuenta los gastos de éstas organizaciones en actividades de conservación y no su gasto total, es la mejor opción a seguir, y que la cuestión de las agencias gubernamentales necesita un trabajo más detallado;<br><br>2. Pide al CGC que, en coordinación con el CFA y la Secretaría, prepare y presente al Consejo para aprobación por correo electrónico, proyectos de enmiendas de la Guía de cuotas de membresía aprobada por los Miembros de la UICN en febrero de 2021 en relación con las organizaciones vinculadas a un sitio determinado y el calendario para su presentación a votación electrónica de los Miembros de la UICN, de conformidad con el artículo 94 del Reglamento;<br><br>3. *reconociendo que las cuotas de membresía y el valor de la membresía de la UICN plantean un conjunto más amplio de cuestiones que afectan a otros Miembros de la UICN, más allá de las organizaciones vinculadas a un sitio determinado,* solicita al CGC que continúe su trabajo y proponga una estrategia holística de membresía y una Guía revisada de cuotas de membresía para su adopción en el próximo Congreso. |
| **5.2 Solicitudes de membresía** | |
| C109/15 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br><br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Gobernanza y Constituyentes (CGC);<br><br>1. Aprueba doce (12) nuevas solicitudes de membresía (según anexo 5) que cumplen con los requisitos de los Estatutos y Reglamentos de la UICN y no han recibido objeciones de los Miembros de la UICN;<br><br>2. Recomienda a la Secretaría que aliente a la Organización para el Empoderamiento de la Mujer del Nuevo Milenio, Etiopía (*New Millennium Women Empowerment Organization*) a que actualice su sitio web para que el público pueda conocer toda la gama de sus actividades de conservación de la naturaleza. |
| **5.3 Solicitudes de cambio de categoría de membresía y notificaciones sobre Estados Miembros y cambios de nombre de Miembros de la UICN** | |
| C109/16 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br><br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Gobernanza y Constituyentes (CGC);<br><br>1. Toma nota del cambio de nombre de un Miembro actual de la UICN (Anexo 6); |

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| | 2. Aprueba la solicitud de un Miembro de la UICN de cambiar su categoría de membresía de la categoría de ONG Nacional a la de Afiliado (Anexo 6);<br>3. Toma nota con profunda preocupación del creciente número de Miembros de la UICN que solicitan cambiar su categoría de membresía a Afiliado como resultado de las nuevas cuotas de membresía. |
| **Estrategia relativa a los Productos del Conocimiento y Estrategia relativa a la Academia de la UICN** (Punto 6 del orden del día) | |
| C109/17 | **Estrategia relativa a los Productos del Conocimiento**<br>El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Programa y Políticas,<br>Respalda la hoja de ruta para Productos del Conocimiento, como parte del proceso para desarrollar una estrategia integral de gestión del conocimiento; (anexo 7)<br>Pide que esto contribuya al desarrollo de una visión y una estrategia de la UICN para la gestión del conocimiento;<br>Pide a la Secretaría que se asegure de que el desarrollo de esta estrategia incluya un proceso ascendente de consulta con los Miembros, el Consejo y las Comisiones; y<br>Alienta la Visión Estratégica a 20 años (Resolución 147 del Congreso 2021) a tener en cuenta la hoja de ruta para Productos del Conocimiento, así como la visión y estrategia de Gestión del Conocimiento. |
| C109/18 | **Estrategia relativa a la Academia de la UICN**<br>El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Programa y Políticas,<br>Establece una Junta Asesora de la Academia como prioridad, como se describe en el proyecto de estrategia, y le pide que colabore proactivamente con todas las Comisiones de la UICN;<br>Pide a la Junta Asesora y a la Secretaría que lleven a cabo una revisión legal, trabajando con la CMDA, que aborde los problemas de propiedad intelectual relevantes para la Academia;<br>Pide a la Junta Asesora, en colaboración con la Secretaría, que revise el nombre de la Academia para aclarar que ésta no está destinada a competir con las universidades existentes y otras instituciones de educación superior establecidas;<br>Pide a la Secretaría que<br>• desarrolle un plan de negocios para la Academia, trabajando con la Junta Asesora y considerando estrategias de precios específicas para los Miembros de la UICN;<br>• desarrolle una estrategia actualizada que será revisada por el CPP y presentada a la Junta Directiva para su aprobación, preferiblemente antes de finales de julio;<br>Apoya a la Academia para que continúe con sus cursos de capacitación, consultando de antemano con la Junta Asesora, y pide que la Secretaría y la Junta Asesora propongan conjuntamente en los próximos meses condiciones para ofrecer capacitación tarificada. |

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| **(Re)Confirmación de las reglas aplicables a las cartas de intervención o abogacía y el uso del logotipo de la UICN junto con el de otros constituyentes de la UICN** (Punto 7 del orden del día) | |
| C109/19 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Programa y Políticas,<br>Pide a las Comisiones que trabajen con la Unidad de Apoyo a las Comisiones de la Secretaría para proponer una actualización/revisión de las directrices sobre el uso del logotipo de la UICN por los constituyentes de la Unión. Esta deberá incluir una garantía de claridad de que cualquier Grupo de una Comisión de la UICN identifique claramente que cualquier correspondencia, recomendación o representación se hace en nombre del Grupo en cuestión y no de toda la UICN. |
| **Informes de las Comisiones de la UICN** (Punto 9 del orden del día) | |
| **9.2 Comisión de la UICN sobre la Crisis Climática** | |
| **9.2.1 Nombramiento de Vicepresidente(s)** | |
| C109/20 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Habiendo examinado* la propuesta del Presidente interino de nombrar a dos Vicepresidentes de la CCC,<br>*Con las recomendaciones de* la Asesora Jurídica de la UICN y del CGC,<br>Decide nombrar sólo un Vicepresidente para cada Comisión, sobre la base de los Estatutos de la UICN que se refieren consistentemente a "un Vicepresidente" en singular.<br>*A propuesta del* Presidente interino de la Comisión de la UICN sobre la Crisis Climática,<br>Nombra a la Sra. Cathy Yitong Li (China) como Vicepresidenta del Comité Directivo Interino de la Comisión de la UICN sobre la Crisis Climática. |
| **9.2.2 Cuestiones planteadas por el Comité Directivo Interino (CDI)** | |
| C109/21 | **Presupuesto de la Comisión**<br>El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Habiendo examinado* la solicitud de presupuesto para la Comisión formulada por el Presidente interino de la CCC,<br>*Teniendo en cuenta* la recomendación del CGC,<br>Decide no entrar en una discusión sobre este tema dado que el Consejo está limitado por la Resolución 110 del Congreso 2021 que establece que la Comisión sobre la Crisis Climática *"se financiará con recursos extrapresupuestarios"*. |

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| C109/22 | **Derecho de voto en el Consejo**<br>El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Tomando nota* de los progresos realizados hasta la fecha en el proceso de puesta en funcionamiento de la Comisión sobre la Crisis Climática, en particular las decisiones 107/2, C107/12, C/III y 108/11 del Consejo en relación con i) el nombramiento del Comité Directivo Interino, ii) la aprobación del mandato y iii) la aprobación del plan de trabajo de la Comisión sobre la Crisis Climática,<br>*Teniendo en cuenta* la recomendación de la Asesora Jurídica de la UICN,<br>Reconoce que el Sr. Manuel Pulgar-Vidal, como Presidente Interino de la Comisión de la UICN sobre la Crisis Climática, es miembro de pleno derecho del Consejo; y<br>Enmienda su decisión C107/12 (mayo de 2022) para reconocer que el Sr. Manuel Pulgar-Vidal puede, por lo tanto, votar en las Reuniones del Consejo. |
| **9.3 Comisión Mundial de Áreas Protegidas de la UICN** | |
| C109/23 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*A propuesta de* la Presidenta de la Comisión Mundial de Áreas Protegidas (CMAP) de la UICN,<br>Nombra a las siguientes personas como miembros del Comité Directivo de la CMAP:<br>• Sra. Harriet Davies-Mostert, Vicepresidenta Regional para África Oriental y Meridional;<br>• Sra. Mariana Bellot, Vicepresidenta Regional para América del Norte. |
| **9.4 Comisión de Política Ambiental, Económica y Social de la UICN** | |
| C109/24 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*A propuesta de* la Presidenta de la Comisión de Política Ambiental, Económica y Social (CPAES) de la UICN,<br>Nombra al Sr. Pablo Crimer, Presidente Regional para América Latina, como miembro del Comité Directivo de la CPAES. |
| **9.5 Comisión de Educación y Comunicación de la UICN** | |
| C109/25 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*A propuesta del* Presidente de la Comisión de Educación y Comunicación (CEC) de la UICN,<br>Nombra a las siguientes personas como miembros del Comité Directivo de la CEC:<br>1. Sra. Margaret (Meg) Beckel<br>2. Sr. Bernard Combes<br>3. Sr. David Ainsworth |
| **Informes con recomendaciones de los Comités Permanentes del Consejo** (Punto 10 del orden del día) | |

| 10.2 Comité de Programa y Políticas (CPP) | |
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| C109/26 | **Grupo de Trabajo del Sector Privado**<br><br>El Consejo de la UICN,<br><br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Programa y Políticas (CPP),<br><br>Aprueba el *Mecanismo de Supervisión del Marco Operativo de la UICN para Colaboraciones con el Sector del Petróleo y el Gas*; (Anexo 8)<br><br>Toma nota de que:<br><br>a. Sobre esta base, y sobre la base de la recomendación de su Grupo de Trabajo sobre el Sector Privado (GTSP), el CPP acuerda que la propuesta de colaboración con TotalEnergies se alinea con las siete condiciones clave descritas en el Marco Operativo para Colaboraciones con el Sector del Petróleo y el Gas y acuerda que la Secretaría puede proceder con su establecimiento, informando semestralmente al GTSP, según el mecanismo de supervisión,<br><br>b. Además, sobre esta base, y sobre la base de la recomendación de su Grupo de Trabajo sobre el Sector Privado (GTSP), el CPP acuerda que la propuesta de colaboración con Shell PLC se alinea con las siete condiciones clave descritas en el Marco Operativo para Colaboraciones con el Sector del Petróleo y el Gas y acuerda que la Secretaría puede proceder con su establecimiento, informando semestralmente al GTSP, según el mecanismo de supervisión,<br><br>c. El CPP recomienda el establecimiento de una estrategia de comunicación clara que aborde los riesgos en materia de reputación asociados con estas colaboraciones. Esta estrategia deberá aclarar lo que significan los términos de cada colaboración y lo que no significan, en relación con la alineación con el Marco Operativo;<br><br>d. El Presidente del CPP emite una nueva invitación a los Consejeros de la UICN para que se unan al GTSP. |
| C109/27 | **Procedimientos en materia de políticas**<br><br>El Consejo de la UICN,<br><br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Programa y Políticas (CPP),<br><br>Aprueba los Procedimientos de la UICN para Participar en Reuniones sobre Políticas Internacionales (Anexo 9)<br><br>Toma nota de que el CPP revisará el Procedimiento de Supervisión de Políticas de 2010 e informará sobre cualquier enmienda durante la 110ª reunión del Consejo. |
| C109/28 | **Grupo de Trabajo sobre la Antártida y el Océano Austral**<br><br>El Consejo de la UICN,<br><br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Programa y Políticas (CPP), |

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| | Toma nota del establecimiento del Grupo de Tareas del CPP sobre la Antártida y el Océano Austral, encargado de presentar un proyecto de informe al CPP antes de la 110a reunión del Consejo, con los siguientes TdR:<br>1. Revisar y actualizar la estrategia programática y política de la UICN sobre cuestiones antárticas (teniendo en cuenta especialmente las resoluciones pertinentes de la UICN, los desarrollos recientes de políticas, incluido el Marco Mundial de Biodiversidad de Kunming-Montreal, y el programa de trabajo de la UICN) para una acción inmediata y como aportación para el Programa entre sesiones 2025-2029; y<br>2. Desarrollar un plan que esboce un medio sostenible de implementación que incluya opciones para la recaudación de fondos y el desarrollo de capacidades, con el objetivo de elevar el compromiso y la influencia de la UICN en los foros políticos relevantes. |
| C109/29 | **Coordinador Mundial del Consejo de la UICN para los Océanos**<br>El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Programa y Políticas (CPP),<br>Nombra a la Sra. Lolita Gibbons-Decherong Coordinadora Mundial del Consejo de la UICN para los Océanos. |
| **10.3 Comité de Gobernanza y Constituyentes** | |
| C109/30 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br>*Por recomendación de* su Comité de Gobernanza y Constituyentes,<br>1. Aprueba los Términos de Referencia (TdR) del Grupo de Trabajo del Consejo sobre Mociones (GTM) (anexo 10) así como el proceso de nombramiento de los miembros del mismo (anexo 11);<br>2. Pide al GTM que trabaje junto con el Equipo de Trabajo (ET) del CGC sobre mociones para proponer, para consideración del Consejo en su 111ª reunión, enmiendas a los Estatutos de la UICN y a las Reglas de procedimiento pertinentes con el objetivo de mejorar la eficacia y la transparencia del proceso de mociones y abordar las preocupaciones planteadas por los Miembros en el último Congreso;<br>3. Pide al GTM que trabaje con el ET del CGC para proponer cambios en los procedimientos internos del GTM, en particular para mejorar la transparencia del proceso de mociones;<br>4. Pide al GTM que trabaje con la Secretaría para preparar un plan de trabajo y el presupuesto necesarios para gestionar eficazmente el proceso de mociones, para consideración del Consejo al adoptar los presupuestos de la UICN para 2024 y 2025. |
| **Sesión a puerta cerrada del Consejo (Punto 12 del orden del día)** | |

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| **12.1 Búsqueda y transición a un nuevo Director General (DG) de la UICN** | |
| C109/31 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br><br>*Por recomendación de* su Junta Directiva, reunida *a puerta cerrada* los días 11 y 23 de mayo de 2023,<br><br>*Tomando nota* del informe de progresos del Comité de búsqueda de un DG sobre el proceso de búsqueda, de conformidad con los términos de referencia y el calendario aprobados por el Consejo en su reunión extraordinaria del 11 de abril de 2023;<br><br>1. Transmite al Comité de Búsqueda de un DG sus directrices en cuanto al perfil y la descripción del puesto de trabajo del Director General;<br><br>2. Nombra a la Dra. Grethel Aguilar como Directora General Interina a partir del 1 de julio de 2023 y hasta que el próximo Director General asuma su cargo. |
| **Otros asuntos** (Punto 13 del orden del día) | |
| **13.1 Fecha y lugar de la próxima reunión del Consejo C110** | |
| C109/32 | El Consejo de la UICN,<br><br>*Habiendo sido invitado* por el Gobierno francés a través del Ministro de Medio Ambiente francés durante la reunión del "Comité de Pilotage France - UICN" el 11 de mayo de 2023 a celebrar la 110ª reunión del Consejo en Francia en el marco de las conmemoraciones del 75º aniversario de la fundación de la UICN en Francia;<br><br>Acepta en principio la invitación a celebrar su 110ª reunión en Fontainebleau (Francia) del 13 al 15 de noviembre de 2023;<br><br>Toma nota de las consultas en curso entre la Secretaría y el país anfitrión con el fin de que este último se haga cargo de los gastos no cubiertos por el presupuesto aprobado de la UICN para 2023;<br><br>Pide a la Junta Directiva que confirme esta decisión tan pronto como el país anfitrión haya confirmado que cubre los gastos no previstos en el presupuesto aprobado de la UICN para 2023. |

30.05.2023

# 109th Meeting of the IUCN Council (C109)

in person, HQ, Gland (Switzerland), 23-25 May 2023

## Agenda

(Approved by the IUCN Council decision C109/1 on 24 May 2023)

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| **Tuesday 23 May 2023** | |
| 09:00-13:00& 14:00-18:00 | **Meetings of the standing committees of the IUCN Council (PPC, FAC and GCC)** |
| **Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 May 2023** | |
| | **Agenda Item 1: Opening of the meeting and approval of the Agenda** FOR DECISION<br>*IUCN Members have received the draft agenda one month in advance of the Council meeting. Their comments will be compiled in Council document C109/1/3.*<br>Documents:<br>• C109/1/2b rev Program overview of C109 with tentative timetable of Council plenary<br>• C109/1/3 Comments from IUCN Members on the Draft Agenda of C109 |
| | **Agenda Item 2: Director General's Report**<br>**2.1 DG's annual report based results on the DG's strategic objectives for 2022** FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION<br>*Following his annual report 2022, the DG will also present an update on activities since the previous Council meeting (the period January-May 2023). Both the written report and the slides for his update January-May 2023 are available:*<br>• C109/2.1/1 DG's annual report / results on the DG's strategic objectives for 2022<br>• C109/2.1/2 DG's Update for period since C108 (covering Jan-May 2023)<br>**2.2 IUCN 2022 Annual Report** FOR DECISION<br>*Council members received the draft IUCN 2022 Annual Report from the Director General on 7 March 2023, for comments by 27 March 2023. The final version incorporating Council members' comments is available:*<br>• C109/2.2/2 Revised and final version of the IUCN 2022 Annual report, with feedback from Councillors incorporated<br>**2.3 Audited Financial Statements 2022** FOR DECISION<br>*The DG (and CFO) will make a brief presentation followed by the Chair of FAC's presentation of the recommendations from FAC10 scheduled for 23 May 2023, and the Treasurer's remarks.*<br>• C109/2.3/1 - FAC10.2: Financial Results 2022<br>• C109/2.3/2 - FAC10.2a: The Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022<br>• C109/2.3/3 - FAC 10.2b: Review of the 2022 financial statements<br>**2.4 DG's strategic objectives for 2023** FOR DECISION<br>• C109/2.4/1 DG's 2023 strategic objectives |
| | **Agenda Item 3: Council's strategic priorities & objectives 2022-25**<br>**3.1 Overview of progress** FOR INFORMATION |

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| | *By the President and Vice Presidents* |
| | **3.2 Strategic Vision** FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION<br>• *Progress on the 20-year Strategic Vision elaborated by the Intersessional Council Working Group / Steering Committee – for discussion / approval for the purpose of consulting the IUCN membership.*<br>• *The FAC will discuss the financial strategy at FAC10 on 23 May 2023 and report back to Council.*<br>*During its third meeting held on 16 May 2023, the Steering Committee of the IUCN 20-year Strategic Vision Project agreed to:*<br>• *Approve the submission to Council* (C109) *of two of the deliverables of the Project, Phase II, as defined in the Project Initiation Document. These are: "Analysis of IUCN today" (Chapter 1) and "External situation and trends" (Chapter 2). They can be viewed though the links below.*<br>• *Recognise that these are provisional texts which will be improved based on consultations with Council and the Membership.*<br>• *Request that a place holder be included in Chapter 1 for inclusion of a section on Value Proposition to Membership, once defined by Council.*<br>• *Upon Council approval, submit these documents to Members as part of the package for Consultation (June 2023 onwards).*<br>  • C109/3.2/1 Chapter I - IUCN Today May 6 2023<br>  • C109/3.2/2 Chapter II - External situation and trends |
| | **3.3 Implementation of 2021 Resolutions requiring action from Council**<br>**3.3.1 2021 Congress Decision 148 - Enabling effective attendance and participation of Members in future sessions of the Congress** FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION<br>*The Advisory Group's proposals to amend the Statutes, Rules and Regulations to make the Congress a hybrid event – for discussion / approval for the purpose of consulting the IUCN membership.*<br>  • C109/3.3.1/1 rev Report of the Advisory Group to Council w. Annexes 1, 3, 4 and 5<br>  • Annex 1 - IUCN Statutes and Regulations September 2021 - with proposed revisions and notes of the Advisory Group 15 May 2023 |
| | **3.3.2 Impact of armed conflict on biodiversity** FOR DISCUSSION<br>*Progress report from the Working Group established by Council decision C108/9.*<br>  • C109/3.3.2/1 IUCN draft report of the WG on armed conflicts |
| | **3.3.3 Update from PPC and GCC on progress with the implementation of other 2021 Resolutions requiring action from Council** FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION |
| | **3.4 Implementation of the Council Response to 2019 Governance External Review** FOR INFORMATION / DISCUSSION<br>*GCC will consider results of its Task Force during its meeting of 23 May 2023.*<br>  • C109/3.4/1 Report of GCC's Task Force on the External Governance Review |
| | **3.5 International Positioning** FOR DISCUSSION<br>*Discussion of IUCN's international positioning, in particular the plans and strategies for UNFCCC CoP28 and other CoPs (e.g. Convention on Migratory Species CoP14) and priority subsidiary bodies of MEAs that will be held in 2023, taking into account recommendations of PPC incl. on the role of IUCN's Permanent Observer to the United Nations in this regard.* |
| | **Agenda Item 4: IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025**<br>**4.1 Selection of the Host Country** FOR DECISION |

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| | *This item will be dealt with in camera, i.e. restricted to the Council members, the Director General and Secretariat staff required for this item.* |
| | **Agenda Item 5: Constituency Issues**<br>**5.1 Membership dues** FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION<br>*Discussion / decision on proposals from the Council Working Group to operationalize membership dues for the special case of venue-based organizations (follow-up to Council decision C108/14). This topic is on the agenda of GCC9 of 23 May 2023.*<br>• C109/5.1/1 Council WG on membership dues - Progress Report 19 May 2023 |
| | **5.2 Membership applications** FOR DECISION<br>*Consideration of new membership applications taking into account the recommendations of GCC (GCC8 of 13 April 2023 and GCC9 of 23 May 2023).*<br>• C109/5.2 Consideration of 12 membership applications w. Annex<br>• GCC8 Outcomes and recommendations to Council 13 April 2023<br>**5.3 Applications for change of membership category or notification of name change** FOR DECISION<br>• C109/5.3 Change of category or name of IUCN Members and notification about State Members<br>• C109/5.3/2 Change of membership category<br>**5.4 Update on the preparations for the IUCN Members' e-vote to rescind Members' rights** FOR INFORMATION |
| | **Agenda Item 6: Strategy for Knowledge Products and Strategy for the IUCN Academy** FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION<br>*Proposals from the Director General in response to Council decisions C108/15 and C108/16, taking into account recommendations from PPC.*<br>Documents:<br>• C109/6/1 Initiative for the future of IUCN capacity building<br>• C109/6/3 Knowledge Products and Knowledge Management: Strategic Roadmap Version 2.0 – May 2023<br>• C109/6/4 Capacity Building CEM and WCPA Comments v0517 |
| | **Agenda Item 7: (Re)Confirmation of the rules for intervention or lobbying letters and the use of the IUCN logo in conjunction with the logo of other constituent parts of IUCN** FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION<br>*In the context of a recent issue, the DG consulted the Chairs of PPC and GCC who suggested that Council reconfirms the rules. The following background documentation has been provided by the Secretariat:*<br>• C109/7/1 rev Background note - Use of Logo for lobbying w. attachments |
| | **Agenda Item 8: Strategic Review of IUCN's Future Engagement with the World Heritage Convention** FOR INFORMATION<br>*The Director General would like to share with Council the findings and recommendations of the Strategic Review of IUCN's Future Engagement with the World Heritage Convention which were reviewed by the PPC (See PPC10 Outcomes and recommendations to Council 9 March 2023 for PPC's input).*<br>Documents:<br>• C109/8/1 Strategic Review of IUCN's Future Engagement with the World Heritage Convention<br>• C109/8/2 IUCN Response to Strategic Review of IUCN's Future Engagement with World Heritage Convention |
| | **Agenda Item 9: Reports of the IUCN Commissions** |

**9.1 Reports of the Commissions** FOR INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

*The Chairs of CEM, SSC and WCPA will present their Commission's annual report to Council as required by Art. 77 of the Statutes. The remaining Commission Chairs will present their reports at C110.*

- C109/9.1/1 CEM group and regional reports 2022
- C109/9.1/1 PPT CEM report to Council
- C109/9.1/2 WCPA 2022 Annual Report (pages 1-11)
- C109/9.1/2 WCPA 2022 Annual Report (pages 12-39)
- C109/9.1/2/2 PPT WCPA Report 2022 to Council (slide presentation)
- C109/9.1/3 PPT SSC report to Council

**9.2 IUCN Climate Crisis Commission:**

**9.2.1 Appointment of Deputy Chair(s)** FOR DECISION

*The Interim Chair intends to make a proposal for appointment as Deputy Chair(s). The Interim Chair, who will not be able to travel to Gland, will connect remotely for agenda items 9.2.1 and 9.2.2. The only time available in his travel schedule will be between 11.30 and 13.30 CEST on 24 May.*

- C109/9.2.1/1 Appointment of Deputy Chair(s) of the IUCN Climate Crisis Commission

**9.2.2 Issues raised by the Interim Steering Committee (ISC)** FOR DISCUSSION/ DECISION

*In its "statement" (pp 15-18 of the pdf file) clarifying their rationale for adapting the draft Terms of Reference of the Commission to the requirements of the Council in February 2023, the ISC raised issues pertaining to budget and voting rights of the Interim Chair (cf. Council decision C107/12, May 2022) which Council members agreed to discuss at C109*

**9.3 IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas** FOR DECISION

*The Chair of WCPA will propose two candidates for appointment to WCPA's Steering Committee to fill vacancies following the resignation of two committee members.*

- C109/9.3/1 Appointment of members of the Steering Committee of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas

**9.4 IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy** FOR DECISION

The Chair of CEESP will propose a candidate for appointment to CEESP's Steering Committee to fill a vacancy following the resignation of a committee member.

- C109/9.4/1 Appointment of a member of the Steering Committee of the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy

**9.5 IUCN Commission on Education and Communication** FOR DECISION

The Chair of CEC will propose candidates for appointment to CEC's Steering Committee.

- C109/9.5/1 Appointment of members of the Steering Committee of the Commission on Education and Communication

**Agenda Item 10: Reports with recommendations from the Council's Standing Committees** FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION

*Under this agenda item, the committees will present topics for information, discussion and/or decision of Council that have not yet been covered under other agenda items of this Council meeting.*

**10.1 Finance and Audit Committee (FAC)**

- FAC9 Outcomes and recommendations to Council 3 May 2023 w. Annex

**10.2 Programme and Policy Committee (PPC)**

- PPC11 Outcomes and recommendations to Council 12 April 2023

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| | **10.3 Governance and Constituency Committee (GCC)**<br>• GCC8 Outcomes and recommendations to Council 13 April 2023 |
| | **Agenda Item 11: Amendments to the Regulations** FOR DISCUSSION / DECISION<br>*This item is on the agenda in order to allow Council to approve amendments to the Regulations if it wished to do so, taking into account that Article 101 of the Statutes requires that amendments to the Regulations must be placed on the agenda of the Council and adopted at each of two successive periodic meetings of the Council. Between these Council meetings, the proposed amendments must be communicated to IUCN Members for comments or objections. The amendments listed under this item concern amendments other than those consequential to the proposed amendments to the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of the Congress referred to under agenda item 3.3.1 (in response to Congress Decision 148) which will be submitted to the IUCN membership for approval together with the amendments to the Statutes and the Rules which they relate to.*<br>**11.1 Amendments to the Regulations concerning the Legal Adviser** (Follow-up to Council decision C107/21)<br>• *Taking into account recommendations from GCC. See in this regard* GCC8 Outcomes and recommendations to Council 13 April 2023 (item 4, paragraph f) |
| | **Agenda Item 12: *in camera* session**<br>*Session of the Council held in camera, i.e. restricted to the members of the Council, in accordance with Article 58 of the Statutes*<br>**12.1 Search for and transition to a new Director General of IUCN** |
| | **Agenda Item 13: Any other business**<br>**13.1 Date and place of the next Council meeting C110**<br>*Maud Lelièvre has confirmed that the French Government will host the 110th Council meeting in (or near) Paris from 13 to 15 November 2023 in the context of the 75th anniversary of IUCN's founding. Consultations are on-going with the view to determining to what extent the host will pay any expenditure not covered by the approved IUCN budget.* |

Annex 2 to Council decision C109/6, 24 May 2023
Proposed amendments - 2021 Congress Decision 148 – with notes Advisory Group

# Statutes, including
Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress,

# and Regulations

# STATUTES

of 5 October 1948, revised on 22 October 1996, and last amended on 10 September 2021

(including Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress, last amended on 10 September 2021)

# AND REGULATIONS

revised on 22 October 1996 and
last amended on 10 September 2021

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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iucn_congress_brand_guidelines_english_updated_2021_.pdf

Traditionally, the book of Statutes and Regulations bears the logo of the Congress at which the Statutes were last amended.

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# *STATUTES*

## *Preamble*

Recognizing that:

- conservation of nature and natural resources involves the preservation and management of the living world, the natural environment of humanity, and the earth's renewable natural resources on which rests the foundation of human civilization;

- natural beauty is one of the sources of inspiration of spiritual life and a necessary framework for the needs of recreation, made ever more essential by humanity's increasingly mechanized existence;

- civilization has achieved its present high standard by finding ever more effective means for developing and utilizing these resources, and that consequently soils, water, forests and vegetation, wildlife, wilderness areas maintained intact, and characteristic landscapes are of vital importance for economic, social, educational and cultural purposes;

- the increasing impoverishment of natural resources will inevitably result in a lowering of human standards of living but that this trend need not be irreversible provided that people fully come to recognize their close dependence upon these resources and to the recognition of the need to preserve and manage them in a way that is conducive to the peace, progress and prosperity of humanity;

Convinced that since protection and conservation of nature and natural resources are of vital importance to all nations, a responsible international organisation primarily concerned with the furthering of these aims will be of value to various governments, the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies and other interested organisations;

Recalling that, for these reasons, the governments, public services, organisations, institutions and associations concerned with these matters, meeting at Fontainebleau, on 5 October 1948, established a Union now known as the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (hereinafter referred to as "IUCN") and governed by Statutes adopted first at the time of its foundation;

The Members of IUCN, meeting in Montreal from 13 to 23 October 1996, renewed their commitment to these ends and adopted these revised Statutes for the governance of IUCN.

## *Part I - Legal Status*

1. IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (also known as International Union for Conservation of Nature) is constituted in accordance with Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code as an international association of governmental and non-governmental members. Therefore it has legal personality and may perform any act in conformity with its objectives.

## *Part II - Objectives*

2. The objectives of IUCN shall be to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

3. To attain these objectives, IUCN[1]:

   (a) mobilizes its Members, components and partners to build alliances for conservation;

   (b) strengthens the institutional capacity of its Members to conserve biological diversity and safeguard ecological life-support processes at global, regional, national and local levels;

   (c) promotes enhanced cooperation between its governmental and non-governmental Members to strengthen the capacity of its Members and partners;

   (d) encourages research related to the conservation of nature and natural resources and disseminates information about such research;

   (e) provides a forum for discussion of conservation issues, including their scientific, educational, legal, economic, social and political dimensions, at global, regional, national and local levels;

   (f) develops expert networks to support its Members and components;

[1] Changed from (m) to (n) as a consequence of the amendment to Article 3 of the Statutes adopted by the 2021 World Conservation Congress inserting a new paragraph (g) and renumbering all subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

(g) provides scientific and other authoritative information, including traditional ecological knowledge, in the form of assessments, analysis, and advice on the status and trends of nature and natural resources, including on threats, human behaviour, conservation measures and future scenarios;

(h) prepares and disseminates statements on conservation, drawing on the expertise of its Members and components;

(i) influences national and international legal and administrative instruments so that societies are enabled to enjoy the benefits provided sustainably by nature and natural resources;

(j) makes representations to governments and international agencies so as to influence environmental policies;

(k) assists in the development of mechanisms for debating and resolving international environmental issues;

(l) contributes to the preparation of international agreements relevant to the conservation of nature and natural resources and encourages States to adhere to these agreements;

(m) takes any other appropriate action which will promote the conservation of nature and natural resources; and

(n) implements the provisions of these Statutes.

3*bis*. In working towards the objectives outlined in Article 3 (g) of the Statutes, the IUCN Secretariat and the IUCN Commissions are required to uphold high standards of scientific work and other knowledge systems and will be free from undue influence or conflict of interest in this regard.

## *Part III - Members*

Categories

4. The Members of IUCN shall be:

Category A: (a) States, government agencies and subnational governments;

(b) political and/or economic integration organisations;

| | | |
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| Category B: | (c) | national non-governmental organisations; |
| | (d) | international non-governmental organisations; |
| Category C: | (e) | indigenous peoples' organisations; and |
| Category D: | (f) | affiliates. |

5. In these Statutes[2]:

(a) States shall be those which are Members of the United Nations or any of its Specialized Agencies, or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, or parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice;

(b) government agencies shall be organisations, institutions and, when applicable, government departments, which form part of the machinery of government in a State, including those agencies of the components of federal States or of States having an analogous structure;

(c) subnational governments are governmental entities at the state, provincial, local, territories or regional level that have been elected and have:

(i) competences to adhere to the Statutes of IUCN;

(ii) effective decision-making authority in the field of conservation of nature; and/or

(iii) competences to provide for the equitable and ecologically sustainable use of natural resources;

(d) political and/or economic integration organisations shall be organisations constituted solely by States to which those States have conferred legal competence in respect of matters within the objectives of IUCN;

(e) national non-governmental organisations shall be institutions and associations incorporated within a State;

[2] Changed from (e) to (f) as a consequence of the amendment to Article 5 of the Statutes adopted by the 2021 World Conservation Congress inserting a new paragraph (c) and renumbering all subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

(f) international non-governmental organisations shall be institutions and associations organized in two or more States;

(g) indigenous peoples' organisations shall be institutions and associations established by indigenous peoples for the advancement of indigenous communities; and

(h) Affiliate Members shall be government agencies, national and international non-governmental organisations, which are not in Categories A, B or C.

Admission

6. States or political and/or economic integration organisations shall become Members of IUCN by notifying the Director General of their adhesion to these Statutes, effective upon payment of the first year's membership dues.

7. Government agencies, subnational governments, national and international non-governmental organisations, indigenous peoples' organisations and affiliates shall become Members of IUCN when the Council has determined that:

(a) the applicant shares and supports the objectives of IUCN;

(b) the applicant has as one of its central purposes the achievement of IUCN's objectives and a substantial record of activity in the conservation of nature and natural resources;

(c) the objectives and track record of the applicant embody to a substantial extent:

(i) the conservation of the integrity and diversity of nature; and, either or both:

(ii) the aim to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable;

(iii) dedication to influencing, encouraging and assisting societies to meet the objectives of IUCN;

(d) the applicant does not pursue objectives or carry out activities that conflict with the objectives or activities of IUCN; and

(e) the applicant meets the other qualifications for membership as prescribed in the Regulations.[3]

8. Before admitting an applicant the Council shall:

(a) notify Members of the application and consider any objection raised; and

(b) follow the procedure and criteria prescribed in the Regulations.[4]

9. The Council shall admit the applicant by a two-thirds majority of votes cast.

10. Any decision of the Council on admission of an applicant may be appealed by ten Members eligible to vote acting within the period prescribed in the Regulations.[5] The World Conservation Congress (hereinafter referred to as "the World Congress"), on such an appeal, shall have the right to reverse the Council's decision by a two-thirds majority of votes cast in Category A and by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in Categories B and C combined.

11. An applicant denied admission by the Council shall not reapply for admission for a period of three years. An applicant whose appeal against denial of admission by the Council has been rejected by the World Congress shall not reapply for admission for a period of five years. If an applicant whose membership has once been rejected by the World Congress again applies and Council recommends admission, then such re-application shall be submitted to the World Congress for decision.

Rights and Obligations of Members

12. (a) Members shall have the right *inter alia*:

(i) to participate in the World Congress;

(ii) to participate as appropriate in National and Regional Committees or in Regional Fora of Members;

(iii) to express an opinion on application for admission as new Members;

[3] See Regulations 4 to 6
[4] See Regulations 4 to 20
[5] See Regulation 19

(iv) to be informed regularly about the budget and activities of IUCN;

(v) to communicate their views to the components of IUCN; and

(vi) to receive, on request and for a reasonable fee, copies of IUCN publications and a record of the official meetings of IUCN other than closed meetings.

(b) Members in Categories A, B and C shall also have the right:

(i) to propose to the Council candidates for President, Treasurer and Chairs of the Commissions to be elected by the World Congress;

(ii) to nominate candidates directly to the World Congress for election as President;

(iii) to nominate to the World Congress candidates for election as Councillors elected from the Regions and Indigenous Councillor;

(iv) to submit motions to the World Congress; ~~and~~

(v) to vote in sessions of the World Congress ~~or by mail ballot;~~ and

(vi) to vote between sessions of the World Congress by mail or electronic ballot as prescribed in Article 94.

**Commented [LDW1]:** Advisory Group: The second element of paragraph (v) is moved to a new paragraph because the right to vote during Congress and the right to vote (by mail or electronic ballot) between sessions of the Congress are governed by two completely different procedures, the first as described in the Rules of Procedure, the latter as described in article 94 of the Statutes and the Regulations.

(c) Members shall have the obligation *inter alia*:

(i) to support and facilitate the objectives, activities and governance of IUCN;

(ii) to provide to IUCN, upon request, readily available information regarding their activities in support of IUCN's objectives;

(iii) to pay membership dues as prescribed in the Regulations[6]; and

(iv) to provide to IUCN such information as is required for the calculation of their dues.

[6] See Regulations 22 through 26

Suspension, Rescission, Expulsion and Withdrawal

13. (a) The rights of a Member in connection with elections, voting and motions shall *ipso facto* be suspended when the dues of that Member are one year in arrears. If the dues of a Member are two years in arrears, the matter shall be referred to the World Congress which may rescind all the remaining rights of the Member concerned. Such rescission shall be on such terms as the World Congress may determine.

(b) If, one year after the decision of the World Congress to rescind the remaining rights of a Member, the Member in question has not paid its arrears owed up until such rescission, that Member shall be deemed to have withdrawn from IUCN.

(c) Should any Member act persistently in a manner seriously inconsistent with the objectives of IUCN, the suspension or expulsion of that Member may be proposed to the Council:

(i) in the case of a political and/or economic integration organisation or a State Member, by at least two State Members;

(ii) in the case of any other Member in Category A or in the case of any Member in Categories B or C, by at least ten Members in both Categories B and C combined, including a minimum of five Members in the same Category as the Member proposed for suspension or exclusion; and

(iii) in the case of a Member in Category D, by at least ten Members eligible to vote.

(d) By a two-thirds majority of votes cast, the Council may:

(i) request the Member concerned to present not later than three months, the reason why suspension or expulsion is not justified; and

(ii) decide, after considering any response from the Member, to inform that Member of Council's intention to submit the proposal to a vote by the World Congress.

(e) If not later than three months of notification of the Council's decision, the Member does not indicate to the Director General its

wish that a vote be conducted, the Member shall be considered to have withdrawn from IUCN.

(f) If the Member concerned requests a vote:

(i) the Director General shall submit the proposal for suspension or expulsion, together with any explanations of the Member, to the Members eligible to vote;

(ii) the vote shall take place at the next session of the World Congress and the decision taken, in the case of a Member in Category A, Category B or Category C, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in Category A and by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in Categories B and C combined; in the case of a Member in Category D, by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast of all the Members eligible to vote;

(iii) only State Members may vote on a proposal for suspension or expulsion of a political and/or economic integration organisation or of a State Member; and

(iv) except as provided in (iii) above, only Members in Category A may vote on a proposal for suspension or expulsion of a Member in Category A, and only Members in Categories B and C may vote (combined) on a proposal for suspension or expulsion of a Member in Category B or C.

(g) Any Member may withdraw at any time from membership of IUCN by giving notice in writing to the Director General to that effect. The Member withdrawing shall not be entitled to any refund of membership dues paid.

Readmission

14. (a) States or political and/or economic integration organisations shall re-join IUCN by notifying the Director General of their adhesion to these Statutes, effective upon payment of the first year's membership dues.

(b) Any Government agency, sub-national government, national and international non-governmental organisation, indigenous peoples' organisation and affiliate meeting the qualifications for membership

may be readmitted by the Council, in accordance with the Regulations.[7]

## *Part IV - Organisation*

15. The components of IUCN are:

(a) the World Conservation Congress;

(b) the Council;

(c) the National and Regional Committees, and Regional Fora of Members;

(d) the Commissions; and

(e) the Secretariat.

16. The Regions of IUCN shall be:

(a) Africa;

(b) Meso and South America;

(c) North America and the Caribbean;

(d) South and East Asia;

(e) West Asia;

(f) Oceania;

(g) East Europe, North and Central Asia; and

(h) West Europe.

17. The States included in these Regions shall be listed in the Regulations[8]. No State may be transferred between Regions without the approval of the World Congress.

[7] See Regulation 26
[8] See Regulation 36 and Annex to the Regulations

## *Part V - The World Conservation Congress*

18. The World Congress shall be the highest organ of IUCN.

Format and Composition

19. The World Congress shall consist of the duly accredited delegates of the Members of IUCN meeting in session. The delegates of the Members in Categories A, B and C shall constitute, respectively, the governmental, non-governmental and indigenous peoples' organisation Categories of the World Congress.

19*bis*. The World Congress meeting in ordinary or extraordinary session shall have a hybrid format. It shall be held at a physical location (the "venue") whereby all duly accredited delegates of IUCN Members shall have the right to:

a) participate in the Members' Assembly and exercise their right to speak and vote by attending either on site or remotely by using electronic means;

b) participate in the World Conservation Forum events either on site or, to the extent this option is available, remotely by using electronic means.

19*ter*. (a) In exceptional circumstances, an ordinary or extraordinary session of the World Congress may be held in a fully virtual format, whereby all duly accredited delegates of IUCN Members participate in the Members' Assembly and exercise their rights to speak and vote exclusively by electronic means. The principles of non-discrimination and freedom of expression set forth in Articles 21, as well as Article 23 shall apply *mutatis mutandis*. The Council shall decide whether it is possible to organize World Conservation Forum events entirely remotely.

(b) A fully virtual session of the World Congress meeting in ordinary session shall be held in conformity with the Rules of Procedure applied *mutatis mutandis*, either

(i) if requested by at least one-fifth of the Members of either Category A or Categories B and C combined, or

(ii) if the Council considers it necessary by a two-thirds majority of votes cast.

Functions

**Commented [L2]:** Advisory Group: Participation in the Members' Assembly and exercising a Member's right to speak and vote are both mentioned explicitly because participation is a right for all Members (in all Categories, whether or not they are eligible to vote) whereas Members with dues that are one or more years in arrears will not have the right to speak and vote in connection with elections, voting and motions.

**Commented [L3]:** Advisory group: prefers to use consistently, throughout the Statutes, the terms "on site" and "remotely by electronic means" so that the difference between these two terms is absolutely clear to everyone.

**Commented [L4]:** Advisory Group: A distinction must be made between participation at the Members' Assembly, where IUCN Members exercise their rights under Article 12 and decide at their own discretion to attend in person or by virtual means, and participation at the Forum where the option of virtual attendance will depend on the possibility of the organizers / the host country to provide this option.

**Commented [LDW5]:** Advisory Group: Swiss law establishes the threshold of one fifth of the Members for calling a Members' Assembly, whether an ordinary or extraordinary session or whether a session in person, hybrid or fully virtual. This is mandatory law and so, IUCN should not be stricter by imposing a higher threshold. Article 19ter (b)(i) has therefore been aligned with Article 25 of the Statutes.

20. The functions of the World Congress shall be *inter alia*:

(a) to define the general policy of IUCN;

(b) to make recommendations to governments and to national and international organisations in any matter related to the objectives of IUCN;

(c) to receive and consider the reports of:

(i) the Director General on the activities and the financial affairs of IUCN during the period since the preceding session of the World Congress;

(ii) the Treasurer;

(iii) the Chairs of the Commissions; and

(iv) recognized Regional Committees and of Fora;

(d) to receive the auditors' report and to approve the audited accounts;

(e) to consider and approve the programme and financial plan for the period until the next ordinary session of the World Congress;

(f) to determine the dues of Members of IUCN;

(g) to determine the number of the Commissions and their mandates;

(h) to elect the President, Treasurer, Councillors elected from the Regions, Indigenous Councillor and Chairs of Commissions;

(i) to elect such honorary officers as it deems appropriate;

(j) to appoint one or more auditors;

(k) to decide the suspension and expulsion of Members of IUCN;

(l) to decide appeals;

(m) to provide a public forum for debate on how best to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable; and

(n) to perform such other functions as may be conferred by these Statutes.

Venue of the World Congress and Responsibility of Host State

21. The World Congress shall convene in Switzerland or in another State that agrees to host a session of the World Congress provided that:

(a) all persons entitled to attend the World Congress shall be admitted to that State without discrimination;

(b) all participants in the World Congress, whether attending on site or remotely by electronic means, shall have the right to access all ~~of free expression in~~ sessions of the World Congress and associated meetings and to express themselves freely in these sessions and meetings, without discrimination;

(c) every effort shall be made to facilitate entry and return of material and equipment necessary for the World Congress; and

(d) all other provisions necessary for the functioning of the World Congress shall be provided in accordance with the terms of a written understanding between IUCN and the host State.

22. The venue shall be selected with a view toward holding the sessions of the World Congress in as wide a variety of Regions as possible.

Sessions

23. The Council shall, after considering suggestions of Members, determine the date and venue of each ordinary and extraordinary session of the World Congress. The decision of Council shall be communicated to the Members of IUCN by the Director General, with a provisional agenda, at least nine months in advance of each session.

24. The World Congress shall meet in ordinary session every fourth year. Each ordinary session shall include the World Conservation Forum and the Members' Assembly.

25. An extraordinary session of the World Congress shall be convened:

(a) if requested by at least one-fifth of the Members of either Category A or Categories B and C combined; or

**Commented [L6]:** Advisory Group: The Group agreed three principles on which this amendment is based:
1. No discrimination as to who comes into the host country;
2. Virtual participation should not become an alternative option for the host country to prevent anyone to enter its territory;
3. Ensure that all participants can connect remotely from anywhere without the host country putting any restrictions in the way.

As a result, paragraph (b) obliges the host country not only to admit all duly accredited delegates of IUCN Members to the venue of the Congress, but also to avoid any discrimination between delegates attending the Congress on site or remotely, e.g. by restricting the internet connectivity of certain remote participants or by obliging certain delegates to participate remotely in order not to have to admit them to their territory. If the host country fails to deliver on these essential conditions, Congress may be cancelled or Council may change its decision about the date and venue of the Congress.

(b) if the Council considers it necessary.

26. The President, or one of the Vice-Presidents, shall preside at sittings of the World Congress. No persons shall preside over sittings involving elections in which they are candidates.

Elections

27. The President, the Treasurer and the Chairs of the Commissions shall be elected by the World Congress on the nomination of the Council. Nominations for the President may also be made by forty Members eligible to vote from at least three Regions, within the period prescribed in the Regulations.[9]

28. The Councillors elected from the Regions and the Indigenous Councillor shall be elected by the World Congress in accordance with Article 39 and the Regulations.[10]

Rules of Procedure

29. (a) The Rules of Procedure of the World Congress are annexed to these Statutes. [11]

(b) Any Member eligible to vote may submit to the Steering Committee of the World Congress a motion to amend the Rules of Procedure, and if prior to a session of the World Congress, to the Council. The Steering Committee or Council shall recommend to the World Congress that the motion be:

(i) accepted in its original form;

(ii) accepted in an amended form; or

(iii) rejected.

[9] See Regulation 32

[10] See Regulations 36 through 40

[11] The Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress annexed to these Statutes, were amended by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 5 May 2012; by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 14 September 2012; by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 27 April 2015; by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 13 October 2015; by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2016; by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 27 March 2019; and by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2021.

(c) The Council may propose a motion for amendment of the Rules of Procedure.

(d) Any amendment to the Rules of Procedure shall require a decision of the World Congress taken by simple majority.

(e) The World Congress shall, when amending the Rules of Procedure, determine the effective date of such amendment.

Voting

30. Only Members in Categories A, B and C shall have the right to vote.

30*bis*. Votes from Members in Category B and votes from Members in Category C will be counted together to produce a combined voting result (combined vote).

31. Unless provided otherwise in these Statutes, decisions of the World Congress shall be taken by a simple majority of votes cast in Category A and in Categories B and C combined.

32. Abstentions shall not be counted as votes cast.

33. Multiple choice elections shall be as prescribed in the Rules of Procedure.

34. Governmental Members shall have voting rights as follows:

(a) Each State Member shall have three votes, one of which shall be exercised collectively by the Government Agency Members, if any, of that State;

(b) Government Agency Members of IUCN within a State which is not a State Member of IUCN shall collectively have one vote;

(c) Subnational Government Members within a State shall collectively have one vote, regardless of whether or not they are from a State which is a State Member;

(d) Where one or more member States of a political and/or economic integration organisation, and that organisation itself are Members of IUCN, the organisation and its member States shall decide on the mode of exercising their voting rights which shall not in total exceed those of the State Members of IUCN belonging to that organisation.

35. Non-governmental Members shall have voting rights as follows:

(a) National non-governmental organisations shall each have one vote; and

(b) International non-governmental organisations shall each have two votes.

35*bis*. Indigenous peoples' organisation Members shall each have one vote.

Review of Decisions

36. Any decision of the World Congress taken in circumstances where:

(a) fewer than half of the total votes in either Category A or Categories B and C combined were represented at that session of the World Congress, or

(b) the matter was not on the agenda distributed to Members before the World Congress,

shall be subject to confirmation by mail or electronic ballot if, not later than three months after the distribution of the decisions of the World Congress, so requested by a minimum of forty Members eligible to vote from at least three Regions. Pending such confirmation the decision of the World Congress shall be suspended.

**Commented [LDW7]:** Advisory Group: This addition is intended to correct a lacuna in the Statutes

**Commented [LDW8]:** Advisory Group: Considering that 40 is low as a threshold but consistent with e.g. Article 27 of the Statutes, it is beyond the Advisory Group's mandate to make a proposal on a quorum requirement. Many discussions on quorum have already been held, noting also that quorum issues only pose risk in very rare circumstances. Through its report to Council, the Advisory Group has made Council aware, leaving it to Council to consider whether to make a proposal about a quorum requirement.

## *Part VI - The Council*

Responsibility and Role

37. Subject to the authority, direction and policy of the World Congress:

(a) the Council shall have responsibility for the oversight and general control of all the affairs of IUCN; and

(b) the roles of the Council, with specific functions elaborated in Article 46 and other relevant provisions of these Statutes, shall be to:

(i) set strategic direction and policy guidance for the work of the Union;

(ii) provide oversight and guidance on the performance of the components of the Union as a whole and of the Director General in particular, encouraging coherence among its component parts;

(iii) fulfil its fiduciary responsibilities to the Members of the Union and render account to them on the achievement of the Union's objectives; and

(iv) support the Director General in communicating IUCN objectives and policy, and IUCN Programme to the world community.

Composition

38. The members of the Council are:

(a) the President;

(b) the Treasurer;

(c) the Chairs of the Commissions;

(d) other Councillors as follows:

(i) Councillors elected from the Regions;

(ii) the Indigenous Councillor;
(iii) a Councillor from the State in which IUCN has its seat, appointed by the Council, provided that one from that State has not been elected Councillor from the concerned Region; and

(iv) one additional appointed Councillor, chosen by the Council on the basis of appropriate qualifications, interests and skills.

39. There shall be a total of twenty-eight Councillors elected from the Regions. The number of elected Councillors for each Region shall be as follows: four (4) for Africa; four (4) for Meso and South America; three (3) for North America and the Caribbean; five (5) for South and East Asia; three (3) for West Asia; three (3) for Oceania; three (3) from West Europe, and three (3) from East Europe, North and Central Asia.

40. (a) Each Region shall have no more than one Councillor elected from the Regions from any one State. This does not preclude a Councillor elected from the Regions from the same State resident in a dependent territory of her/his State from being elected as Councillor elected from the Regions for a Region other than that of her/his State, or that s/he is elected for the same Region as her/his State but nominated by Members of part of a Region in which the dependent territory is located. There shall however be no more than two Councillors elected from the Regions from any State including their dependent territories in Council.

(b) No more than two Chairs of Commissions shall be from the same State.

41. The terms of office of the President, Treasurer, Councillors elected from the Regions, Indigenous Councillor and Chairs of Commissions shall extend 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.

42. Members of the Council shall not hold the same office consecutively for more than two full terms. For the purpose of this Article, the time served to fill the balance of the term of a Council member following a vacancy occurring in Council, shall not be counted.

43. The Council may fill any vacancies for the President, Treasurer, Chairs of Commissions and other Councillors that may occur, for the balance of the term concerned.

44. The Deputy Chairs of Commissions shall be entitled to participate in meetings of the Council. They shall be entitled to vote in the place of the Chair of their Commission when that Chair is absent.

45. The Council may invite observers to its meetings.

Functions

46. The functions of the Council shall be *inter alia*:

(a) within the general policy of IUCN laid down by the World Congress, to give rulings on policy and to determine complementary policy guidelines;

(b) to adopt and publicise statements on important issues concerning the objectives of IUCN;

(c) to provide strategic direction, in consultation with the Membership, in relation to the development of, and to approve the quadrennial draft IUCN Programme for submission to the Congress;

(d) to report and make recommendations to the Members of IUCN and the World Congress on any matter relating to the activities of IUCN;

(e) to approve the programme and budget for the following year and to review regularly the implementation of the programme;

(f) to review the work of the Commissions;

(g) to approve the annual report of the Director General together with an account of income and expenditure and a balance sheet as at the end of the year;

(h) to recognize National and Regional Committees and to consult with them and their members;

(i) to admit Members and transfer Members of IUCN from one Category of membership to another;

(j) to elect from among its members, up to four Vice-Presidents, chosen with due regard to geographical distribution and gender balance;

(k) to appoint, and evaluate the work of, the Director General;

(l) to nominate candidates for President, Treasurer and Chairs of Commissions having considered any proposals by Members of IUCN;

(m) to appoint a Deputy Chair and Steering Committee of each Commission on receipt of nomination by that Commission's Chair and to confirm or otherwise change, upon proposal of the Commission Chair, the membership of the Steering Committee before the end of the second full calendar year following Congress;

(n) to select the appointed Councillor;

(o) to appoint the Legal Adviser;

(p) to report to the Members of IUCN on decisions taken which substantially affect the programme or the budget of IUCN;

(q) to appoint a Preparatory Committee, Election Officer and a Motions Working Group in preparation for each session of the World Congress; and

(r) to perform such other functions as may be conferred on it by the World Congress and these Statutes.

47. The Council may establish fees for participation in IUCN events.

48. 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.

Bureau

49. The Council shall establish a Bureau which shall act on behalf, and under the authority of the Council between meetings of the Council.

Committees and Working Groups

50. (a) The Council may appoint committees and working groups, including but not limited to the Programme and Policy Committee, the Finance and Audit Committee and the Governance and Constituency Committee, and in any such appointments it shall seek to reflect the geographic and other diversity of IUCN.

(b) The Chairs of such committees and working groups will be elected for the first half of the term of Council and will be re-eligible at mid-term.

Meetings

51. The Council shall meet at least once a year. The President may convene a meeting of the Council whenever necessary and shall do so if requested by one-third of the members of the Council. If the President is incapable of convening a meeting of the Council, one of the Vice-Presidents may do so.

52. The President shall preside at meetings of the Council. In the President's absence, or in case of a conflict of interest, one of the Vice-Presidents or a member of the Council selected by those members of the Council present, shall preside.

53. The rules of procedure of the Council and the duties of the President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer shall be as prescribed in the Regulations.[12]

Quorum and Voting

54. Half of the members of the Council, whether present in person or by proxy, shall constitute a quorum. In the event that a quorum is not present at a duly convened meeting of the Council, draft decisions may be prepared by those present and circulated to all members of the Council for decision by mail ballot on each item.

55. Unless provided otherwise in these Statutes, decisions of the Council shall be taken by a simple majority of the votes cast. Each member of the Council shall be entitled to one vote, and in the case of an equality of votes, the Chair of the meeting may cast the deciding vote.

56. In voting at the Council, abstentions shall not be counted as votes cast.

Proxy

57. If unable to attend a meeting of the Council, members of the Council may empower other members of the Council by written proxy to speak and vote on their behalf, complying with the instructions contained in the proxy. A member of the Council may accept no more than the number of proxies prescribed in the Regulations.[13]

Transparency

58. The work of the Council shall be conducted with transparency. The minutes shall be available to the Members of IUCN and a report on decisions shall be communicated to them. Discussions in closed meetings may be confidential as the Council may decide.

Duties of Members of the Council

[12] See Regulations 51, 48 (c) and 88
[13] See Regulation 56

59. The members of the Council shall have a fundamental obligation to serve IUCN with diligence and integrity.

60. The members of the Council shall disclose to the Council any potential conflict of interest on matters under consideration by the Council and refrain from participating in the discussion and voting on these matters.

61. No member of the Council may vote on any matter in which that member or a close relative has any legal or financial interest.

62. Members of the Council shall serve IUCN in their personal capacities and not as representatives of their respective States or organisations.

63. No member of the Council shall receive any remuneration from IUCN. Expenses incurred in the discharge of their duties may be reimbursed.

Vacation of Office

64. The office of a member of the Council shall *ipso facto* be vacated if that member is absent for three consecutive meetings of the Council without leave of absence from the Council.

Suspension and Expulsion of a Member of the Council

65. Should a member of the Council act in a manner seriously inconsistent with that member's duties, any two members of the Council and the President or a Vice-President may propose that the Council suspend that member. The member shall be afforded an opportunity to respond to the allegations made. Taking into account both the allegations and the response, the Council may suspend the member by a two-thirds majority of votes cast. If the suspended member of the Council so requests not later than one month of the decision, the Council's decision to suspend shall be referred to the Members of IUCN for confirmation by mail ballot. If there is no such request, or if the Council's decision is confirmed, the member of the Council shall be deemed expelled. If the mail ballot does not confirm the Council's suspension, then the member shall be reinstated.

## *Part VII - The National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora*

66. Members of IUCN within a State, a Region or a part of a Region may organize committees restricted to Members of IUCN or their representatives

to facilitate cooperation among Members, coordination of the components of IUCN, and participation of Members in the programme and governance of IUCN. A proposal to create such National or Regional Committees shall be made in accordance with the Regulations.[14]

67. The Council:

    (a) shall recognize only one National Committee for a State, and one Regional Committee for a particular Region or a part of the Region; and

    (b) may recognize Interregional Committees for defined purposes and on such terms as it considers appropriate.[15]

68. Between sessions of the World Congress, a Regional Forum of Members may be held for each Region, or part of a Region, *inter alia*, to enable Members to participate in the preparation and evaluation of the programme and strategies of IUCN and to prepare for the next session of the World Congress. Either the Members, or the Council, may convene a Forum. All Members of IUCN in the Region have the right to be invited to and participate in a Forum. A Forum may determine its own organisation. The Rules of Procedure of the World Congress shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to such Regional Fora.

69. A National or Regional Committee shall not undertake substantial financial obligations until it has established its own legal personality or procedures in a form acceptable by the Council.

70. Every IUCN Member has the right to join the respective National Committee of its State and participate in the election of only one Regional Committee. If an IUCN Member belongs to a State with territory located in more than one IUCN Region, it may participate in the Regional Committee in the IUCN Region to which the State belongs or to the Region, or part of the Region, in which the Member is geographically located.

71. National and Regional Committees:

    (a) may have their own separate legal personality distinct from that of IUCN in a form acceptable to the Council;

[14] See Regulations 61 to 63
[15] See decision C/69/54 adopted by the IUCN Council at its 69th Meeting (March 2008)

(b) shall be self-governing and shall not impose financial obligations or liabilities upon IUCN, which shall not be responsible for commitments entered into by a Committee unless these have prior authorization of the Council; and

(c) shall work in partnership with the Secretariat and the Commissions and any in-country National or Regional Committees to formulate, coordinate and implement the Programme of IUCN.

72. Councillors elected from the Regions and other members of the Council resident in a State or Region where such Committees and Regional Fora have been established, shall be invited to participate in the meetings and activities of the corresponding National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora. Members of the Commissions resident in such State or Region, may be invited to participate in meetings and activities of the National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora. Each Commission may nominate an official representative of the Commission, resident in such a State or Region who may attend, and speak at, meetings of the governing bodies of the National and Regional Committees, without a right to vote.

## *Part VIII - The Commissions*

73. The Commissions shall be networks of expert volunteers entrusted to develop and advance the institutional knowledge and experience and objectives of IUCN.

Composition

74. The World Congress shall establish the Commissions and determine their mandates, which shall be within the IUCN Programme. The Council may propose to the World Congress the creation, abolition, or subdivision of a Commission, or amendment of a Commission's mandate. The Council may establish a provisional Commission, pending a decision by the next ordinary or extraordinary session of the World Congress, provided that its mandate does not encroach on that of an existing Commission.

Functions

75. The functions of the Commissions shall be to fulfil their missions as defined in their mandates, including:

(a) to analyse issues and prepare assessments, reports, action plans, criteria and methodology and undertake research and other scientific and technical work;

(b) to undertake tasks assigned to them within the integrated programme of IUCN;

(c) to provide advice on any matter within their fields of competence;

(d) to broaden knowledge and competence on matters relating to their mandates;

(e) to work with Members and the Secretariat to develop activities within the various Regions, and to support Members and components of IUCN with necessary expertise; and

(f) to undertake such other responsibilities as may be assigned to them by the World Congress and the Council.

76. The organisation, activities and financial management of the Commissions and procedure for the appointment of their members shall be as prescribed in the Regulations.[16]

77. The Chair of each Commission shall present a report at each ordinary or extraordinary session of the World Congress and each year to the Council.

## *Part IX - The Secretariat*

78. The Secretariat shall consist of the staff of IUCN. The Director General shall be the chief executive of IUCN and the head of the Secretariat. The Director General shall be subject to the authority of the Council.

79. The Director General shall be:

(a) appointed by the Council according to the highest standard of merit for such period and under such terms and conditions as the Council may determine;

(b) responsible for the implementation of the policy and the programme of IUCN as established by the World Congress and the Council;

[16] See Regulations 71 to 84

(c) responsible for the finances and accounting of IUCN;

(d) responsible for coordinating the work of the Secretariat with all other components of IUCN;

(e) authorized to issue statements in the name of IUCN;

(f) authorized to sign all obligations on behalf of IUCN and to delegate such authority; and

(g) the head of the secretariat for the World Congress.

80. The Director General or the Director General's representative shall have the right to participate in, and speak at, meetings of the components of IUCN or any committee thereof, without the right to vote.

81. The Director General shall appoint the staff of the Secretariat in accordance with staff rules formulated by the Director General and approved by the Council. Staff selection shall be on the basis of merit, equal opportunity, gender equity and geographic balance, and be without discrimination on grounds of race or creed.

82. In the performance of their duties, the Director General and the staff shall not seek or receive instructions from any source external to IUCN. They shall refrain from any action incompatible with their position as staff members of an international organisation. Each Member of IUCN shall respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Director General and the staff, and not seek to influence them unduly in the discharge of their responsibilities.

83. The Director General shall submit to the Council an annual report on the activities of IUCN, together with an account of the income and expenditure and a balance sheet as at the end of the year and proposals for future activities. When approved by the Council, this report shall be communicated to the Members of IUCN.

84. The Director General shall prepare for presentation to each ordinary session of the World Congress, a report on the work of IUCN since its last session. The report shall be submitted by the Director General to the Council and presented to the World Congress with such comments as the Council may decide to make.

## *Part X - The Legal Adviser*

85. The Legal Adviser shall provide legal advice to the World Congress, the Council and the Secretariat, and to such other components of IUCN as may be prescribed in the Regulations.[17]

86. The Legal Adviser shall have the right to participate in, and speak at, sessions of the World Congress, meetings of the Council or any committees thereof and such other components of IUCN as the Regulations may prescribe[18], but without the right to vote.

## *Part XI - Finance*

87. The income of IUCN shall be derived from membership dues, contracts, grants, donations, investments and from any other sources approved by the Council.

88. The Director General shall:

(a) cause true and accurate accounts to be kept of all monies received and expended by IUCN;

(b) regulate all income and expenditure in accordance with the budget and establish internal controls, including internal audits, to enhance the effective and efficient use of the resources of IUCN;

(c) ensure that the accounts of IUCN are examined each year by the auditors appointed by the World Congress and that their written report is circulated to all Members of IUCN together with any comments of the Council;

(d) submit to each ordinary session of the World Congress, a report on the consolidated accounts of IUCN together with the auditors' reports for the relevant years;

(e) submit to each ordinary session of the World Congress for approval, a draft programme and financial plan for the period until the next ordinary session of the World Congress;

[17] See Regulation 85
[18] See Regulation 85

(f) submit each year to the Council the annual programme and budget for approval; and

(g) in the event of unforeseen expenses and important variations from the projected income inform the Council and, if necessary, submit amended budgets to the Council for approval.

89. The Treasurer shall:

(a) provide advice on the financial affairs of IUCN and report to the World Congress and the Council as described in the Regulations;

(b) be kept informed by the Director General about IUCN's financial situation between sessions of the Council.

90. The Council may establish or approve endowment funds for IUCN dedicated exclusively to the support of IUCN, its objectives and programme. These funds shall be under the control of the Council, as may be prescribed in the Regulations.[19]

## *Part XII - Limitation of Financial Liability and Indemnity*

91. The liability of a Member of IUCN shall be limited to the payment of its dues.

92. Notwithstanding Article 15(c), IUCN shall be liable only for its own financial undertakings and, subject to Article 71(b), not for those of any National or Regional Committee. The Council may establish procedures for indemnification of IUCN by any National or Regional Committee.

93. IUCN shall indemnify members of the Council, to the extent permitted by law, against claims arising from the normal exercise of their functions.

## *Part XIII - Mail and Electronic Ballots*

94. All matters within the competence of the World Congress may be decided by mail or electronic ballot between sessions of the World Congress as prescribed in the Regulations[20]. Such a mail or electronic ballot shall take place at the request of the Council or at least one fifth of the total voting

[19] See Regulation 92 (d)
[20] See Regulation 94

**Commented [LDW9]:** Advisory Group: This modification is intended to correct an anomaly that has existed in the Statutes since the adoption in 2015 of an amendment to Regulation 94 describing the procedure of electronic ballots between sessions of the Congress.

**Commented [LDW10]:** Advisory Group: It might be worth noting, in this regard, that
1) as provided under Regulation 94, the question submitted to the electronic vote (e.g. when it concerns amendments to the Statutes) may also include, beside the options "yes", "no" or "abstain", the option to "refer (the question) to the next session of the Congress";
2) like Members, the Council also has the option to convene an extraordinary session of the Congress, in order to get specific matters discussed and voted upon urgently; and
3) should the Council or Members wish to complete Article 94 with a list of competences of the Congress that they wish to see excluded from intersessional electronic votes held at the request of either the Council or Members, a motion could be prepared to that effect for consideration at the 2025 Congress.

rights of Members eligible to vote in either Category A or in Categories B and C combined. If urgent circumstances require it, the Council may by a two-thirds majority of votes cast, apply shorter deadlines than those prescribed by the Regulations for electronic ballots.

Commented [L11]: Advisory Group: In order to "ensure that IUCN is more agile in its response to extraordinary circumstances" as requested by 21 Decision 148, paragraph 4, the Advisory Group is proposing the addition of a paragraph in Regulation 94 allowing Council, with a 2/3 majority, to apply shorter timelines in case urgent circumstances require it. However, based on legal advice that the qualified majority for the Council decision must be specified in the Statutes, the Advisory Group proposed to add this (last) sentence in Article 94 of the Statutes.

95. All matters within the competence of the Council may be decided by mail or electronic ballot. Unless otherwise provided in the Statutes, such a mail or electronic ballot shall take place at the request of the President or at least ten members of the Council.

96. Decisions by mail or electronic ballot shall be governed, *mutatis mutandis*[21], by the provisions on voting at the World Congress and at the Council.

## *Part XIV - External Relations*

97. The Director General, with the consent of the Council, may establish appropriate working relations between IUCN and governments and organisations, whether national or international, governmental or non-governmental.

98. The Director General, with the consent of the Council, shall have the authority to take appropriate steps to obtain, in accordance with the laws of each State in which IUCN is to undertake activities, such legal status as may be necessary to carry out those activities.

## *Part XV - Seat*

99. The seat of IUCN shall be in Switzerland.

## *Part XVI - Official Languages*

100. The official languages of IUCN shall be English, French and Spanish.

## *Part XVII - Regulations*

101. (a) The Regulations implementing these Statutes, adopted by the World Congress, may be amended by Council following communication of

[21] See Regulation 94 for the procedure

proposed amendments to Members for comments or objections as provided for in Article 102.

(b) The Regulations shall conform to these Statutes, and neither limit nor expand the rights of the Members to exercise control on any matter governed by these Statutes. No amendment to the Regulations shall modify the character and the objectives of IUCN (Articles 1, 2 and 3 of the Statutes), the nature and categories of the membership (Articles 4 and 5 of the Statutes), admission criteria for Members (Articles 6 and 7 of the Statutes) and related Members' rights.

(c) Any proposed amendment shall be placed on the agenda of one of the periodic Council meetings and shall be adopted by a two- thirds majority of the votes cast at each of two successive periodic meetings of the Council.

102. (a) Any proposed amendment to the Regulations shall be separately communicated to the Members within 6 weeks after its adoption at the first of the two consecutive periodic meetings of the Council.

(b) The communication to Members shall clearly alert Members to the proposed change and include the complete text of the proposed amendment(s) together with a full explanation of the reasons which led Council to propose the amendment(s) as well as any clarification of its content.

(c) Members shall be given three months to submit comments or objections, following which the Council at the second of two consecutive meetings may adopt, modify or withdraw the proposed amendment(s) in light of the comments or objections received.

103. The World Congress shall review, at the request of a minimum of forty Members eligible to vote, an amendment to the Regulations adopted by the Council at the second of the two successive periodic meetings, provided that the request is made not later than three months of the Council's communication of the adoption of the amendment. Pending such review, the effectiveness of the amendment shall be suspended.

## *Part XVIII - Amendment of the Statutes*[22]

[22] These Statutes, adopted by the 1996 IUCN World Conservation Congress, have been amended by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 24 November 2004 (Bangkok, Thailand), on 13

104. Any Member of IUCN may propose an amendment to these Statutes for the consideration of the Council. Such proposed amendments shall be received by the Secretariat not later than six months before the opening of an ordinary session of the World Congress. The Council shall inform the Member as to whether it proposes to lay the amendment before the World Congress, and if so, in what form.

105. Amendments to these Statutes may be proposed to the World Congress:

    (a) by the Council, which may incorporate in the proposals suggestions received from Members of IUCN under Article 104; or

    (b) by any five Members in Category A or fifty Members in Categories B and C combined, provided that such proposals are received by the Secretariat not less than six months prior to the opening of an ordinary or extraordinary session of the World Congress.

106. The Director General shall communicate to the Members of IUCN, not less than three months prior to the date set for the opening of an ordinary or extraordinary session of the World Congress, any amendment to these Statutes proposed by the Council or by Members of IUCN under Article 105. Such communication shall include an explanation of the proposals and any comments of the Council.

107. Unless otherwise decided, amendments to the Statutes proposed in accordance with Articles 105 and 106, shall become effective at the close of the session of the World Congress at which they are adopted by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in Category A and by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in Categories B and C combined.

108. Whenever the Statutes of IUCN are amended, and the functions of various existing components of IUCN are affected, the existing components shall carry out the new duties under the amended Statutes during any transition period occasioned by the amendments.

## *Part XIX - Dissolution*

October 2008 (Barcelona, Spain) and on 14 September 2012 (Jeju, Republic of Korea); by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 13 October 2015; by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2016 (Hawai'i, United States of America); and last amended by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2021 (Marseille, France).

109. The World Congress may only resolve on the dissolution of IUCN on the basis of a written motion to be sent to all the Members of IUCN at least four months prior to the date scheduled for the opening of the session of the World Congress at which it is to be considered. Adoption of such a motion shall require a majority of three-quarters of the votes cast by Members in Category A and of three-quarters of the votes cast by Members in Categories B and C combined.

110. Upon dissolution, the assets of IUCN shall be distributed to an institution with objectives similar to those of IUCN, in accordance with the law of Switzerland.

## *Part XX - Interpretation*

111. The English, French and Spanish texts of these Statutes shall be equally authentic.

112. Authentic texts in other languages may be adopted by the World Congress.

112*bis*. 1. For purposes of interpretation and application of IUCN's Statutes, Rules of Procedures and Regulations:

(a) The term "year," following or preceding a given date shall mean, respectively, the period between such given date and:

(a) the same date of the subsequent year, inclusive, or

(b) the same date of the preceding year, inclusive.

(b) The term "month" following or preceding a given date shall mean, respectively, the period between such given date and:

(a) the same date of the subsequent month, inclusive, or

(b) the same date of the preceding month, inclusive.

(c) The term "week" following or preceding a given day shall mean, respectively, the period between such given day and:

(a) the same day of the subsequent week, inclusive, or

(b) the same day of the preceding week, inclusive.

2. If, in the application of the provisions in preceding paragraph 1, the relevant date of the following or preceding year or month is absent, then the next-available date shall apply.

## *Part XXI - Final Clause*

113. These Statutes, adopted by the Members of IUCN, meeting at the 1st World Conservation Congress in Montreal from 13 to 23 October 1996[23], shall entirely replace and substitute for the previous Statutes with effect from 24 October 1996, provided that nothing herein shall affect the validity of decisions taken under the previous Statutes.

[23] Amended by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 24 November 2004 (Bangkok, Thailand), on 13 October 2008 (Barcelona, Spain) and on 14 September 2012 (Jeju, Republic of Korea); amended by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 13 October 2015, amended by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2016 (Hawai'i, United States of America); and last amended by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2021 (Marseille, France). The Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress annexed to these Statutes, were amended by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 5 May 2012; by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 14 September 2012; by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 27 April 2015; by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 13 October 2015; by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2016; by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 27 March 2019; and by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2021.

# *ANNEX - RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS*

## *Part I - Legal Status*

1. These Rules of Procedure govern the conduct of the World Conservation Congress (hereinafter referred to as "the World Congress") and shall be read in conjunction with the Statutes and the Regulations of IUCN.

## *Part II - Structure of the World Conservation Congress*

World Conservation Forum

2. Following the opening of the World Congress, the World Conservation Forum shall be held, consisting of events~~sittings~~ to consider major thematic areas of the IUCN Programme and to facilitate the sharing of information and experience. To the extent possible, some Forum events may be open for attendance on site or remotely by electronic means. Members of the public may register to attend specific Forum events that are ~~Some sittings on major issues related to the conservation of nature and natural resources may be~~ open to the public.

Members' Assembly

3. The Members' Assembly shall ~~sit and~~ deal with the business and policy of IUCN, in accordance with the Statutes.

**Commented [LDW12]:** Advisory Group: As the Congress is henceforth a hybrid event, the term "sit" should be avoided as it may be understood to refer only to a physical event.

Associated Meetings

4. The Council may authorize and schedule time for workshops, technical and other meetings held in conjunction with a session of the World Congress.

## *Part III - Delegates and observers*

Delegates

5. Any Member wishing to exercise its rights in sessions of~~at~~ the Congress, whether by participating on site or remotely by electronic means, shall nominate a Head of Delegation through a duly authorized representative.

**Commented [LDW13]:** Advisory Group: It must be absolutely clear that Members participating remotely must also be accredited, i.e. they must designate a Head of Delegation and its delegates must be registered (Rule 12). The accreditation of Members participating remotely is essential in order to guarantee the reliability and security of the voting and accreditation system as well as the speaking rights and the quorum (a posteriori only), and the accuracy of the calculation of majorities at the time of voting. The names of Heads of Delegations of Member delegations participating online will also be included in the list of participants that will be part of the Congress Proceedings.

6. Any Head of Delegation who is unable to attend a sitting of the World Congress may be replaced by another delegate duly authorized to that effect by such Head of Delegation or by a duly authorized representative of the Member or, in the case of a State Member, in accordance with this State's procedures.

7. No member of the Secretariat of IUCN shall be appointed as a delegate or an observer to the World Congress.

Observers

8. Non-Member States and organisations with which IUCN has formal working relationships may be represented at the World Congress by observers at the invitation of the Council.

9. Members of Commissions, Honorary Members and Patrons may attend the World Congress as observers.

10. Members of formally-established working groups of IUCN, and other persons having similar working relationships with IUCN who are not members of a delegation, may attend the World Congress as observers at the invitation of the Director General.

*[Note: Rule 11 was removed following an amendment adopted by electronic ballot on 5 May 2012]*

Credentials

12. Delegates from Member and observer organisations/institutions are duly accredited in accordance with, respectively, Article 19 of the Statutes and Rule 8, if they are duly registered to the Congress and if the Head of Delegation has been designated by the duly authorized representative of the organisation/institution.

## *Part IV - Committees of the World Conservation Congress*

13. The World Congress shall establish Steering, Resolutions, Credentials and Finance and Audit Committees and such other committees as it may consider necessary for the conduct of its business, and shall define their terms of reference.

**Commented [LDW14]:** Advisory Group: The electronic voting system currently under development for use during a hybrid Congress, will also be used for electronic votes between sessions of the Congress. While the term "Head of Delegation" has traditionally been used in the context of a physical meeting, the term "Authorized Vote Holder (AVH)" has been used in the context of intersessional electronic votes. However, both terms cover the same. Noting that "AVH" does not appear in any of the statutory documents, the Advisory Group preferred to maintain the term "Head of Delegation" in order to avoid possible confusion by introducing a new term. It is also worth noting here that the Head of Delegation or the AVH can delegate the right to vote and to speak to someone else, either in Congress or in the context of an intersessional vote. It does not matter where the person (Head of Delegation / AVH) is physically located. The Head of Delegation (the person authorized to vote/speak) can be changed at any time before a sitting, however for practical reasons, the Secretariat recommends a minimum of 1 hour before the beginning of the sitting to allow the Election Officer to check the accuracy of the voting system, if required. In other words, the role of Head of Delegation is assigned per sitting and can be changed before each sitting. No such change will be allowed during a sitting.

14. Each such committee shall regulate its own business and shall appoint a Rapporteur.

Steering Committee

15. The Preparatory Committee appointed by the Council to make preparations for the World Congress together with the President, Vice-Presidents and Director General shall comprise the Steering Committee which shall be charged with the general duty of forwarding the business of the World Congress.

16. The President, a Vice-President or other member of the Council shall preside over the Steering Committee.

17. All matters concerning the organisation of the World Congress shall be referred to the Steering Committee.

18. The Steering Committee shall meet as necessary during the World Congress and shall invite concerned individuals as necessary to join in its meetings.

Resolutions Committee

19. The World Congress shall elect a Resolutions Committee.

20. The Resolutions Committee shall include the members of the Motions Working Group appointed by the Council.

Credentials Committee

21. The World Congress shall elect a Credentials Committee, composed of members nominated by the President and including the Director General or the Director General's representative *ex officio*. The Credentials Committee shall examine credentials and other matters within its terms of reference as defined by Council, and report to the World Congress. The report shall include the number of votes to be exercised by each delegation in accordance with the Statutes.

## *Part V - Secretariat of the World Conservation Congress*

22. The Director General shall be the head of the secretariat for the World Congress.

23. The Secretariat shall provide the World Congress with such secretarial and other assistance as it requires. It shall be responsible for preparing, receiving, translating and circulating the official documents of the meetings by electronic means and for arranging interpretation.

## *Part VI - Debates*

Order and Discipline

24. The President, or one of the Vice-Presidents or a member of the Council, shall take the Chair at sittings of the World Congress.

25. The duties of the Chair shall be:

    (a) to open, suspend and close sittings of the World Congress;

    (b) to announce, at the end of each sitting, the date, time and agenda items for the next sitting;

    (c) to guide the debates of the World Congress;

    (d) to maintain order, call on speakers, limit interventions, close debates, put questions to the vote and announce the results of votes; and

    (e) unless other arrangements have been made, to submit the proposals of the Council to the World Congress.

26. The Chair shall call to order any participant who causes a disturbance during the proceedings or otherwise contravenes these Rules of Procedure.

27. In the event of persistent disturbance or contravention of the Rules of Procedure, the Chair may propose that the offender be excluded for the remainder of the sitting. The World Congress shall decide on this proposal forthwith and without debate.

Participation in Sittings

28. Participation in the Members' Assembly shall be restricted to delegates, to observers and others who may be invited for specific purposes, and to members of the Council, members of the Commissions, the Director General and the Secretariat Staff.

29. The sittings of the World Conservation Forum shall be open to all delegates, observers, members of the Council and of the Secretariat staff, members of the Commissions, special invitees and representatives of the press accredited by the Director General, unless the Members' Assembly decides otherwise for the next World Conservation Forum.

30. Participation in selected sittings of the World Conservation Forum and in any workshop or technical meeting held in conjunction with the World Congress may be open to the public on such terms as specified by the Council, including registration fees.

Right to Speak

31. The Chair shall recognize all participants who request the floor, and shall as far as possible call on them in that order, allowing diverse view points to be heard.

32. Participants may speak only if called upon by the Chair.

33. The Director General may at any time with the permission of the Chair, make oral or written statements to the World Congress on any question brought up for discussion.

34. Where a motion is debated, the Chair shall, where appropriate, alternately call speakers for and against the motion.

35. The Chair may prescribe a time-limit for speakers and limit interventions accordingly.

36. A speaker shall not be interrupted except on a point of order. The speaker may, however, with the permission of the Chair, give way during a speech to allow any other delegate or observer to request elucidation on a particular point in that speech.

37. If a speaker is irrelevant or disruptive, the Chair may call the speaker to order. In the event of persistent irrelevance or disruption, the Chair may forbid the speaker to speak for the remainder of the debate. The speaker concerned may appeal in writing to the Steering Committee against exclusion from the debate. Participants who consider that they have been denied the right to speak because they have not gained recognition may also appeal. The Steering Committee shall report on the appeal to the World Congress at the beginning of its next sitting and the World Congress shall vote on the matter unless the Chair annuls the Chair's earlier decision.

38. A participant who wishes to make a personal statement or explanation or exercise a right of reply shall be heard at the Chair's discretion.

39. No speaker may speak for more than five minutes on any of the following:

    (a) an explanation of votes;

    (b) any question of procedure; or

    (c) a personal statement or explanation.

40. The Director General shall provide the electronic system enabling~~issue one recognition card for the right to speak to~~ each delegation, each affiliate, each member of the Council, each Commission Deputy Chair and ~~to~~ any other observers as the Council shall decide to exercise their right to speak. Observer delegations from recognized National or Regional Committees may each request ~~one recognition card enabling the delegation~~ to be provided the same means to speak on behalf of the Committee in accordance with Regulation 66 (e).

**Commented [LDW15]:** Advisory Group: A digital platform referred to as "electronic system" (Rule 63) will be accessible to all delegations on site and connected remotely in order to exercise their right to speak instead of the "recognition card for the right to speak" which used to be part of the Congress systems available on site enabling delegations to request for the floor.

Procedural Motions

41. A participant shall have prior right to speak in order to:

    (a) call the attention of the Chair to a point of order or an abuse of the Rules of Procedure;

    (b) move the adjournment of the debate (which motion may be moved not more than once in the course of a debate);

    (c) move the closure of a debate at the end of an intervention; and

    (d) move that the sitting be closed.

42. The above matters shall take precedence over the main question, debate on which shall be suspended whilst they are considered.

43. In debate on motions for adjournment, for closure of a debate, and that the sitting be closed, only the following may be heard: the proposer, one speaker against and the Chair or Rapporteur of the committee or committees concerned. The Members shall then take a decision.

44. An appeal by a voting delegate against a ruling by the Chair shall be made to the Steering Committee. The Chair shall announce the decision of the Steering Committee to the World Congress which may confirm or change that decision.

## *Part VII - Agenda and Motions*

Agenda

45. The Director General, in consultation with the Council, shall prepare a draft agenda conforming with the tentative agenda previously circulated according to the Statutes, for each session of the World Congress showing, so far as circumstances permit, at which sittings particular matters will be debated. The draft agenda and documents originating with the Council or the Secretariat and relating to matters requiring the approval of the World Congress shall be circulated to the Members of IUCN not later than three months before the start of the World Congress. The draft agenda shall be submitted for adoption at the first sitting of the World Congress.

45*bis*. The draft agenda shall focus, and reserve adequate time during the Members' Assembly for discussion and voting, on:

(a) The IUCN Programme and Financial Plan for the period until the next ordinary Congress and related Member proposals which have not been incorporated in the draft Programme or Financial Plan submitted to Congress;

(b) The mandates of the IUCN Commissions and related Member proposals which have not been incorporated in the draft mandates submitted to Congress;

(c) A limited number of motions which, in the opinion of the Motions Working Group,

i) warrant debate at the global level during the Congress because they are of significant importance for conservation and for the IUCN and its Members; or

ii) have been the subject of such debate and divergent proposed amendments or that are so controversial that it is not possible to produce a consensus text for submission to a decision by electronic vote prior to Congress; and

(d) Motions pertaining to the governance of IUCN including amendments to the IUCN Statutes and Rules of Procedure, if any are proposed.

45*ter*. With the purpose of increasing the time available for discussion, the Council may decide that contact group meetings may be convened by electronic means for a first discussion of any of the topics listed in Rule 45*bis* (a) (b) and (d), in the three weeks preceding the Opening of the Congress.

**Commented [LDW16]:** Advisory Group: The same approach is applied as for the contact groups on motions [Rule 56 (d)] noting that Rule 45*ter* concerns proposals from Council (draft IUCN Programme, draft Commission mandates etc.), hence the Council takes the decision instead of the Motions Working Group. These virtual meetings are called "contact groups" in order to make it clear that participation in these meetings will be as defined for contact groups in Rule 56 (a) and (e). The period of three weeks is short in order to avoid overloading people's calendars, but long enough to avoid that contact group meetings coincide with delegates' travel to the venue of the Congress.

45*quarto~~ter~~*. At or before the time Members are invited to submit motions in accordance with Rule 49, the Council shall publish a report on the status of implementation of the Resolutions and Recommendations of the previous Congress. The report shall be tabled for discussion during the Members' Assembly.

46. Any appeals against Council decisions shall be placed on the agenda.

47. Once adopted, proposals to add to or otherwise to alter the agenda may only be submitted to the World Congress by the Steering Committee.

Motions

48. For the purpose of these Rules of Procedure, a motion means a draft in writing of any decision which the World Congress is requested to take. Such motion may take the form of a resolution, recommendation, expression of opinion or proposal. Resolutions are directed to IUCN itself. Recommendations are directed to third parties, and may deal with any matter of importance to the objectives of IUCN.

48*bis*. Consistent with Article 20 (a) and (b) of the Statutes, the purpose of the motions is to define the general policy of IUCN and to influence the policies or actions of third parties, or to address the governance of IUCN, within the parameters of IUCN's objectives as set forth in Articles 2 and 3 of the Statutes.

49. (a) Motions may be proposed by the Council, or by any Member eligible to vote with the co-sponsorship of at least five other eligible Members from at least two Regions. Motions shall normally be submitted to the Director General by a date set by Council which shall not be later than six months before the opening of the next session of the World Congress.

(b) The same process and requirements shall apply for motions, which have been deferred to the following session of the World Congress as per Rule 56.

(c) The Secretariat shall circulate all accepted motions which are received by it, to all Members, at least three months in advance of that session of the World Congress.

49*bis*. Members proposing a motion concerning an issue arising in a State or States outside of their own Region shall make best efforts to secure factual information substantiating their proposal, and present such evidence upon request (a) at the time the proposal is submitted to the Director General and (b) at the World Congress. Such motion shall be co-sponsored by at least one IUCN Member from the Region with which the motion is concerned.

50. An explanatory memorandum of a maximum of five hundred words, in any of the official languages, may be appended to the text of a motion, and circulated as submitted, but shall not form part of the motion or be put to the vote.

51. Members shall be invited to submit proposals to modify the draft IUCN Programme and proposals regarding the mandates of the IUCN Commissions, online, at the same time as they are invited to submit motions in accordance with Rule 49. Discussion of the draft Programme or proposed mandate of a Commission shall take into consideration any motion or part of a motion affecting these documents, and all such motions shall be dealt with as proposed amendments to the Programme or mandate. All such motions shall be remitted by the Motions Working Group or the Resolutions Committee to the session of the World Congress that considers the Programme and mandates of the Commissions. The sponsors of these motions shall be advised of this action.

51*bis*. National Committees, Regional Committees and Regional Fora, when convened, are encouraged to provide a forum for motions that warrant discussion at a local and/or national level for the purpose of identifying solutions such as regional programmatic cooperation, that might address the underlying issues in addition to or instead of submitting a motion.

52. Motions may be submitted at the World Congress
(a) either by the Council, or by
(b) a Member eligible to vote with the co-sponsorship of at least ten other Members eligible to vote from at least two Regions; and

(c) only if the Congress Resolutions Committee determines that they meet the requirements of Rule 54 with the exception of paragraphs (b) viii. and ix. and that the subject of the motions is new and urgent according to the following criteria and on that basis authorizes their distribution to delegates:

i. "New" means that the issue which is the subject of the motion has arisen or has been subject to developments occurring after the closing of the deadline for the submission of motions and, at that time, could not have been foreseen; and
ii. "Urgent" means that the issue is of such importance that it requires an immediate response from the Union in the form of a Resolution or Recommendation.

53. Motions meeting the criteria of Rule 52 shall be submitted from one week prior to the opening of the Congress until the end of the plenary sittings on the first day of the Members' Assembly. Motions received after such deadline shall be admitted only with the consent of the President.

54. Motions shall be accepted only upon determination by the Motions Working Group or the Resolutions Committee that they are consistent with the purpose of motions as defined in Rule 48*bis* and meet the following requirements:

(a) <u>related to content</u>:

i. Propose or modify IUCN's general policy and only to the extent necessary and subject to the full application of Rule 51, specify the activities required to implement the policy;
ii. Contributions from Members and/or components of IUCN, if called for in the motion, are reasonable and achievable;
iii. Contain technically sound and coherent arguments;
iv. Be precise in what they aim to achieve;
v. Propose aspirational goals that are reasonable;
vi. Do not merely repeat the content of Resolutions and Recommendations previously adopted; and
vii. When focusing on local, national or regional issues, state, with the proponent providing evidence at the moment of submission, that (1) the matter covered by the motion has been engaged at local, national and/or regional instances and that the desired result has not been achieved; and (2) the Members and relevant Commission members as well as other stakeholders in the geographic area in question have been consulted; and

(b) related to process and format:

viii. Be submitted before the deadline established in Rule 49;
ix. Be proposed and co-sponsored by Members eligible to vote, in accordance with Rules 49 or 49*bis*;
x. The proponent specifies a) which of the Members and/or components of IUCN or third parties, which the motion calls upon to undertake action have been consulted or have collaborated in the development of the motion, b) which Members or components of IUCN have been consulted with a view to identify solutions that might address the underlying issues and c) the actions and resources required to implement the motion and the contributions which proponents and co-sponsors intend to make towards its implementation;
xi. For motions concerning issues arising in a State or States outside the State or Region of the proponent, be co-sponsored by at least one IUCN Member from the Region with which the motion is concerned in accordance with Rule 49*bis*; and
xii. Use the template to be approved by Council.

55. Except for appeals referred to in Rule 62*ter*, the Steering Committee shall decide any appeal from a proposer and co-sponsors against the amendment of a draft motion by the Motions Working Group or Resolutions Committee. The Chair shall announce the decision of the Steering Committee and the World Congress may confirm or change that decision.

56. (a) The Resolutions Committee may refer a motion to a committee or *ad hoc* contact group of delegates from accredited Members, for its review and advice or decide that it be debated and voted upon directly by the World Congress. It may also propose that motions whose arguments are not technically sound or coherent and require further development or motions which are so controversial that it is, in its opinion, not possible to produce a consensus text for submission to a decision by the Members' Assembly, be deferred to the next session of the World Congress.

(b) The Chair may also propose that a motion under discussion in the World Congress be referred to a contact group.

(c) OPTION 1: When meeting during the World Congress, contact groups shall have a fully virtual format as defined in Article 19*bis* of the Statutes.

OPTION 2: When meeting during the World Congress, contact groups may have a fully virtual or hybrid format as defined in Article 19 of the Statutes.

~~(c)~~(d) With the purpose of increasing the time available for discussion and to reduce the number of contact groups held in parallel due to the limited window of opportunity during the Congress, the Motions Working Group may decide that contact group meetings be convened exclusively by electronic means for a first reading of motions in the three weeks prior to the Opening of the Congress.

~~(d)~~(e) Commission members, representatives of recognized National and Regional Committees and members of the Secretariat may take part in contact groups only in a technical advisory and support capacity, without prejudice to the application of Rule 66 (c) and (d).

~~(e)~~(f) For issues that prove hard to resolve in contact groups, the Resolutions Committee or the facilitator of a contact group may set up one or more drafting groups that balance the spectrum of views on the motion, for the purpose of achieving a consensus text. Should a consensus remain impossible, the drafting groups may decide to present minority views as amendments. Drafting group meetings [OPTION 1: shall also be convened in a fully virtual format] [OPTION 2: may also be convened in a fully virtual or hybrid format].

~~(f)~~(g) The reports of such contact groups or drafting groups shall ordinarily be considered by the Resolutions Committee prior to their presentation to the World Congress. The debate in the World Congress shall take place on the text resulting from this process.

57. When the consideration of a text of a motion has been concluded, a vote shall take place on the text as a whole. Before that vote takes place, explanations of the text may be given, if the World Congress so decides.

Amendments to Motions

58. Any delegate may propose amendments to any motion.

59. (a) Amendments shall relate directly to the text which it is sought to alter. They shall be signed by their author and, unless proposed in the course of a debate, submitted in time for them to be distributed before they are debated.

**Commented [LDW17]:** Advisory Group: The Advisory Group acknowledged that, in principle, Contact Groups (CG) are an emanation of the Congress and should therefore follow the rules for the Members' Assembly, and that, although the system developed for the plenary sittings may also enable the application of the same rules to CG, it might become complicated and expensive. The Advisory Group therefore considered two options:
1) CG shall be fully virtual to enable equal participation of Members, taking into account that in 2021 everyone was satisfied with the CG being fully virtual and no one felt disadvantaged because some groups could meet exclusively on site;
2) keep a flexible approach by replacing "shall" by "may" on the understanding that CG will in principle be virtual but that if circumstances permit, they will be hybrid, noting that this may put the Members connected remotely at a disadvantage.

In the absence of a clear majority for either one of these options, the Advisory Group decided to present both options to the online discussion of IUCN Members, explaining that both options have advantages and disadvantages for IUCN Members.

**Commented [L18]:** Advisory Group: These virtual meetings are called "contact groups" in order to make it clear that participation in these meetings is as defined for contact groups in Rule 56 (a) and (e).

**Commented [LDW19]:** Advisory Group: The period of three weeks is short in order to avoid overloading people's calendars, but long enough to avoid that contact group meetings coincide with delegates' travel to the venue of the Congress. This wording has been harmonized with that of (new) Rule 45*ter*.

**Commented [LDW20]:** Advisory Group: The question of the format of drafting group meetings should be resolved in the same way as for the contact groups under Rule 56 (c).

(b) Ordinarily, all amendments shall be transmitted to the Resolutions Committee or, in the case of motions for which a contact group has been established, to the relevant contact group.

(c) The Resolutions Committee, or in special circumstances when an amendment is proposed in the course of a debate, the Chair, shall decide whether an amendment is in order.

60. Amendments shall have priority in debate over the original text to which they relate and shall be put to the vote before that text.

61. If two or more amendments relate to the same part of a motion, the amendment which differs most from the text which it is sought to amend shall be put to the vote first. If it is agreed to, other contradictory amendments to the same part shall be considered as having thereby been negated. If the amendment is not agreed to, the amendment next in priority shall be put to the vote, and the same procedure shall be followed for each of the remaining amendments. In case of doubt as to the degree of priority, the Chair shall give a ruling.

62. The Resolutions Committee or, in special circumstances when an amendment is proposed in the course of a debate, the Chair, may propose that amendments should be debated or voted upon together. They may propose that the text together with the proposed amendments be referred to a contact group.

Online discussion and electronic vote of motions prior to ordinary sessions of the Congress

**Commented [LDW21]:** Advisory Group: The online part of the motions process as described in this section is typically a feature of ordinary sessions of the Congress, although this was not made explicit at the time the provisions of this section were adopted by electronic vote of IUCN Members in 2015.

62*bis*. (a) The Motions Working Group shall have the authority to submit the motions to an online discussion to be held prior to Congress. The Motions Working Group shall specify~~ing~~ which motions that warrant debate at the global level during the Congress will continue to be discussed and voted upon during the Members' Assembly, and which motions will be put to an electronic ballot~~online vote~~ prior to Congress subject to Rule 62*quinto*.

(b) The online discussion of motions shall be open to all IUCN Members during a period of at least two months following the date of publication of the motions in accordance with Rule 49.

(c) The Motions Working Group shall ensure that the online discussion of motions is transparent and will adhere to the greatest possible extent to

the procedure for discussion and amendment of motions during Congress.

(d) Commission members, representatives of recognized National and Regional Committees and members of the Secretariat may take part in the online discussion of motions only in a technical advisory and support capacity.

(e) As part of the online discussion, the Motions Working Group may convene contact groups exclusively by electronic means, with the view to advance the discussion of motions or specific aspects thereof. The outcomes of such contact group meetings must be posted online, visible to all Members.

**Commented [LDW22]:** Advisory Group: It is advisable to hold virtual contact group meetings also during the online discussion of motions prior to Congress, taking into account the positive feedback from the virtual contact groups held during the 2021 Congress. These virtual meetings are also called "contact groups" as the concept is well-known and their participation governed by Rule 56 (a) and (e).
However, the online discussion of motions in accordance with Rule 62*bis* and following, has so far basically been a discussion where Members share their comments, arguments and counterarguments, and questions, in writing on a digital platform visible to all other IUCN Members. For the purpose of transparency, in order to allow all Members incl. those not taking part in "contact groups" to take cognizance of the discussions held in contact groups, the outcomes of contact group meetings must be posted in writing, online, visible to all Members.

62*ter*. The Congress Preparatory Committee established by Council in conformity with Article 46 (p) of the IUCN Statutes shall decide any appeal from a proponent and cosponsors against the classification, exclusion or amendment by the Motions Working Group of a motion referred to the electronic discussion and vote prior to the World Congress. In the case of an appeal against the decision to refer a motion to the electronic vote prior to Congress, the only permissible ground for appeal is that an error was made in not classifying the motion as qualifying for consideration at the Members' Assembly. Any appeals under this Rule shall be received by the Congress Preparatory Committee by no later than two weeks following the date of the publication of the motions.

62*quarto*. The Congress Preparatory Committee acting as appeals body will include individuals representing the common interests of Members but who are not themselves members of the Council or personally involved with the motions process. The Congress Preparatory Committee acting as appeals body shall be chaired by one of its members who is not the Chair of the Congress. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chair of the Congress Preparatory Committee acting as appeals body may cast the deciding vote.

62*quinto*. Following the close of the online discussion the Motions Working Group will

(a) submit each motion, as amended during the online discussion or together with proposed amendments, as appropriate, to an electronic vote of the IUCN Members eligible to vote with the exception of the motions that warrant debate at the global level during the Congress which will continue to be discussed and voted upon during the Members' Assembly. The electronic vote shall be opened and closed on

dates prior to the opening of Congress to be determined by Council. Paragraphs c. to g. of Regulation 94 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the electronic vote on motions; or

(b) refer to the Members' Assembly for continued debate and vote ~~on the floor~~, motions which have been the subject of such discussion and divergent proposed amendments or that are so controversial that it is, in the opinion of the Motions Working Group, not possible to produce a consensus text for submission to a decision by electronic vote prior to Congress.

62*sexto*. Rules 58 to 62 shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the process of amending motions during the online discussion and the vote on amendments proposed during the online discussion, it being understood that the Motions Working Group will have the same authority that the Resolutions Committee or the Chair of the Congress exercise under these Rules.

62*septimo*. Motions adopted by electronic ballot by Member Category A and by Member Categories B and C combined shall have the same validity as motions adopted during sittings of the Members' Assembly. The Members' Assembly will 'record' *en bloc* the adoption of motions through an electronic ballot prior to Congress but shall not, however, re-open the discussion or the vote on any of them. The motions whose adoption by electronic vote is so recorded by decision of the Members' Assembly shall be effective as of the date of such decision.

## *Part VIII - Methods of Voting*

~~Voting Cards and~~ Electronic Voting ~~System Cards~~

63. ~~Voting cards marked to distinguish the session of the World Congress concerned and, if required under Rule 67, electronic voting cards shall be distributed to Heads of Delegation from Members eligible to vote by the Secretariat in accordance with the report of the Credentials Committee.~~ Voting on motions and elections shall be conducted with the use of an electronic voting system, the accuracy of which shall be monitored by the Election Officer.

64. ~~The voting cards given to delegates of Category A Members shall be white; those to Category B Members shall be green and those to Category C Members shall be blue. In the case of electronic voting, the electronic voting card shall be programmed so as to ensure that~~ The electronic voting system

**Commented [LDW23]:** Advisory Group: Paper ballot is no longer a valid option. The wording of Regulations 40*bis* and 40*ter* can be entirely moved to the Rules of Procedure and the section "Electronic Voting and Elections" removed from the Regulations in order to avoid duplication. In the (unlikely) event that the electronic systems do not work, the Congress should be suspended until all Members, onsite in person or remotely by electronic means can participate and access the voting system again. All decisions of Congress adopted before the suspension remain valid.

shall be programmed with the number of votes to which each Member is entitled by the Statutes. The votes yes, no and abstention on motions shall be tallied in accordance with Articles 30 to 35*bis* of the Statutes and the votes on elections in accordance with Rules 78 to 81. ~~t~~The votes of Category A Members are recorded separately; and the votes of Categories B and C Members are recorded separately and combined for a combined voting result. The Chair shall announce the results by displaying them on a screen visible to all delegates.

65. ~~White or green voting cards will each equal one vote and shall be distributed according to the number of votes to which the Member is entitled by the Statutes. In the case of electronic voting, the electronic voting card shall be programmed with the number of votes to which the Member is entitled by the Statutes.~~
The electronic voting system shall be accessible to the Heads of Delegation or those authorized to cast the vote on behalf of their delegation via their own devices connected to the internet, regardless of whether they are participating on site or remotely.

65*bis*. If the Member's Assembly is interrupted due to technical issues related to the electronic system enabling delegates to speak and vote which affect all delegates and cannot be solved immediately, the Assembly shall be adjourned until the technical issue has been solved. The disruption shall be recorded in the proceedings. If the technical issue cannot be solved within a reasonable timeframe and matters remaining on the agenda cannot be addressed before the close of the Congress, the Steering Committee, after considering what is feasible under the prevailing circumstances, shall take a decision on the way to proceed, which may include, but not be limited to, extending or reconvening the Members' Assembly or referring all remaining matters to an electronic discussion and vote in accordance with Article 94 of the Statutes. Decisions taken by the Members' Assembly prior to the occurrence of the technical issues shall remain valid.

**Commented [L24]:** Advisory Group: This provision has been added in order to provide guidance on what happens in case technical issues affect all delegates' ability to speak and vote. It does not concern technical problems within one or more participants' sphere of influence such as hardware or software problems or internet connectivity issues. In the latter case, participants shall bear the risk of not being able to participate and cast their Member's vote. In other words, the meeting will proceed without the participation of the Member(s) having technical issues.
The technical issues referred to in this provision are those that relate to the systems for both speaking and voting, and not only to those related to the voting system.
In case of technical issues affecting all participants, the Congress Steering Committee shall have the flexibility to take decisions in function of the circumstances.

Methods of Voting ~~on Motions~~

**Commented [LDW25]:** Advisory Group: The voting method applies not only to the adoption of motions in the sense of Rule 48, but also to other decisions which the Congress is requested to take such as the adoption of the IUCN Programme, of the Mandates of the Commissions, of the membership dues etc. as well as to the elections and the decisions on procedural motions incl. points of order.

66. (a) Only the Head of Delegation or her/his replacement as defined in Rule 6 may vote and speak on behalf of that Member.

(b) No delegate may ~~use the voting card, electronic voting card or recognition card for the right to~~ speak or vote for~~of~~ another delegation without the ~~express prior written~~valid proxy of the delegation in question as described in rule 66 f).

**Commented [LDW26]:** Advisory Group: It must be understood that a proxy always applies to the right to speak and vote. Proxies must be registered via the digital system. Proxies written on paper or sent by email will no longer be accepted as it will require manual operations that may generate errors in the electronic voting system.

(c) ~~For the purposes relevant to this Rule, 'delegate' shall also refer to an accredited representative of a recognized National/Regional Committee of the country/region of the Member delegation giving the proxy.~~

(d) A Member eligible to vote ~~who is unable to attend the World Congress or a delegation unable to attend a particular sitting of the Members' Assembly,~~ may give a proxy to a delegation of another Member eligible to vote or to an accredited representative of a recognized National/Regional Committee of the country/region of the Member delegation giving the proxy. In order for the proxy to be validly recorded in the electronic voting system, it shall be provided at minimum one day before the Opening of the World Congress in order for it to apply for the duration of the World Congress and on the day before the specific sitting or before the specific day it is meant to apply.

(e) A Member shall not transfer proxy of its~~his~~ own vote while holding other proxies and shall not transfer another Member's proxy without prior authorization of the proxy giver. A Member shall not accept more than five proxies.

(f) In order to be valid, all proxies shall be ~~made~~ recorded ~~in writing and transmitted to the Congress Secretariat~~in the electronic voting system within the deadline set in Rule 66 d).

(g) Proxies shall not be allowed for elections under Rule 77bis or when all Members vote exclusively online. [24]

*[Note: Regulation 66bis was removed following amendments adopted by the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2021.]*

67. ~~Voting shall normally be carried out by delegates holding up the voting cards or, in the alternative, by inserting electronic voting cards into machines as provided for specifically in Regulation 40*bis* (informal vote). The result of the vote shall be announced by the Chair.~~
Except for votes on the final text of a motion under Rule 48 [25] and the vote for elections under Rules 77bis to 81, all votes shall be held instantly.

68. ~~If the Chair thinks it necessary or if any delegate so requests, a vote that was carried out by delegates holding up the voting cards shall be repeated, the voting cards for each Category being counted separately by at least two tellers (formal vote). In the case of electronic voting under Rule 67, the vote shall simply be repeated.~~

[24] E.g. in case of a fully virtual Congress (Article 19 of the Statutes).
[25] This excludes amendments under Rules 58 to 62 and procedural motions under Rules 41 to 44.

**Commented [LDW27]:** Advisory Group: This provision can be removed because the point is already covered under (existing) paragraph (d).

**Commented [LDW28]:** Advisory Group:
1) Proxies are given directly in the system by the Members. The Head of Delegation has to login and give the proxy. The Head of Delegation can also remove the proxy through the system.
2) Proxies can not be timed ahead in order to expire automatically at a given time. They will stay valid in the system until removed by the Head of Delegation of the organization/ institution giving the proxy.
3) In addition, it will not be possible to build in a conditionality in the system, e.g. Members giving a proxy to another Member in the event that their internet connection would fail. A Member participating remotely may always give voting instructions to another Member in advance of Congress in the event that remote participation would become impossible, e.g. after a power cut, but the Member concerned must in each case formally register its proxy in the system. Therefore, Members who anticipate to face regular connectivity issues during Congress are advised to give a proxy well in advance of Congress for the entire duration of the Congress.

**Commented [LDW29]:** Advisory Group:
a) In order to avoid any confusion as to who is casting whose vote and avoid duplication of votes or other distortions of the voting results, all proxies should be registered in the system in due time before a sitting begins at which votes will be taken. To ensure that all system verifications can be done and, in particular, enable the Election Officer to guarantee the accuracy of the voting system, all proxies must in principle be registered at the latest on the day before the Congress opens in order to apply to the entire Congress.
b) However, proxies may also be registered during Congress for one or more specific full day(s) (i.e. all sittings of that day/those days) or for a specific sitting. In these cases, registration of the proxy must be completed in the system at the latest on the day before the day(s) or sitting that the proxy will apply.
c) It must be clear that the Member giving or accepting a proxy must be in order with payment of their dues, i.e. all dues up to and including the dues for the year preceding the Congress must be on IUCN's bank account at the time the proxy is given. To avoid that any manual operation entails the risk of errors in the voting results, no exceptions will be accepted (incl. cash payments at Congress).

**Commented [LDW30]:** Advisory Group: The Advisory Group considered it part of its mandate to propose a limitation of the number of proxies that any Member may accept. As intended by Decision 148 of the 2021 Congress, the hybrid Congress format enabling remote speaking and voting is not only expected to increase Members' direct participation and thus reduce the number of proxies and enhance the Congress' democratic decision process. Reducing the max. number of proxies will also mitigate the practical issues facing Members carrying high numbers of proxies at every session of Congress (in particular if the votes of their proxies are different from their own votes ), and thus make IUCN's governance more agile.

**Commented [LDW31]:** Advisory Group: Having discussed the technical and legal feasibility, the Advisory Group resolved that voting on amendments needs to be instantly in order not to disrupt the conduct of the Members' Assembly.
Rule 48 broadly defines a motion as "*a draft in writing of any decision which the World Congress is requested to take*". This includes e.g. motions to adopt the topics listed in Rule 45*bis* such as the IUCN Programme or motions pertaining to the governance of IUCN including amendments to the Statutes.
The "final text of a motion" means the text including any amendments adopted in conformity with Rules 58-62.
"Instantly" means "within the shortest possible time set by the Chair to allow Members to cast their electronic vote, i.e. usually between 2 and 5 minutes."

For votes on the final text of a motion under Rule 48, the voting period shall be extended to one hour. The Chair shall announce the time at which the vote will open and the vote will close automatically after one hour, without further announcement. During the extended voting time, the Members' Assembly shall continue its business. After the Chair has announced the beginning of voting, no delegate shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the actual conduct of the voting.

**Commented [L32]:** Advisory Group: This form of "delayed voting" means that the electronic vote will be open for one hour (60 minutes) to allow Members participating remotely to address any connectivity issues and still be able to cast their vote. It will only apply to the final version of any motion under Rule 48. In other words, amendments to motions (Rules 58-62) and procedural motions (Rules 41-44 including points of order and requests to overrule the steering committee or the chair's ruling) must be voted instantly because the Members' Assembly is dependent on the outcome of the vote in order to continue its business.

69. ~~On a request by delegates from at least ten Members eligible to vote, the vote shall be taken by roll call. The roll shall be called in each Category separately for each delegation in the order of the printed membership list beginning with a country chosen at random. Voting shall be expressed by "yes", "no", or "abstain". Abstentions shall not be counted as votes cast.~~

70. A secret ballot may be held at the request of delegates from ten Members eligible to vote. ~~In this case, when voting is carried out by delegates holding up voting cards, ballot papers bearing only the letters "A", "B" of "C", shall be distributed by the Secretariat on presentation of the voting cards on the basis of one paper per card. The ballot paper shall provide for a "yes", "no" or "abstain" vote. Ballot papers may be used only for one ballot. If a further ballot is taken, the ballot papers must be marked with an identifying number corresponding to the ballot for which they are valid. In the case of electronic voting, the Election Officer shall confirm that the system~~ The electronic voting system shall be~~is~~ programmed so as to guarantee the anonymity of all votes.

71. ~~The Chair shall be responsible for appointing tellers, counting the votes and announcing the results.~~

71~~*bis*~~. Except for (a) secret ballot votes under Rule 70 and (b) votes for elections at the World Congress under Rules 74-81 ~~and Regulation 40*bis*~~, the complete voting record of each IUCN Member at the Members' Assembly shall be made available, within 24 hours or as soon as the voting system permits after each sitting, to all Members.

72. The Director General shall keep a register of the written statements of any Member explaining its vote and shall reflect these statements in the volume of the Proceedings, or that of the Resolutions and Recommendations of the World Congress.

73. The Chair may exercise a vote, if a voting delegate. In the event of a tie, the Chair shall not have a further vote and the motion shall be considered to have failed.

## *Part IX - Elections*

Election Officer

74. The Election Officer appointed by the Council under the Statutes shall be responsible for supervising the elections at the World Congress and the counting of the votes.

Nominations ~~and Method of Voting in Elections~~

75. Nominations by a Member in Category A, B or C made before the World Congress shall be communicated by the Council to the Members.

76. Prior to the election, the Secretariat shall arrange for Members to interact~~meet~~ with all candidates and receive information on them, online and, where feasible during the World Congress, in person. National and Regional Committees are encouraged to create equal opportunities for Member interaction with all election candidates prior to and during the Congress.

77. Once placed on the list of candidates before the World Congress, a name may only be withdrawn by the candidate in writing.

Method of Voting in Elections

77*bis*. Elections shall~~may~~ be held during the World Congress ~~using ballot papers or electronically by inserting the Members' voting cards into a machine~~exclusively by electronic means enabling all IUCN Members eligible to vote to cast their vote during a given period of time which shall not be less than twenty four hours. The Election Officer shall monitor the accuracy of the electronic voting~~election~~ system.

78. The elections of the President, the Treasurer, each of the Chairs of the Commissions and the Indigenous Councillor shall be conducted separately and as follows:

(a) ~~the President and the Treasurer may be elected by acclamation;~~

(b) where a vote is required and there is only one candidate for a post, if that candidate does not receive a simple majority of votes cast by Members eligible to vote in Category A and in Categories B and C

**Commented [LDW33]:** Advisory Group: Acclamation is not feasible/desirable in the context of a hybrid Congress and the membership expects to cast their vote on all candidates.

combined, the post shall be filled by the World Congress or, failing a decision by the closure of the session, by the new Council; and

(c) where there is more than one candidate for any of these posts a vote shall be taken in accordance with Rule 81.

79. Should a sole candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, Chair of Commission or Indigenous Councillor withdraw or become ineligible, the Council shall meet in extraordinary session and, having considered the views of the Members of IUCN, shall propose a new candidate to the World Congress.

79*bis*. Where three or more candidates from the same State, each nominated for a different Commission Chair post, receive the highest number of votes or the highest ranking for the respective posts for which they were nominated, only the two candidates who receive the highest percentage of the votes in the voting for their respective Commission Chair posts shall be elected. With regard to each of the remaining candidates who received the highest number of votes or the highest ranking for the posts for which they were nominated, the vote on each such candidate *ipso facto* shall be vacated by the election of the two candidates who received the highest percentage of votes, and the vacant post of Commission Chair for such candidate's Commission shall be filled as follows:

(a) If there was a runner-up candidate from a different State who received at least eighty percent (80%) of the votes received by the candidate for whom the vote was vacated, then such runner-up shall be elected to the vacant post of Commission Chair.

(b) If there was no runner-up from a different State who received at least eighty percent (80%) of the votes received by the candidate for whom the vote had been vacated, then the post of Commission Chair for that Commission shall be filled by the new Council.

80. Where the number of candidates for Councillors elected from the Regions is the same or less than the number of vacancies in the Region for which they are nominated, each candidate shall be voted on individually. Should a candidate not receive a simple majority of votes cast by Members eligible to vote in Category A and in Categories B and C combined, the position of the Councillor elected from the Regions shall be filled by the new Council.

81. Where there is more than one candidate for the post of the President, Treasurer, Councillor elected from the Regions, Indigenous Councillor or Commission Chair:

(a) the ~~ballot paper or the~~ electronic voting~~election~~ system shall list candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random;

(b) where one person is to be elected from two or more candidates for the post of President, Treasurer, Chair of a Commission or Indigenous Councillor, the vote shall be cast by selecting~~placing an 'X' against~~ the name of the preferred candidate;

(c) where three or more persons are to be elected from among four or more candidates to serve as Councillors elected from the Regions for a Region, the vote shall be cast by selecting ~~placing an 'X' against~~ the names of preferred candidates up to the maximum number of the candidates to be elected for that Region. Where more than one candidate is nominated from the same State, only the candidate receiving the greater number of votes may be elected. This does not apply to candidates from the same State resident in dependent territories as defined in Article 40 of the Statutes. Where more than one candidate has been nominated from the same State and the same dependent territory, only the candidate receiving the greater number of votes may be elected.

(d) abstention~~s~~ shall be an option for each elected position~~indicated by being marked zero against the name of the candidate~~;

**Commented [LDW34]:** Advisory Group: Voting abstention on election candidates only makes sense in case one does not wish to vote for or against any of the candidates for an elected position.

(e) ~~ballot papers or~~ electronic votes not completed in accordance with sub-paragraphs (b) or (c) shall not be counted;

(f) the number of votes cast for each candidate shall be totalled and the candidates ranked in order of the votes cast, this being done separately for Category A votes and for the votes of Categories B and C combined. The rankings so obtained for Category A shall then be added to those of Categories B and C combined to produce a combined ranking;

(g) in the event that the combined ranking is the same for two or more candidates the rankings shall be recalculated as follows: the Category A votes for each candidate required to fill the posts involved shall be multiplied by a constant factor being the number of votes cast by

Categories B and C combined divided by the number of Category A votes cast for all candidates in that balloting; these adjusted Category A vote totals shall then be added to the vote totals of Categories B and C combined and the candidates ranked in order of the combined vote so obtained;

(h) the highest ranked candidate or candidates shall be elected, except for the election of the President to which paragraph (i) of the present Rule shall apply;

(i) in order to be elected for the post of President, the candidate must obtain the absolute majority of the votes (more than 50% of the votes) in Category A and in Categories B and C combined in the first round. If none of the candidates has received the absolute majority of the votes in Category A and in Categories B and C combined in the first round, a second round of voting is held between the two candidates who obtained the highest combined rankings in the first round in accordance with Rule 81 (f).

In the second round of voting, the candidate obtaining the highest combined ranking shall be elected. In the event that the combined ranking is the same for both candidates in the second round, Rule 81 (g) shall apply and the candidate with the highest number of combined votes shall be elected; and

(j) the results of the elections, including the voting figures, shall be made available at the World Congress.

## *Part X - Languages and Proceedings*

Official Languages

82. Speeches made in one official language shall be interpreted into the others. If a speaker wishes to speak in a non-official language, the speaker shall be responsible for arranging and paying for interpretation into one of the official languages. A speaker may also be permitted to arrange for an interpretation into the speaker's own language.

83. All official documents shall be presented in one of the official languages and shall be translated into the others.

Official Reports

84. Motions adopted at each sitting of the World Congress shall be recorded as decisions and the texts in the official languages distributed as soon as possible to all delegates and observers present.

85. After each World Congress, the minutes including the decisions taken shall be published in the official languages, in accordance with the language policy of IUCN. The Director General shall distribute them to all Members of IUCN and to the participants in the meeting. The minutes shall give an account of the proceedings and debates of the World Congress, showing in particular how the World Congress disposed of motions and amendments thereto, and the results of votes.

Official Documents

86. The official documents of each World Congress shall include the following:

(a) the agenda of the session;

(b) motions and amendments proposed;

(c) reports and other papers from the President, Treasurer, Auditors, the Council, the Steering Committee, the Commissions, the Director General, and Committees of the World Congress;

(d) memoranda submitted on behalf of Members or observers on matters pertaining to the organisation of the World Congress, if approved by the Steering Committee, or on all other matters, if approved by the Council; and

(e) decisions of the World Congress.

87. Each official document shall be numbered.

## *Part XI - Amendment of Rules of Procedure*

88. These Rules of Procedure may be amended in accordance with the Statutes.[26]

[26] See Article 29 of the Statutes. The Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress were amended by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 5 May 2012; by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 14 September 2012; by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 27 April 2015; by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 13 October 2015; by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2016; by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 27 March 2019; and by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2021.

# REGULATIONS

## Part I - Legal Status

1. These Regulations are made pursuant to the Statutes, and shall be read in conjunction with those Statutes and the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress (hereinafter referred to as "the World Congress") annexed to the Statutes.

## Part II - Programme

2. IUCN shall pursue its objectives through an integrated programme of activities, formulated, coordinated and implemented by the Members and components of IUCN. The Programme shall be adopted by the World Congress and be reviewed annually by the Council. The Programme shall *inter alia*:

   (a) examine how species and ecosystems function, how they might be sustained by conservation practice, and how to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable;

   (b) monitor and assess what biological diversity exists, under what conditions, identify the threats to its conservation, and develop an enhanced capacity to define priorities for conservation action;

   (c) develop, test and demonstrate sound practices for the conservation and sustainable use of species and ecosystems, including through cooperative field projects;

   (d) develop tools likely to be most effective in compensating for or correcting damaging impacts;

   (e) examine how human behaviour, institutions, value and knowledge systems, social policy, development approaches and economic activities relate to and may affect conservation, sustainable use and equitable access to natural resources;

   (f) increase public awareness of the conservation of nature and natural resources through education and the wide dissemination of information;

(g) promote the continuing training and education of conservationists at all levels, and encourage their involvement with local communities worldwide in the development of sustainable ways of living;

(h) assist in the development and improvement of legislation relating to the conservation of nature and natural resources;

(i) prepare draft international agreements relating to the conservation of nature and natural resources, and encourage governments to adhere to and implement agreements once concluded;

(j) strengthen the Members of IUCN and their national and regional structures;

(k) pursue programmes of mutual interest at international, regional, national and local levels with governments, non-governmental organisations, international organisations, aid agencies and others; and

(l) collect, analyze, interpret and disseminate information, including by the preparation, publication and distribution of documents, legislative texts, scientific studies and other information.

2*bis*. The Council, the Commissions, the National and Regional Committees, the Secretariat, and the Members whose organisational priorities and capacities permit them to align with the IUCN Programme, shall work together for coherent delivery of the IUCN Programme which enables and leverages the capacities of IUCN's Members and statutory components and delivers conservation results optimally, effectively and efficiently.

## *Part III - Members*

Admission

3. States and Political and/or Economic Integration Organisations

(a) The notification of adhesion to the Statutes by a State shall be made by or on behalf of the Head of State, the Head of Government or the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

(b) The notification of adhesion to the Statutes by a political and/or economic integration organisation shall be made by its duly authorized representative and shall be accompanied by a statement declaring the

extent of its competence with respect to the matters provided in the Statutes.

(c) A State or political and/or economic integration organisation, on becoming a Member, shall designate its liaison with the IUCN Secretariat.

4. Government Agencies and Subnational Governments

A government agency or subnational government seeking membership of IUCN shall submit an application for admission to the Director General supported by a statement by the head of the agency or subnational government, setting forth its competence to adhere to the Statutes.

5. National Non-Governmental Organisations

(a) Subject to (b) below, any national non-governmental organisation seeking admission as a Member shall, in addition to the requirements of the Statutes:

(i) be a not-for-profit entity which conforms with the law of the State where its seat is located;

(ii) have been in existence for at least three years;

(iii) have a board that is autonomous and independent; and

(iv) have a governance structure which is transparent, accountable and representative.

(b) Any duly accredited university, similar institution of higher learning, specialized centre or research institute, organized within a State, seeking admission to this Category shall:

(i) be a not-for-profit entity which conforms with the law of the State where its seat is located;

(ii) have been in existence for at least three years;

(iii) be an academic or professional entity of high standing; and

(iv) be autonomous in administration and governance.

5*bis*. Indigenous Peoples' Organisations

Any national or international indigenous peoples' organisation seeking admission as a Member shall, in addition to the requirements of the Statutes:

(a) be a not-for-profit entity which conforms with the law of the State where its seat is located;

(b) have been in existence for at least three years;

(c) be autonomous in administration and governance; and

(d) have, as its primary constituency, indigenous peoples.

6. International Non-Governmental Organisations

Any international non-governmental organisation seeking admission as a Member of IUCN shall, in addition to the requirements of the Statutes:

(a) be a not-for-profit entity which conforms with the laws of the State where its seat is located;

(b) have been in existence for at least three years;

(c) have a substantial record of activity in two or more States and out posted or country offices reporting back to Headquarters;

(d) have a governing body open to nationals from at least two States;

(e) have a governance structure which is transparent, accountable and representative; and

(f) have a board that is autonomous and independent.

Admission Process

7. Government agencies, subnational governments, national and international non-governmental organisations, indigenous peoples' organisations and affiliates shall submit an application to the Director General using the application form provided by the Secretariat and stating the Category of membership sought. The application shall be signed by the duly authorized head of the agency or organisation.

8. Applications shall include such information relating to the agency or organisation, its objectives, membership, funding and activities, as may be

required by the Council to decide on admission. The applicant shall document its activities in conservation of nature and natural resources over at least a three-year period.

9. The applicant shall submit, together with its application, a written statement to the effect that it endorses the objectives of IUCN.

10. Applications shall be accompanied by a deposit equal to the first year's dues. This sum is returnable in the case of non-admission.

11. Once admitted, the new Member shall undertake to publicize its association with IUCN.

12. Deadlines for membership applications to be received by the Director General are 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December of each year. During the admission process, all communications may be made by electronic means.

*[Note: Regulation 13 was removed following amendments to Part III of the present Regulations adopted by the 81st Meeting of the IUCN Council and confirmed by the 82nd Meeting of the IUCN Council in 2013]*

14. The Director General shall mail notice of the applications together with the appropriate information on the applicants, to the Members of IUCN.

15. When a Member exercises its right to object to an application, such objection must reach the Director General within four weeks from the Director General's notification referred to in Regulation 14.

16. Such objection shall only be on grounds that the applicant does not meet the requirements of membership provided in the Statutes[27] or prescribed in the Regulations.[28] The objection shall give specific grounds and particulars on which the objection is based.

17. The applicant shall be given an opportunity to respond to the objection within three weeks from the Director General's notification of the objection to the applicant.

18. The Council, and if not in session, the Bureau, shall take a decision on membership applications within a reasonable time following quarterly

[27] See Articles 5 and 7 of the Statutes
[28] See Regulations 4 to 6

application deadlines. The Bureau shall seek Council's advice in a case where there is controversy associated with an application.

19. An appeal against any decision of the Council in respect of the admission shall be made within six months of notification of the Council's decision.

20. A Member shall promptly inform the Director General of any important change in the particulars supplied in support of its application for membership of IUCN which may affect its eligibility for such membership or for the Category of such membership.

Transfers between Membership Categories

21. On request or after due notice, the Council shall transfer a Member to another group of membership if, in the opinion of a two-thirds majority of the Council, that Member is incorrectly classified. The Members of IUCN shall be notified of the transfer, together with the reasons. If within three months following this notification an objection is lodged by the Member in question or another Member eligible to vote, the transfer shall be submitted to the World Congress for ratification.

Membership Dues

22. Dues for Members in Category A shall be established by the World Conservation Congress and be calculated for the period until the next World Congress on the basis of the latest available percentage assessed for States concerned in the budget of the United Nations. The Council may establish groups for the setting of dues. In cases where a Category A Member of IUCN is not, or is not located in, a member of the United Nations as such but is, or is located in, a member of any of the United Nations Specialized Agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, or a party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice, such a Member will be assigned to the dues group having a similar Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as indicated in the list used by the United Nations.

23. Dues for Members in Categories B, C and D shall be established by the World Congress on the proposal of the Council.

24. Membership dues shall become payable on the first day of each calendar year.

25. Dues shall be paid in Swiss francs or any other freely convertible currency according to the scales established by the World Congress, unless the Director General has agreed with the Member in question that payment in

local currency or provision of facilities, goods and services in lieu of dues may be accepted because this will release for use by IUCN a sum equivalent to the assessed dues of the Member in question.

26. If a Government agency, subnational government, a national and international non-governmental organisation, an indigenous peoples' organisation or an affiliate, which is deemed to have withdrawn from IUCN, seeks readmission to membership within three years of its withdrawal, all membership dues outstanding shall be paid before the Member is readmitted. Applications for admission three years or more after withdrawal shall be treated in the same way as new applications for membership.

Publications

27. Members shall receive the IUCN annual report and bulletin and/or other appropriate newsletter published periodically in the official languages of IUCN. Other publications of IUCN shall be made available to the Members, subject to any charges for particular documents.

## *Part IV - The World Conservation Congress*

Preparation

28. At least one year before the date set for the opening of a session of the World Congress, the Council shall:

    (a) appoint a Preparatory Committee to make the necessary preparations, including a representative of the Host State; and

    (b) appoint an Election Officer who shall not be a candidate for election nor a member of the Secretariat.

29. At least six months before the date set for the opening of a session of the World Congress, the Council shall also appoint a Motions Working Group of not fewer than three persons likely to become delegates to the World Congress, including individuals in their expert/personal capacity representing the common interests of Members and reflecting the diversity of IUCN's Members and components, together with the Director General ex officio, to guide the Members on the submission of motions, receive such motions, prepare them for the online discussion prior to Congress or for submission to the Resolutions Committee and the World Congress, facilitate discussion between Members on motions in advance of the World Congress,

and such other tasks as described in Part VII of the Rules of Procedure. Consolidated motions may be put forward by the Motions Working Group.

Elections: President, Treasurer and Chairs of the Commissions

30. At least four months prior to a meeting of the Council taking place not less than four months before the date set for the opening of an ordinary session of the World Congress, the Members in Categories A, B and C shall be invited by the Director General to submit to the Election Officer, proposals for persons to be nominated as President or Treasurer, or as a Chair of a Commission. Such invitation shall be accompanied by a list of the President, Treasurer and Chairs of Commissions in office who are eligible and willing to accept re-election. Proposals for persons to be nominated as President shall be made by Members eligible to vote representing at least 1% of the global membership of IUCN. Commission members shall be invited at the same time to make their proposals for the Chair of their Commission.

30*bis* With the purpose of identifying qualified candidates in a transparent process, the Steering Committee of each Commission shall form from among its members an ad hoc committee, who are not candidates themselves, and excluding the Chair, and invite Commission members to submit names to be considered for Commission Chair, at least one month prior to the date indicated in Regulations, 30. With prior endorsement by the Steering Committee concerned, a list of up to two prioritized candidates determined through qualification criteria established by the Steering Committee, shall be submitted by the ad hoc committee to Council.

31. The Council shall establish criteria for the qualities required for the positions of President, Treasurer and Chairs of Commissions. These shall be made available to Members in Categories A, B and C, and, in the case of Chairs of Commissions, to the Steering Committees of the Commissions.

32. Not more than two nominations for President and for Treasurer shall be made by the Council after considering the proposals made by Members in Categories A, B and C. Nominations for President may also be made directly by Members as provided for in the Statutes[29], provided that such nomination is received by the Director General not less than two months prior to the opening of the session of the World Congress.

33. The Council shall ensure that nominations made to the World Congress of candidates for President, take account of the background of the current Director General and reflect the diversity of IUCN.

[29] See Article 27 of the Statutes

34. Nominations for election to the office of Chair of each Commission shall be made to each ordinary session of the World Congress by the Council after considering proposals made by Members in Categories A, B and C, and by the members of that Commission. The nominations shall take into account the need to ensure that the holders of these offices are of the highest professional calibre and, as a whole, come from a diverse range of Regions.

35. All proposals and nominations shall be submitted with a *curriculum vitae* of the candidate and a written declaration of willingness to serve if elected. The deadline for nominations shall be determined on each occasion by the Council. The Election Officer shall transmit all nominations meeting the requirements to the Nominations Committee of the Council. Candidates nominated for elections shall be submitted with an abbreviated *curriculum vitae* to the World Congress in alphabetical order.

Elections: Councillors elected from the Regions and Indigenous Councillor

36. The list of States by Region is set forth in the Annex to these Regulations.

37. At least nine months before each ordinary session of the World Congress the Members in Categories A, B and C shall be invited by the Director General to submit to the Election Officer, the names of candidates for election as Councillor elected from the Regions and Indigenous Councillor. Such invitation shall be accompanied by a list of the Councillors elected from the Regions and Indigenous Councillor in office, indicating those who are eligible for re-election.

38. Nominations for candidates from a Region for election as Councillor elected from the Regions shall be made by five Members eligible to vote or ten per cent of all such Members in that Region, whichever is lower, in both cases drawn from more than one State. Nominations for candidates resident in dependent territories as defined in Article 40 of the Statutes, shall be made by five Members eligible to vote or ten per cent of all such Members in the Region for which they wish to be elected, where the dependent territory is located, whichever is lower, drawn from more than one State. For the purpose of nomination, an international non-governmental organisation whose constituency covers more than one Region shall be regarded as being located in the Region where its principal office is located.

38*bis*. Nominations of indigenous persons for candidates for the Indigenous Councillor position shall be made by five Members eligible to vote of which at least two are Members of Category C, drawn from more than one State.

38*ter*. All nominations shall be submitted together with an abbreviated *curriculum vitae* for each candidate, supplied by that candidate. Each candidate shall declare in writing a willingness to serve if elected. The deadline for nominations shall be determined on each occasion by the Council.

39. Candidates for election as Councillor elected from the Regions shall be nationals of a State in the Region concerned, and shall be resident in that Region. Candidates for election as Councillors elected from the Regions for a Region, or part of a Region covered by a recognized Regional Committee, other than that of their State, referred to in Article 40 of the Statutes, shall be resident in the Region concerned and be nationals of the State to which the dependent territory belongs.

40. Nominations received from Members within a Region for election as Councillors elected from the Regions from that Region as well as nominations received for election as Indigenous Councillor shall be communicated via the IUCN intranet as and when they are declared by the Election Officer as meeting the requirements established in the Statutes and the present Regulations. Before taking a definitive decision to reject a nomination, the Election Officer shall allow the individuals whose nomination does not meet the requirements a period of three weeks following the deadline in case they wish to bring evidence that the nomination(s) received were valid at the time of the deadline. Nominations that meet the requirements shall be submitted by the Election Officer with appropriate background information to each ordinary session of the World Congress. The Election Officer shall list the candidates in alphabetical order from a point in the alphabet chosen at random, with an indication of the number of nominations received per candidate.

~~Electronic Voting and Elections~~

~~40*bis*. When voting is normally carried out by delegates holding up voting cards under Rule 67 of the Rules of Procedure of the World Conservation Congress, and if an adequate electronic voting system is available at the Congress site, the voting shall be conducted by delegates electronically by inserting into a machine each Member's voting card. Votes for/against/abstain are tallied electronically by computer and the results of the tally announced to the World Congress by the Chair through displaying the tally on a screen visible to all delegates, with government votes and non-government votes reported separately as required under Articles 34 and 35 of the Statutes. The Election Officer shall monitor and ensure the accuracy of the electronic voting system.~~

**Commented [LDW35]:** Advisory Group: These provisions can be removed because duplicating Rules 63-65 and 77*bis*.

~~40*ter*. Elections shall be conducted with the support of an electronic voting system if an adequate system is available at the Congress site. The Election Officer shall monitor and ensure the accuracy of the electronic election system.~~

Honours and Awards

41. The World Congress, on the recommendation of the Council, may confer Honorary Membership on any individual who has rendered outstanding service to conservation of nature and natural resources.

42. Eminent individuals able to contribute to advancing the mission of IUCN may be nominated by the Council for election by the World Congress as Patrons of IUCN.

43. Awards for outstanding service to conservation may be made by the Council. The Commissions may, upon notice to the Council, also make awards.[30]

44. Honorary Members and Patrons shall be entitled to attend sessions of the World Congress and participate in its discussions and shall receive the IUCN annual report and bulletin and such other privileges as the Council may decide.

## *Part V - The Council*

Council's strategic objectives and priorities

44*bis*. At the latest at the second ordinary meeting following the World Conservation Congress, the Council shall approve strategic objectives and priorities for its work, together with a work plan and a proper monitoring mechanism to be reviewed and adjusted, as required, on an annual basis.

Appointments and Vacancies

45. The elected members of the Council shall appoint as soon as practicable after their election, and for a term to run concurrently with their own:

    (a) one (1) additional Councillor, selected with due regard to the need to maintain an appropriate balance of appropriate qualifications, interests and skills;

[30] See also Regulation 76

(b) a Councillor from Switzerland, chosen after consultation with the Swiss authorities, if a Councillor elected from the Regions from Switzerland has not been elected;[31]

(c) up to four Vice-Presidents; and

(d) the Legal Adviser.

45*bis*. Council may appoint members of Council as IUCN Council Global Focal Persons, for a period up to the end of the term for which s/he has been elected, with the purpose of:

(a) increasing the understanding in Council on a specific matter and the inclusiveness of its deliberations;

(b) contributing to raise the profile of IUCN's work with key stakeholders;

(c) promoting a strong focus and coherent body of work across IUCN on the issue concerned by liaising with the Secretariat, the Commissions and Members; and

(d) bringing her/his perspective and advice to the Council trough the relevant committee of the Council, including policy, governance, and resourcing implications.

46. The Council shall appoint a Deputy Chair and Steering Committee for each Commission. The appointments shall be made after considering proposals from the Chair of each Commission who shall take into account any suggestion made by the members of that Commission and seek to reflect the geographical and other diversity of IUCN. The Deputy Chair of each Commission shall act in the place of the Chair whenever the latter is unable to act as the Chair.

47. In the case of a vacancy in the Presidency of IUCN, the Council shall fill this vacancy from among the Vice-Presidents of IUCN. In filling other vacancies, the Council shall follow, whenever possible, the procedures and conditions provided for in the Statutes[32] for the election or appointment to the post in question.

[31] See also Article 38 (e) of the Statutes
[32] See Article 43 of the Statutes in combination with Regulations 38 and 39

Duties of Council Members

48. (a) No member of Council shall serve as a consultant to IUCN, nor receive remuneration from any component of IUCN, during their service as a member of Council.

(b) Council members shall maintain an effective relationship with the Director General and, through him/her, the Secretariat staff in view of enabling them to work to the same purpose through clarity of and respect for the authority and responsibilities of Council and the Director General, respectively, and with the highest professional and ethical standards.

(c) Consistent with all the duties assigned to them under the Statutes, Rules of Procedure and Regulations of IUCN, the Vice-Presidents shall:

(i) assist the President in improving the transparency and accountability of Council;

(ii) constitute the Nominating Committee for the election of members of the Bureau and of Council Committees and for the appointment of the additional Councillor pursuant to Article 38(f) of the Statutes;

(iii) prepare and submit to Council a written synthesis of Councillors' self-assessments;

(iv) assist the President, on request, in the management of Council, including the facilitation of resolution of conflicts between Councillors and of questions of ethics, should they arise, and accept any other duties as may be assigned to them from time to time; and

(v) together with the President, constitute the evaluation committee of the Director General.

48*bis*. In order to ensure the best possible performance of Council collectively and of members of Council individually, Council shall adopt the *Council Handbook and Performance Tools (the "Handbook")*, which shall provide Council members with guidance to the effective interpretation and application of the Statutes, Rules of Procedure and Regulations of IUCN, as these apply to the performance of Council members. Candidates for

Council shall receive the *Handbook* at the time of acceptance of their nomination. The *Handbook* and its annex(es) may be amended by Council from time to time, at its discretion and in accordance with its rules of procedure, and shall always be and remain subject to the provisions of the Statutes, Rules of Procedure and Regulations of IUCN.

Observers

49. International organisations with which IUCN has formal working relations, may send up to two representatives to meetings of the Council. Such observers shall have the right to speak.

Meetings of the Council

50. Notice of ordinary meetings of the Council, with draft agenda, shall be circulated to those entitled to be present at least six weeks in advance of the meeting. A special meeting of the Council may be convened at any time during sessions of the World Congress by the President or, in the absence of the President, a Vice-President.

51. The Chair of each meeting of the Council shall declare the opening and closing of the meeting. The Chair shall preside over the discussions, ensure the observance of the provisions of the Statutes and Regulations, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. Any member of Council may request that a question be submitted in writing before a decision is taken. The Chair shall rule on points of order and shall control the conduct of the meeting, subject to the right of any member of the Council to challenge a ruling of the Chair. This challenge shall require a two-thirds majority of the votes cast to prevail.

52. Summary minutes of each meeting of the Council, including written questions, shall be prepared by the Director General and submitted to the members of the Council as soon as possible after the meeting. Participants in the Council meetings may give the full or abridged text of any of their statements to the Secretariat for inclusion in the summary minutes. If no objections are received within five weeks of the date of despatch, the minutes shall constitute a correct record of the meeting. Any objection to the minutes shall be referred to the Council for decision by mail ballot or, at the discretion of the President, brought forward for consideration at the next meeting of the Council. If an objection is made to the wording of a decision, this shall not become effective until so confirmed.

53. Any of the official languages of IUCN may be used at meetings of the Council. Interpretation from one official language to another shall be made whenever a member of the Council so requests. Notification of such requests must be received by the Secretariat at least one month in advance of the meeting. Members of the Council may also speak in any language other than one of the three official languages but they must themselves provide for interpretation into one of the official languages.

54. A decision of the Council concerning a matter which was not on the draft agenda circulated in advance is binding unless five members of the Council attending the meeting are opposed, or unless five members of the Council notify their opposition to the Director General within one month of mailing of the minutes of the meeting.

55. A vote is cast at meetings of the Council when delivered by a member of the Council 'participating in the vote' and 'voting'. Participating shall mean present, or represented by proxy. 'Voting' shall mean submitting an affirmative or negative vote; abstentions shall not count as votes cast.

56. A member of the Council may accept no more than two proxies. A member of the Council holding a proxy shall deposit it with the Chair of the meeting at which the proxy may be used.

Secretary to Council

56*bis*. With the approval of the Council, the Director General in consultation with the President shall appoint a member of the Secretariat staff as the Secretary to Council who shall be responsible for providing independent advice and support to the Council and the President in the exercise of their duties as defined in the Statutes, the Rules of Procedure and the Regulations. The Secretary to Council shall ensure that the provisions of the Statutes, the Rules of Procedure and the Regulations related to the Council and its subsidiary bodies including the Bureau are adhered to.

Functions and Composition of the Bureau

57. The Bureau shall act on behalf of Council on any matters that Council may assign to it from time to time and any matters that may arise under Article 46 (b) to (q)[33] of the Statutes.[34] In addition, the Bureau shall decide directly on

[33] Changed from (p) to (q) as a consequence of the amendment to Article 46 of the Statutes adopted by the 2016 World Conservation Congress inserting a new paragraph (c) and renumbering all subsequent paragraphs accordingly.
[34] See also Article 49 of the Statutes

those specific matters assigned to it by the Council as provided for in the list annexed to the Rules of Procedure of the Bureau. The list shall be reviewed from time to time by Council and may be modified.

(a) The Bureau shall consist of the President as Chair, two Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer, one Commission Chair, two Councillors elected from the Regions, and the Chairs of the Programme and Policy Committee, the Finance and Audit Committee and the Governance and Constituency Committee.

(b) The Commission Chairs shall elect their representative to the Bureau at the beginning of the term of Council and again at midterm, it being understood that any such representative who served for the first half of the term will be re-eligible at midterm.

(c) The two Vice-Presidents and two Councillors elected from the Regions shall serve only through the first half of the term, and for the second half of the term shall be replaced by Councillors from other Regions and the two other Vice-Presidents.

(d) Should a vacancy occur, the Council shall appoint a replacement.

(e) The Council shall define the rules of procedure of the Bureau.

58. Decisions of the Bureau shall be made by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast and shall be reported in full to the Council. All decisions shall be transmitted to Council members via electronic communication or facsimile within one week of having been made. If a minimum of five Council members who have not participated in the decision, transmit to the Director General via electronic communication or facsimile their objection to the Bureau decision within one week after the decision was initially transmitted by the Bureau, the decision shall be submitted to the Council together with objections raised, for voting. In all other cases, the Bureau decision shall become effective as of the date it was made.

Committees, Working Groups and Task Forces

59. (a) Committees and working groups may be established by the Council. A committee shall be a standing body including but not limited to the standing committees referred to in Article 50 of the Statutes, with terms of reference more limited than those of the Council. A working group shall be a temporary body with a specific and limited mission which shall submit its report to Council, as the case may be, with

recommendations. A task force shall be a temporary body established by a committee and shall submit its report to the committee, as the case may be, with recommendations.

(b) In general, the subject matter of a committee or working group shall not be within the mandate of a Commission. The terms of reference, leadership, composition and duration of committees and of working groups shall be determined by the Council and, in the case of task forces, by the committee concerned. The terms of reference of working groups shall explicitly require a new decision of the Council or, in the case of task forces, of the committee concerned, in order to renew or extend their mandate. Once established, working groups or task forces may alter their composition provided this has no adverse impact on the approved budget.

(c) The Council may only delegate authority to any committee or working group to act on its behalf for specific purposes, when the majority of the members of the committee or working group are members of the Council.

(d) The committees, and if necessary the working groups, will meet prior to the plenary sessions of the Council. The committees and working groups will transmit their recommendations and proposed decisions to the Council prior to the Council plenary sessions, specifying the issues, if any, they wish to see debated by the full Council. Council members will have until the close of the business on the first plenary day of the Council meeting to express a desire to reopen the debate regarding any proposed decisions from the committees and working groups. In all other cases, the Council will adopt the proposed decisions of the committees and working groups without debate.

(e) Committees and working groups may also hold meetings (either physically subject to the Council approved budget or electronically) between meetings of the Council. Recommendations and proposed decisions resulting from these meetings shall be sent to the Council or the Bureau, as appropriate, electronically for decision.

60. When establishing committees and working groups, the Council shall seek to reflect the geographical balance of IUCN as well as the necessary balance of expertise. The membership of the committees and working groups may be drawn from both within IUCN and outside.

## *Part VI - The National and Regional Committees and Regional Fora*

61. To be eligible for recognition by the Council, National Committees shall:

    (a) open their membership to all IUCN Members in their State; and

    (b) comprise the majority of Members in their State.

62. To be eligible for recognition a Regional Committee shall be constituted through a process in which all IUCN Members in the Region or part of the Region are entitled to participate on equal terms.

63. The Director General shall be informed of any proposal to establish a Committee and of its proposed chair, rules of procedure and address, and shall:

    (a) advise the Committee on the conformity of these proposals with these Regulations; and

    (b) once satisfied of that conformity, inform the Council at its next meeting of the establishment of the Committee so that the Council may consider recognition.

64. Should a Committee act inconsistently with the objectives of IUCN, and should all reasonable efforts fail to resolve such problems, the Director General may recommend that the Council withdraw recognition from that Committee. Before taking a decision, the Council shall give the Committee due notice and an opportunity to respond to the allegations made.

64*bis*. If the IUCN Members of a National or Regional Committee dissolve the Committee, the IUCN Members in that State or Region shall inform the Council, through the Director General.

65. Each Committee recognized by the Council may use the IUCN name and logo in conjunction with the respective name of its State, Region or part of a Region as prescribed by the Council.

66. Committees recognized by the Council shall:

    (a) elect their own Chairs and establish their own procedures;

(b) be solely responsible for any funds they raise and any debts and legal obligations incurred;

(c) determine the dates and venues of their meetings, informing their members and the Director General of these meetings in advance;

(d) send a report on their activities to the Director General and the Council once a year;

(e) accept the right of any member to dissociate from any decision of the Committee and if requested, clearly indicate that dissociation;

(f) endeavour to ensure the full participation of their members; and

(g) cooperate with the Secretariat and the Commissions to advance the work of IUCN; and

(h) invite the Director General to attend or be represented at their meetings.

66*bis*. When preparing to operate outside of its own State or Region, a National or Regional Committee shall follow the Operational Guide for National and Regional Committees[35] working outside their State or Region and must first consult with the relevant IUCN regional and/or country office and any relevant National or Regional Committees and ensure that any proposed activities are consistent with the IUCN Programme, including any agreed regional or national programmes or work plans.

Field Code Changed

66*ter*. In the context of the development of motions referred to in Rules 48 to 62, the National Committees, Regional Committees and Regional Fora, when convened, are encouraged to provide a platform for discussion and negotiation of motions emanating from their country or region, in particular those that warrant discussion at a local, national or regional level, for the purpose of identifying solutions that might address the underlying issues.

67. Committees recognized by the Council may:

(a) adopt and pursue their own policies consistent with the policies and objectives of IUCN;

[35] Adopted by Council at its 76th Meeting (May 2011), decision C/76/32; amended by Council at its 98th Meeting (February 2020), decision C98/24.

(b) be authorized by the Council to undertake activities in the name of IUCN;

(c) establish and operate through sub-national or sub-regional committees;

(d) invite participation of IUCN Members from other States or Regions, as appropriate;

(e) invite others to participate as observers;

(f) have or adopt their own constitution and by-laws;

(g) exchange views on conservation issues within their States or Regions;

(h) participate in the formulation of the IUCN Programme for their respective State or Region; and

(i) issue statements relevant to the objectives of IUCN, provided that such statements, or actions taken pursuant to them, shall be solely on behalf of the Committee and shall not commit IUCN to any financial, legal or policy obligations.

68. The Director General shall nominate a Secretariat official responsible for liaison with each Committee and shall:

(a) keep the Committee informed of IUCN activities;

(b) consult the Committee on applications for IUCN membership, on mechanisms for participation in the IUCN Programme and on the implementation of the decisions of the World Congress relevant to that State or Region;

(c) involve the Committee in preparations for sessions of the World Congress, regional meetings and other important events;

(d) consult with the Committee about the development of IUCN initiatives in its State or Region;

(e) inform the Committee when IUCN has been consulted on issues of importance to the State or Region; and

(f) inform the Committee as appropriate of forthcoming official visits by officers and senior staff of IUCN.

## *Part VII - The Commissions*

Mandate

69. The mandate of each Commission, including name, mission and terms of reference, shall be established by the World Congress.

70. Prior to each ordinary session of the World Congress, the Council shall review the terms of reference and the activities of each Commission. Any proposals by an IUCN Member concerning the mission and terms of reference for any Commission shall be communicated to the Members of IUCN at least six months prior to the ordinary session of the World Congress concerned.

Commission Members

71. A Commission shall consist of individual members and, where appropriate, organisational associates chosen because of their competence to develop and advance the institutional knowledge and experience and objectives of IUCN within the mandate of the Commission.

72. The terms of appointment of Commission members, shall continue for six months after the close of the ordinary session of the World Congress following their appointment, or until reappointments are made, whichever is sooner.

73. The Chair of each Commission shall propose to the Council at its first meeting after the conclusion of an ordinary session of the World Congress, a candidate for appointment as Deputy Chair and shall propose candidates for appointment as members of the Commission Steering Committee no later than the second Council meeting after that session of the World Congress. The proposals of the Chair shall be made after a process of appropriate consultation including inviting nominations from within the Commission's membership. The selection of the members of the Steering Committee shall reflect consideration of technical qualification, of geographic representation, diversity of points of view, and gender equity. Until the Council appoints their successors, the incumbent Deputy Chair and Steering Committee members shall continue in office.

73*bis*. Before the end of the second full calendar year following Congress, the Chair of each Commission shall, in consultation with the Commission's Steering Committee, propose to Council that it either confirm the membership of the

Steering Committee or that it otherwise change it in accordance with the Chair's proposal.

74. A Commission Chair may appoint officers in addition to the Deputy Chair and Steering Committee.

75. The Chair of each Commission shall be responsible for the appointment or reappointment of the members of the Commission.

76. The Chair of a Commission, with the support of the Commission Steering Committee may, with notice to the Council, nominate a small number of persons or organisations for the conferment of awards.

Commission Operations

77. The Commissions shall work with each other, IUCN's membership, its National and Regional Committees and its other components to further the objectives of IUCN and its integrated programme.

78. (a) Each Chair, assisted by the Steering Committee, shall lead the activities of the Commission. The Chair is entitled to act in the name of the Commission and may delegate specified responsibilities to the Deputy Chair, to members of the Steering Committee or to other members of the Commission.

(b) Consistent with Article 60 of the Statutes, the respective Commission Chair, when exercising their duty under Article 46(f)[36] of the Statutes, shall, after presenting to Council their proposal on the Commission Operation Fund for their respective Commission, refrain from participating in the subsequent discussion, unless the President rules otherwise, and recuse her or himself from voting on the matter. The same protocol will be followed for the Council decisions concerning approval of draft Commission mandates.

(c) The Commission Chairs are accountable to the President. The President, in the presence of the Director General, shall undertake an annual appraisal of the performance of each Commission Chair in relation to the annual work plan and the mandate of that Commission.

[36] Changed from (e) to (f) as a consequence of the amendment to Article 46 of the Statutes adopted by the 2016 World Conservation Congress inserting a new paragraph (c) and renumbering all subsequent paragraphs accordingly.

78*bis*. The Commissions are accountable to the Council between sessions of the Congress. In line with Article 77 of the Statutes, the Commissions through the Chairs present an annual report to the Council on outputs, outcomes, impact and resources raised against the Commission's work plan approved by Council at the beginning of each term.

79. The Commissions may establish specialist groups of their members and other invited experts. The objectives and policies of such groups shall be consistent with those of IUCN.

80. Each Commission Steering Committee shall adopt, and may revise, that Commission's by-laws; the by-laws shall conform to the Statutes and the Regulations of IUCN.

81. The Director General shall ensure that the Secretariat provides reasonable support to the work of each Commission.

82. The Chair of each Commission shall ensure that there is proper authorization of expenditure for Commission activities and operations and that there is proper accounting of all Commission funds.

83. The Council shall adopt financial rules for the Commissions to facilitate their capacity to raise funds and manage these with autonomy. IUCN shall incur no liability in respect of funds raised in this way, nor for the application of such funds, including employment of staff.

84. Staff working directly for the Chair of a Commission and those working in the Secretariat in collaboration with the same Commission, shall follow a work plan agreed between the Director General and the Chair of the Commission.

## *Part VIII - The Legal Adviser*

85. The Legal Adviser shall be responsible for the provision of legal advice and services to all components of IUCN, and in particular shall advise IUCN regarding (a) the interpretation of the IUCN Statutes, Regulations and Rules of Procedure of the World Congress, as *lex specialis*; (b) the status and interests of IUCN under public international law; (c) the legal interests of IUCN under the laws of the nations where the Union operates, through analysis and application of comparative law and private international law; (d) the legal aspects of the relationships established through IUCN's contracts,

trademarks, licenses, human resources agreements, service agreements, and other such undertakings.

86. The Director General shall establish the office of the Legal Adviser, and recruit one or more legal counsel to serve in this office, to assist the Legal Adviser in the provision of such legal services as may be required.

87. The Director General shall recommend to the Council, an individual to be appointed the Union's Legal Adviser, and Council shall ensure that the Legal Adviser is duly appointed.

## *Part IX - Finance*

Financial Powers of the Director General

88. The Director General shall:

(a) as necessary, establish detailed financial policies and procedures, which may differ according to the requirements of the States in which IUCN is operating;

(b) have the power to accept grants, donations and other payments on behalf of IUCN, subject to any instruction by the Council;

(c) designate the banks in which the funds of IUCN shall be kept;

(d) be responsible for ensuring that the legal requirements of business operation are met in all States where IUCN is operating;

(e) maintain an appropriate level of reserves; and

(f) implement appropriate risk management strategies.

89. The Director General may:

(a) make non-speculative short-term investments of funds and prudent longer-term investments of funds held in Trusts or special funds; and

(b) within policy guidelines laid down by the Council, accept from individual or corporate supporters, funds or other forms of support for the work of IUCN.

90. In keeping IUCN accounts and controlling expenditure, the Director General shall:

(a) keep separate accounts for each restricted grant and each cost centre and fund;

(b) account in Swiss francs for all transactions in other currencies at the rate of exchange prevailing on the date of transaction;

(c) ensure that there is proper authorization of all transactions for IUCN's worldwide activities, and that all assets are managed and inventoried; and

(d) confer with the Treasurer and external auditors each year on the annual audit of the financial statements of IUCN.

The Treasurer

90*bis*. (a) The Treasurer shall provide advice and report to the World Congress, in particular on the financial health of IUCN, the audited financial statements and the draft financial plan.

(b) The Treasurer shall assist the Council in its oversight function regarding the financial affairs of IUCN and in particular, shall:

(i) provide advice and comments to the Council on the draft annual budget submitted by the Director General for approval;

(ii) provide advice on reserves and risk management strategies;

(iii) confer with the external auditors each year on the annual audit of the financial statements of IUCN.

Periodic and Annual Programmes and Budgets

91. The financial plan, necessary to implement the Programme of IUCN, submitted to each ordinary session of the World Congress, shall:

(a) normally commence on 1 January following the session of the World Congress at which it was adopted and end on 31 December of the year of the next session of the World Congress;

(b) be in Swiss francs;

(c) relate the proposed programme of activities to the estimates of income;

(d) present proposed allocations and expenditure which balance the estimated restricted and unrestricted income; and

(e) specify the projected growth or reductions in elements of the Programme, staff and administrative costs and changes in the geographical distribution of IUCN's activities.

92. The annual budget for the period from 1 January to 31 December shall:

(a) estimate unrestricted and restricted income from all sources, indicating which sums are confirmed, which are assumptions based on proposals under consideration by donors, and which are to be sought during the year;

(b) allocate unrestricted income, first to maintain activities mandated under the Statutes, and second, to the approved Programme or to the reserves;

(c) indicate the projected expenditure by the principal elements composing the budget of IUCN, and the extent to which that expenditure is to be met from unrestricted and restricted sources; and

(d) indicate specifically any request by the Director General for the Council to approve the designation of unrestricted funds for special purposes not foreseen in the financial plan.

Audit

93. The Director General shall ensure that the auditors have free access to all documentation and other information concerning the accounts and that there is no interference in their work.

## *Part X - Electronic Ballot*[37]

94. Where a mail ballot is required under the Statutes[38], an electronic ballot shall be carried out in accordance with the following procedure:

[37] As a result of an amendment to Article 94 of the Regulations adopted by the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2021, paragraph e. was removed and the following paragraphs renumbered.
[38] See Article 94 of the IUCN Statutes

a. At least six weeks before issuing the first notice of the electronic ballot referred to in paragraph b. of this Regulation, the Director General shall transmit the proposal(s) on which to vote, together with the background documentation, to the Members of IUCN, inviting comments or amendments either by electronic communication or through an online discussion forum;

b. A first formal notice of the electronic ballot, together with relevant background documentation, shall be circulated by the Director General of IUCN via electronic communication to the Members of IUCN at least eight weeks in advance of the date/time of the opening of the electronic ballot, and shall be followed by a second notice of the electronic ballot to be sent by the Director General three weeks following the date of the first notice. Each of these notifications shall inform Members that, upon their request received by the IUCN Secretariat at the latest one week prior to the opening date/time of the vote, they will be able to vote by postal mail in case they have difficulties with electronic voting. The ballot must be returned by postal mail so as to be received by the Director General before the closing date/time of the vote;

c. The IUCN Members who are or become eligible to vote at the latest as of two weeks prior to the date/time of the opening of the electronic ballot shall be notified by electronic communication from the Director General of the opening of the electronic ballot together with the link to the electronic system to cast their vote. The notification shall specify the closing date/time of the electronic vote which will not be sooner than two weeks as of the date/time of the opening of the vote;

d. The voting options shall be: 'yes', 'no', 'abstain', or where appropriate 'refer to the next session of the World Congress'. Any Member who is unable to log in and cast its vote may contact the Secretariat for assistance via electronic communication and the Secretariat will send via electronic communication to the Member a ballot form which the Member may use to cast its vote and must return via electronic communication prior to the date and time of the closing of the particular ballot.

e. The IUCN Legal Adviser shall monitor and ensure the accuracy of the electronic voting process; and

f. Consistent with the requirement under Rule of Procedure 71bis, the complete voting record of each IUCN Member shall be made available to all IUCN Members within two weeks following the close of the electronic ballot. Consistent with the requirement under Rule of Procedure 72, this voting record shall also include the written statements of any Members explaining their vote, which the Secretariat shall have received by electronic communication before the closing date/time of the electronic ballot.

g. In accordance with Article 94 of the Statutes, if urgent circumstances require it, the Council may by a two-thirds majority of votes cast, apply shorter deadlines than those established in the previous paragraphs.

**Commented [DWL36]:** Advisory Group: The rationale for this proposed amendment is explained in the comment under Article 94 of the Statutes.

95. Where an electronic ballot is conducted by other components of IUCN, the same format as specified in Regulation 94 d. shall be used mutatis mutandis.

## *Part XI - Language Policy*

96. The Council shall adopt a policy on the use of languages by IUCN and periodically review it thereafter.

## *Part XII - Amendments*

97. These Regulations may be amended in accordance with the Statutes.[39]

## *Part XIII - Final Clause*

98. Upon adoption by the 1st World Conservation Congress meeting in Montreal from 13 to 23 October 1996, these Regulations[40] shall be effective

[39] See Articles 101 to 103 of the Statutes

[40] Amended by Council at its 51st Meeting on 8 February 2000, at its 56th Meeting on 29 May 2002, at its 61st Meeting on 16 November 2004, at its 69th Meeting on 12 March 2008, by the World Conservation Congress on 13 October 2008, by Council at its 74th Meeting on 2 June 2010, at its 76th Meeting on 25 May 2011, at its 77th Meeting on 16 November 2011, at its 78th Meeting on 15 February 2012, by electronic ballot of IUCN Members on 5 May 2012, by the IUCN World Conservation Congress on 14 September 2012, by Council at its 82nd Meeting on 27 November 2013, at its 83rd Meeting on 21 May 2014, by electronic vote on 26 January 2015 concluding the deliberations of its 84th Meeting (November 2014), at its 85th Meeting on 13 May 2015, at its 86th Meeting held by telephone on 30 September 2015, at its 87th Meeting on 21 October 2015, at its 89th Meeting held by telephone on 17 August 2016, at its 92nd Meeting on 9 February 2017, at its

from 24 October 1996, and entirely replace and substitute for the previous Regulations, provided that nothing herein shall affect the validity of any decision taken under the previous Regulations.

95th Meeting on 8 October 2018, at its 96th Meeting on 31 March 2019, at its 98th Meeting on 11 February 2020, by the World Conservation Congress on 10 September 2021.

## *ANNEX*

(As per Regulation 36)

Members of the United Nations, members of its Specialized Agencies, or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, or parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice. [37]

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**AFRICA**

Algeria
Angola
Benin
Botswana
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cabo Verde
Cameroon
Central African Republic
Chad
Comoros
Congo
Côte d'Ivoire
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Djibouti
Egypt
Equatorial Guinea
Eritrea
Eswatini
Ethiopia
Gabon
Gambia (Republic of The)
Ghana
Guinea
Guinea Bissau
Kenya
Lesotho
Liberia
Libya (State of)
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritania
Mauritius
Morocco
Mozambique
Namibia
Niger
Nigeria
Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Somalia
South Africa
South Sudan
Sudan
Togo
Tunisia
Uganda
United Republic of Tanzania
Zambia
Zimbabwe

**MESO AND SOUTH AMERICA**

Argentina
Belize
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
Brazil
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Ecuador

El Salvador
Guatemala
Guyana
Honduras
Mexico
Nicaragua
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Suriname
Uruguay
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

**NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

Antigua and Barbuda
Bahamas
Barbados
Canada
Cuba
Dominica
Dominican Republic
Grenada
Haiti
Jamaica
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Trinidad and Tobago
United States of America

**SOUTH AND EAST ASIA**

Bangladesh
Bhutan
Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia
China
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
India
Indonesia
Japan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Malaysia
Maldives
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nepal
Pakistan
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Singapore
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Viet Nam

**WEST ASIA**

Afghanistan
Bahrain
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Jordan
Kuwait
Lebanon
Oman
Palestine
Qatar
Saudi Arabia
Syrian Arab Republic
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

**OCEANIA**

Australia
Cook Islands
Fiji
Kiribati
Marshall Islands
Micronesia (Federated States of)
Nauru

New Zealand
Niue
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Samoa
Solomon Islands
Tonga
Tuvalu
Vanuatu

**EAST EUROPE, NORTH AND CENTRAL ASIA**

Albania
Armenia
Azerbaijan
Belarus
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Czech Republic
Estonia
Georgia
Hungary
Kazakhstan
Kosovo
Kyrgyzstan
Latvia
Lithuania
Montenegro
North Macedonia
Poland
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Serbia
Slovakia
Slovenia
Tajikistan
Turkmenistan
Ukraine
Uzbekistan

**WEST EUROPE**

Andorra
Austria
Belgium
Cyprus
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Holy See
Iceland
Ireland
Israel
Italy
Liechtenstein
Luxembourg
Malta
Monaco
Netherlands
Norway
Portugal
San Marino
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Türkiye
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

[37] The list is regularly updated in function of the membership of the United Nations, of its Specialized Agencies, of the International Atomic Energy Agency or the parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice and with the names as published on the respective websites of these institutions.

## *Historical Note*

1948 Adoption of the Statutes of IUCN (then named the International Union for the Protection of Nature) on 5 October 1948 (Fontainebleau, France)
1958 Amended by the 6th General Assembly (Athens, Greece)
1960 Amended by the 7th General Assembly (Warsaw, Poland)
1963 Amended by the 8th General Assembly (Nairobi, Kenya)
1969 Amended by the 10th General Assembly (New Delhi, India)
1972 Amended by the 11th General Assembly (Banff, Canada)
1977 Revised by the 13th Extraordinary General Assembly (Geneva, Switzerland)
1978 Amended by the 14th General Assembly (Ashkhabad, USSR)
1990 Amended by the 18th General Assembly (Perth, Australia).
1996 Revised by the World Conservation Congress (Montreal, Canada)
2004 Amended by the World Conservation Congress (Bangkok, Thailand)
2008 Amended by the World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, Spain)
2012 Amended by the World Conservation Congress (Jeju, Republic of Korea)
2015 Amended by electronic ballot of the IUCN Members on 13 October 2015
2016 Amended by the World Conservation Congress (Hawai'i, United States)
2021 Amended by the World Conservation Congress (Marseille, France)

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FOR CONSERVATION OF NATURE

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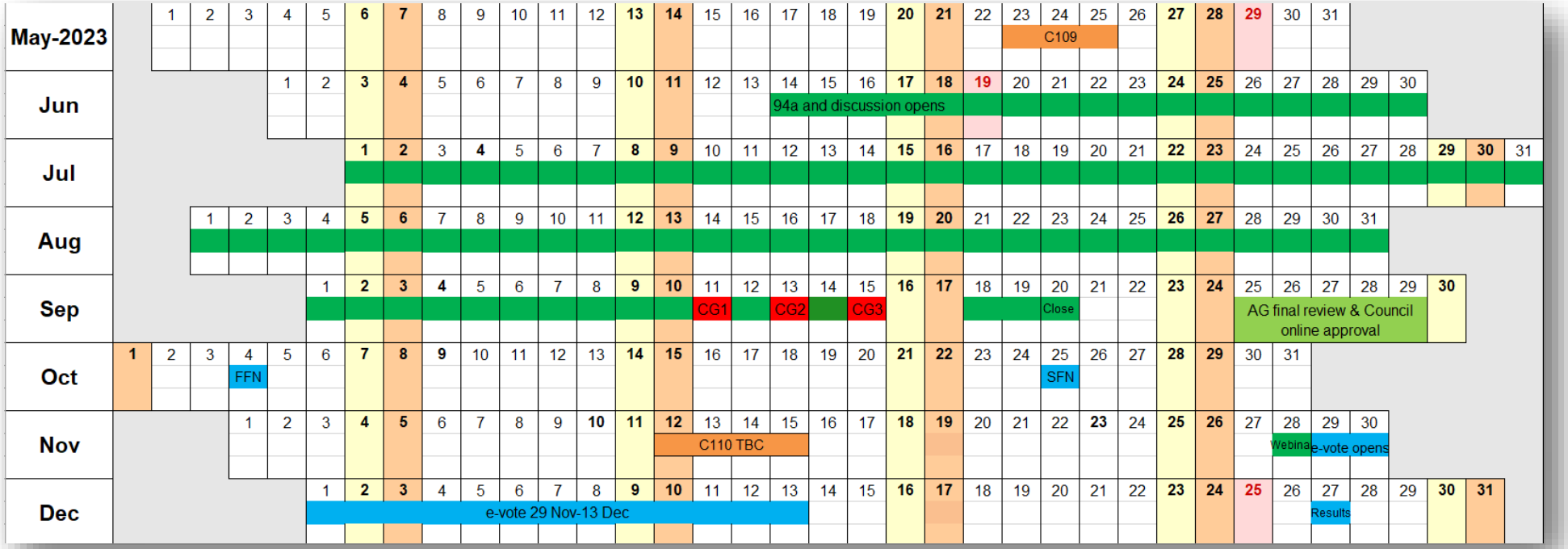
# Dec-148 – Proposed timeline for Member e-vote




## E-vote 29 Nov – 13 December 2023

**23-25 May** – C109

**14 June** – Online discussion opens (Reg 94a)

**11 September** – Contact groups start: 11, 13 and 15 September

**20 September** – Online discussion ends.

**W/c 25 Sept -** AG Final review and submits to Council for online approval (48 hrs)

**28 November** - Refresher webinar

**29 Nov-13 December** –E-vote

**27 December** – results published (at the latest)

# Process for the implementation of IUCN Resolution 123 (Marseille, 2020) "Towards development of an IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation"

*May 2023*

This document should be read in conjunction with the Terms of Reference of the different bodies engaged in the discussion and drafting of the policy, see Annex. It was approved by IUCN Council in Decision C108/2, and then revised in response to feedback received from IUCN Members, with this revised version approved by IUCN Council in Decision C109/8. With C109/8, the document is now considered closed, to allow the bodies in question to proceed with their mandated work, to submit a draft IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation to IUCN Council, to transmit this through a motion to the next meeting of the IUCN World Conservation Congress for debate and potential adoption by the Members of IUCN.

## IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee Res 123 Working Group

The Programme and Policy Committee of the IUCN Council has established a Working Group to ensure delivery of the draft "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation", for consideration for adoption by the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress, according to the mandate provided in IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123. This working group will track the implementation of the process described in this document and make recommendations to the IUCN Council on the actions required. The Terms of Reference of this group are included in the Annex.

## Inclusive process

A team of Trainers, supported by the Secretariat and with oversight from the IUCN Council, Programme and Policy Committee Res 123 Working Group will develop a briefing document, in order to explain to a broad range of IUCN Members and their respective memberships what synthetic biology is, and why its implications for nature conservation require an inclusive debate. This briefing should recall the process on the topics so far within the context of IUCN, and draw extensively from the IUCN report "Genetic Frontiers in Conservation".

Discussions among IUCN structures

IUCN Council will invite IUCN National, Regional and Interregional Committees, Regional Conservation Fora, and Commissions to carry out inclusive discussions, including grassroots online discussions, among their constituencies on the development of an IUCN policy on synthetic biology, as per Annex I of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123. These inclusive discussions should aim at engaging a diverse constituency across regions, gender, age and knowledge systems.

This inclusive process should include, where possible, identification of questions about areas in which there are significant uncertainties and unknowns, as well as, where possible, participatory and anticipatory technology assessment, including community-led foresight and participatory action research.

To facilitate this inclusive process, a team of Facilitators will produce a brief guidance document with recommendations about achieving inclusive and participatory engagement across the constituency, including grassroots online discussions, how to cover the topics mentioned in the Resolution, and a template to receive appropriate reporting of discussions

and summaries of the collected inputs. These reports will be inputs into the drafting and deliberation process of the IUCN policy.

Citizens' Assembly

One of the elements in the inclusive discussion process will be the establishment of a Citizens' Assembly to ensure a voice for the "silent majority" of the IUCN Membership that is not necessarily yet familiar and has not typically been engaged in the topic of synthetic biology.

A minimum of 16 IUCN Member institutions will be randomly selected (using an algorithm for which the code is publicly available), using a stratification across

a) the Union's eight statutory regions, to ensure balanced geographic participation,
b) IUCN's two voting houses: governments (including States, Government Agencies, and Sub-National Governments), and civil society organisations (including Indigenous Peoples' Organisations, National Non-Governmental Organisations, and International National Non-Governmental Organisations), ensuring half of the institutions are from governments and half from civil society organisations, and
c) female and male participants.

The randomly selected Member institutions will be asked to put forward two different individual nominees to serve in the Citizens' Assembly, with consideration for contributing to the overall diversity of the group, especially considering gender, youth and ethnicity. One individual per organisation will be selected by the IUCN Council Programme and Policy Res 123 Working Group, to maximize diversity in the overall group. Fluency in either English or French or Spanish, the three official languages of IUCN, is required; whispering translations will be provided by the IUCN Secretariat to assist any citizens' assembly members requiring this.

The Citizens' Assembly will be first convened to participate in a training, responsive to needs expressed by members of the Citizens' Assembly, so that participants share a common understanding on the topic of synthetic biology and its interactions with and implications for nature conservation, as well as on the process to develop an IUCN policy. Training materials will also be made available across the IUCN constituency, to support the inclusive process overall.

A second convening of the Citizens' Assembly will be held to deliberate and produce a summary and recommendations to be taken into consideration by the Policy Development Working Group in the drafting of the IUCN policy. Further convening may be undertaken in-person or electronically as needed.

Trainers and Facilitators

The Trainers and Facilitators of the Citizens' Assembly would be selected from among respected scientific institutions (e.g. national academies of natural and social science), through the IUCN procurement process, to ensure transparency, as well as minimising any actual or perceived conflicts of interest over the topic.

**Appointment of the Policy Development Working Group**

The Policy Development Working Group will be in charge of drafting the "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation", its terms of reference are included in the Annex.

IUCN Council will send out a call for nominations to all IUCN Members and Commission members, with sufficient information about the process and terms of reference for this group. The call for nominations will be open for at least one month. The call for nominations will request brief information on the nominees, specifically contact information, brief biography, expertise on the topic, region of origin, gender, age, ethnicity, as well as their CV, statement of interest and confirmation of willingness to serve in a personal capacity, commitment to the time dedication required, willingness to engage in a respectful and inclusive way to the different perspectives on the topic and declaration of any potential conflicts of interest. Fluency in either English or French or Spanish, the three official languages of IUCN, is required; whispering translations will be provided by the IUCN Secretariat to assist any working group members requiring this.

The call for nominations will also request that nominees state if they would be willing to be considered for the position of Chair or Co-Chair of the Working Group, including the terms of reference for this/these position(s).

The IUCN President will appoint a preliminary list of sixteen participants for the Working Group (using criteria in the Resolution), including a Chair or Co-Chairs, and send out to IUCN Members the list of names and brief biographies. IUCN Members will have one month to send feedback to the IUCN President about its overall composition.

The IUCN President will appoint and announce the final list of participants of the Working Group and its Chair or Co-Chairs no more than two months after the deadline to receive feedback from IUCN Members.

**Drafting and review of the policy**

The drafting of the policy will be led by the Policy Development Working Group, taking into account the inputs from the inclusive discussion process, especially the reports from the discussions carried out by the different IUCN structures, and the deliberations and recommendations from the Citizens' Assembly, as well as the guiding criteria listed in the Resolution, and the IUCN report Genetic Frontiers in Conservation: Assessment of Synthetic Biology and Biodiversity Conservation, as well as on other relevant sources of information. A call for information will be disseminated across current IUCN Members and Commission members to facilitate identification of such other relevant sources of information.

The drafting and review process to be followed is described in IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123. The Policy Development Working Group will meet in person three times, to prepare the first, second and third drafts of the policy, as well as will also work online via email and virtual meetings. In person meetings will have the support of the professional Facilitators hired and mentioned above.

The first and second drafts will be open to receive comments by IUCN Members during at least one month each. The third draft of the IUCN policy on synthetic biology will be submitted to the IUCN Council, which will transmit it, through a Council-sponsored motion, to the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress for debate and potential adoption by IUCN Members.

**Conflict resolution**

If unconstructive conflicts should arise among participants of this process that halt progress in the inclusive discussions and drafting of the policy, IUCN Council will mediate to seek a resolution, having the capacity to remove and replace the parties involved if necessary.

**Resources required to implement this process**

The implementation of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123 following the process described in this document is conditioned by the availability of resources to cover costs such as travel, contracts for the Facilitators and Trainers, honoraria of participants of the Citizens' Assembly, Secretariat staff time dedication, document production and communication, among others. IUCN Secretariat is commissioned to fundraise to cover these costs from philanthropic organisations and governments minimising any actual or perceived conflicts of interest over the topic.

# Annex
# TERMS OF REFERENCE
# for bodies involved in implementation of IUCN Resolution 123 (Marseille, 2020) "Towards development of an IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation"

This document provides Terms of Reference for the seven different bodies involved in implementation of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123 "Towards development of an IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation", namely,

i) IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee Res 123 Working Group members,
ii) Policy Development Working Group members,
iii) Policy development working group chair/co-chairs,
iv) Citizens' assembly members,
v) Trainers,
vi) Facilitators,
vii) IUCN Secretariat support.

This document was approved by IUCN Council in Decision C108/2, and then revised in response to feedback received from IUCN Members, with this revised version approved by IUCN Council in Decision C109/8 in turn. With C109/8, the document is now considered closed, to allow the bodies in question to proceed with their mandated work, to submit a draft IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation to IUCN Council, to transmit this through a motion to the next meeting of the IUCN World Conservation Congress for debate and potential adoption by the Members of IUCN.

This document should be read in conjunction with the Process for the implementation of WCC 2020 Res 123.

## i) IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee Res 123 Working Group members

**Composition:** Three members appointed by the IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee – Bibiana Sucre (Chair), Hilde Eggermont, Peter Cochrane.

**Objective:** Ensure delivery of the draft "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation", for consideration for adoption by the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress, according to the mandate provided in IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123.

**Specific roles:**

1) Comment and sign off on proposal for resource mobilisation in support of implementation of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123;
2) Provide oversight regarding the procedures and timeline for implementation of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123 as well as on the roles and articulation of the different bodies engaged in the process;
3) Advise the IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee and hence IUCN Council and IUCN President herself, specifically, on the appointment of nominees to the Policy Development Working Group, further to operative clause 2 of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123;

4) Advise the IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee and hence IUCN Council itself on the drafting and participatory discussion and review process for the policy, further to operative clause 1 and 3 of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123;
5) Provide assurance as to the stratified random selection of IUCN Members for participation in the citizens' assembly;
6) Provide advice for the selection of the Trainers and Facilitators;
7) Provide an observer to the meetings of the Policy Development Working Group and of the citizens' assembly;
8) Lead the development and submission of a Council motion to transmit the draft "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation" for consideration for adoption by the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress; and
9) Support deliberation of draft "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation" at 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

**Mode of operation:** 1) Regular 1-hr meeting (once / week); 2) Address ongoing issues by email as needed.

### ii) Policy Development Working Group members

**Composition:** Sixteen members, appointed in a balanced way by the IUCN President on the basis of the process established in operative clause 2 of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123. It is anticipated that Policy Development Working Group members are likely, although not required, to have relevant expertise or interest in synthetic biology. Fluency in either English or French or Spanish, the three official languages of IUCN, is required; whispering translations will be provided by the IUCN Secretariat to assist any working group members requiring this.

**Objective:** Draft the "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation".

**Specific roles:**

1) Produce the first draft of the "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation", drawing on, inter alia, the recommendations and deliberations of the citizens' assembly, summary reports from other elements of the inclusive discussion processes carried out by the different IUCN structures, the guiding criteria listed in Annex section II and previous IUCN Resolutions, and the IUCN report "Genetic Frontiers in Conservation";
2) Produce a second draft of the IUCN policy, taking into account the comments received from the IUCN constituency on the first draft, and document how each comment was addressed;
3) Produce a third draft of the IUCN policy, taking into account the comments received from the IUCN constituency on the second draft, and document how each comment was addressed;
4) Serve as resource people for the deliberations of draft "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation" at the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

**Mode of operation:** 1) Three in-person meetings, to produce respectively first, second, and third drafts of "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation", and responses to comments on first and second drafts; 2) Address ongoing issues by email or electronic meetings as needed; 3) Attend the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

### iii) Policy Development Working Group Chair/Co-chairs

**Composition:** One or two individuals, selected from among the Policy Development Working Group members by the IUCN President.

**Objective:** To provide leadership to the Policy Development Working Group in the process of drafting the "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation".

**Specific roles:**

1) Chair the first, second, and third meetings of the Policy Development Working Group, and any electronic meetings or email discussions of the working group needed;
2) Promote respectful engagement among all members of the Working Group;
3) Participate as observer/s on the inclusive process of the citizen's assembly;
4) Ensure that recommendations and deliberations of the citizen's assembly and inclusive discussions are taken into account into the drafting of the "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation".

**Mode of operation:** 1) Three in-person meetings, to produce respectively first, second, and third drafts of "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation", and responses to IUCN constituency comments on first and second drafts; 2) Address ongoing issues by email or electronic meetings as needed; 3) Attend the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

### iv) Citizens' assembly members

**Composition:** A minimum of sixteen individuals selected in a stratified random fashion from across the IUCN Membership, with stratification ensuring regional and gender balance and balance between the two IUCN houses (ie Government and Civil Society), as well as seeking indigenous and youth engagement, under the assurance of the IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee Working Group. Citizens' assembly members are not required to have existing expertise and interest in synthetic biology. Fluency in either English or French or Spanish, the three official languages of IUCN, is required; whispering translations will be provided by the IUCN Secretariat to assist any citizens' assembly members requiring this.

**Objective:** Contribute to the inclusive process by ensuring a voice for the "silent majority" of the IUCN Membership into the process for development of the "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation", as mandated in operative clause 1 of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123.

**Specific roles:**

1) Participate in training, responsive to needs expressed by the citizens' assembly members, to develop a common understanding regarding synthetic biology and its interactions with and implications for nature conservation;
2) Produce reports with recommendations and summary deliberations for the Policy Development Working Group regarding content of the "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation".

**Mode of operation:** 1) At least two in-person meetings, one to participate in training, the second to deliberate and produce recommendations; 2) Address ongoing issues by email or electronic meetings as needed; 3) Attend the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress; 4) Receive honoraria to cover opportunity cost of engagement time (on the rationale that citizens' assembly members are selected at random rather than through nomination).

### v) Trainers

**Composition:** Anticipated to be three individuals, from a respected scientific institution (e.g. national academies of natural and social science), selected through the IUCN procurement process. The same institution may be selected to provide both the training and the facilitation

functions (see below), to reduce transaction costs and increase continuity and efficiency of the process.

**Objective:** Provide training to citizens' assembly on synthetic biology and its interactions with and implications for nature conservation, so that participants share a common understanding as starting point for the discussions.

**Specific roles:**

1) Prepare a briefing addressed at all IUCN Members about what synthetic biology is, and why its implications for nature conservation require an inclusive debate, recalling the process on the topics so far within the context of IUCN;
2) Prepare as necessary training materials (e.g. powerpoints, course handouts, relevant publications, quizzes) for training session of citizens' assembly, in ways responsive to needs expressed by the citizens' assembly members;
3) Lead training session of citizens' assembly.

**Mode of operation:** 1) One in-person meeting for the training session of citizens' assembly; 2) Preparation time to develop training materials; 3) Address ongoing issues by email as needed.

### vi) Facilitators

**Composition:** Anticipated to be three individuals, from a respected scientific institution (e.g. national academies of natural and social science), selected through the IUCN procurement process. The same institution may be selected to provide both the facilitation and the training functions (see above), to reduce transaction costs and increase continuity and efficiency of the process.

**Objective:** Facilitate the meetings of the citizens' assembly and of the Policy Development Working Group.

**Specific roles:**

1) Produce brief guidance documents on how different components of IUCN can carry out inclusive processes, including grassroots online discussions, to discuss synthetic biology and collect inputs from discussions and produce summary reports (National, Regional and Interregional Committees, Regional Conservation Fora, Commissions);
2) Facilitate at least one deliberation meeting of the citizens' assembly to produce recommendations for the Policy Development Working Group regarding content of the IUCN policy;
3) Facilitate the three in-person meetings of the Policy Development Working Group to produce respectively first, second, and third drafts of "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation", and responses to IUCN constituency review comments on first and second drafts;
4) Support deliberation of draft "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation" at the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

**Mode of operation:** 1) At least one in-person meeting of the citizens' assembly; 2) Three in-person meetings of the Policy Development Working Group to produce respectively first, second, and third drafts of "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation", and responses to IUCN constituency review comments on first and second drafts; 3) Address ongoing issues by email or electronic meetings as needed; 4) Attend the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

### vii) IUCN Secretariat support

**Composition:** IUCN Secretariat support will be drawn from the IUCN International Policy Centre and IUCN Science & Data Centre. Specific staff engaged are anticipated to be the Head of the International Policy Centre, the Senior Scientist & Programme Manager, the Chief Scientist, the Head of the Science & Data Centre, and a Programme Administrator. Objective: Provide scientific, technical, policy, fundraising, and administrative support to all bodies and processes involved, in particular to the IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee Working Group members, the Policy Development Working Group Chair/Co-chairs, and the Trainers and Facilitators, but also more generally the Policy Development Working Group members and citizens' assembly members.

**Specific roles:**

1) Draft proposal for resource mobilisation in support of implementation of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123, incorporate comments from IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee Working Group members, and fundraise on the basis of this;
2) Support IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee Working Group members in developing and maintaining the procedures and timeline for implementation of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123;
3) Undertake procurement of trainers and facilitators under IUCN procurement process;
4) Organise travel, venues, and logistics for all in-person meetings (two for citizens' assembly; three for Policy Development Working Group), and participate in these;
5) Organise logistics for call for information, electronic meetings and document sharing and review as required;
6) Support deliberation of draft "IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation" at the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

Note that the IUCN Secretariat will remain neutral on all aspects of synthetic biology until the formal adoption of an IUCN policy on synthetic biology, remaining cognisant as new understanding develops during the process, as mandated in operative clause 4 of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123.

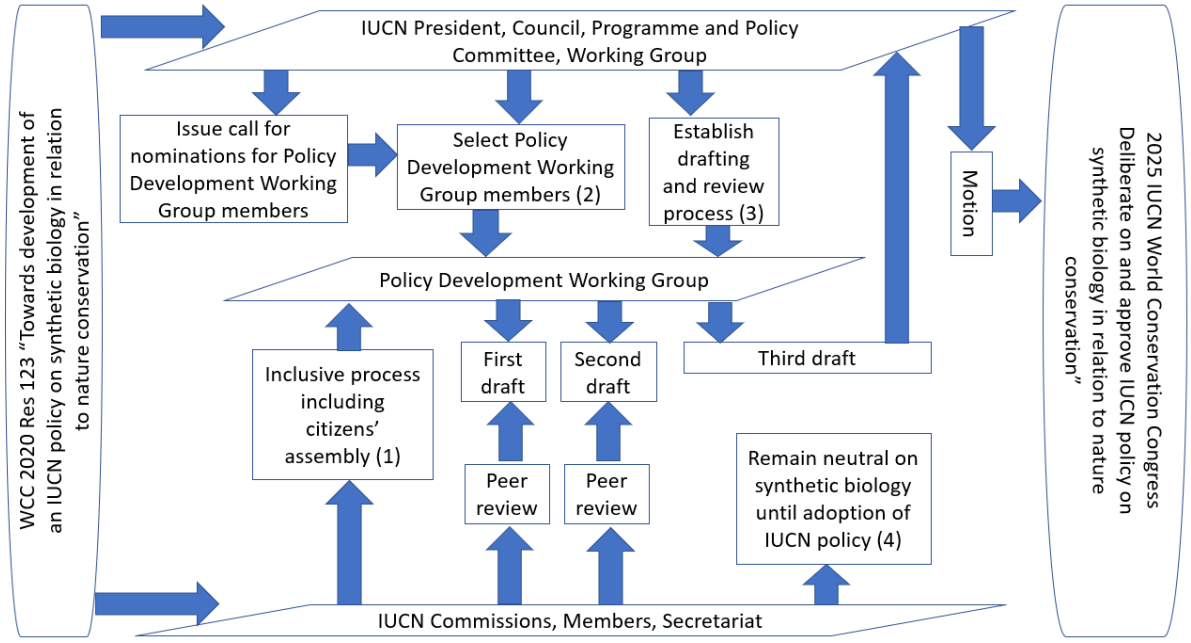
Note also that Secretariat support is entirely dependent on external funding.

**Mode of operation:** 1) At least five in-person meetings (at least two for citizens' assembly; three for Policy Development Working Group); 2) Address ongoing issues by email or electronic meetings as needed; 3) Attend the 2025 IUCN World Conservation Congress.

**Other active stakeholders**

Res 123 calls IUCN Director General, Commission Chairs and Members to carry out an inclusive and participatory process to inform the development of the policy, particularly through IUCN National, Regional and Interregional Committees, IUCN Regional Conservation Fora and IUCN Commission processes. IUCN Council Programme and Policy Committee Res 123 Working Group will invite these different structures of IUCN to carry out inclusive discussions among their respective constituencies. Brief guidance documents will be provided to facilitate these discussions and to request consistent brief summary reports for input into the process.

**Process schematic for development of an IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation.** Numbers relate to operative clauses of IUCN Resolution WCC 2020 Res 123 "Towards development of an IUCN policy on synthetic biology in relation to nature conservation".



# Annex 5 to Council decision C109/15

| IUCN Statutory region | # | Organisation name | Acronym | IUCN Statutory State | Website | Member Category | Letters of endorsement from IUCN Members, National/Regional Committees, Councillors, Honorary Members | Detailed application |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Africa | 1 | New Millennium Women Empowerment Organization | NMWEO | Ethiopia | http://nmweo.org/ | National NGO | 1) NG/25592 Population, Health and Environment Ethiopia Consortium, Ethiopia<br>2) GA/271 Ethiopian Wildlife Conservation Authority, Ethiopia | NMWEO |
| | 2 | Indigenous Information Network | IIN | Kenya | http://indigenous-info-kenya.net/ | Indigenous Peoples' Organisation | 1) NG/26045 Conservation Alliance of Kenya, Kenya<br>2) IP/25031 Asociación SOTZ`IL (Center for Maya Research and Development), Guatemala<br>3) IN/274 African Wildlife Foundation - Kenya HQ, Kenya | IIN |
| Meso and South America | 3 | Secretaría de Ambiente del Gobierno de la Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires<br>(*Environmental Secretariat of the Government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires* ) | SECA | Argentina | https://www.buenosaires.gob.ar/jefedegobierno/ambiente | Subnational Government | N/A | SECA |
| | 4 | Associação de Zoológicos e Aquários do Brasil<br>*(Brazilian Association of Zoos and Aquariums)* | AZAB | Brazil | https://www.azab.org.br/ | National NGO | 1) IN/216 World Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Spain<br>2) NG/25459 WCS Associação Conservação da Vida Silvestre (Wildlife Conservation Society WCS), Brazil<br>3) NG/25790 Sociedade para a Conservação das Aves do Brasil - SAVE Brasil, (Society for the Conservation of Birds in Brazil), Brazil | AZAB |
| | 5 | Asociación Balam ONG<br>*(ONG Balam Association)* | BALAM ONG | Guatemala | https://asociacionbalam.org.gt/ | National NGO | 1) IP/25448 Asociación Ak'Tenamit (AK'Tenamit Association), Guatemala<br>2) IP/25031 Asociación SOTZ`IL (Center for Maya Research and Development), Guatemala | BALAM |
| | 6 | Earthgonomic México A.C. | EME | Mexico | http://www.earthgonomic.com/ | National NGO | 1) NG/26000 Centro Intercultural de Estudios de Desiertos y Océanos (Intercultural Center for the Study of Deserts and Oceans), Mexico<br>2) NG/25032 Reforestamos México A.C., Mexico | EME |
| | 7 | Asociacion Adopta el Bosque Panama<br>*(Adopt a Panama Rainforest Association)* | ADOPTA | Panama | https://adoptabosque.org/ | National NGO | 1) NG/1249 Fundación para la Protección del Mar (Foundation for the Protection of the Sea), Panama<br>2) NG/25467 Centro de Incidencia Ambiental (Environmental Advocacy Center), Panama<br>3) Comité Nacional de Miembros de Panamá de la UICN (Panama National Committee of IUCN Members) | ADOPTA |
| North America and the Caribbean | 8 | Wilder Institute / The Calgary Zoo Foundation | WI/CZ | Canada | https://wilderinstitute.org/ | National NGO | 1) IN/216 World Association of Zoos and Aquariums WAZA, Spain<br>2) NG/1538 Zoologischer Garten Köln (Cologne Zoological Garden), Germany | WI/CZ |
| | 9 | Earth Law Center | ELC | United States of America | https://www.earthlawcenter.org/ | National NGO | 1) NG/26056 Stop Ecocide International Ltd, UK<br>2) NG/25933 Center for Environmental Ethics and Law, USA | ELC |
| South and East Asia | 10 | Beijing Greenovation Institute for Public Welfare Development | GHUB | China | https://ghub.org.cn/ | National NGO | 1) NG/25044 All-China Environment Federation, China<br>2) NG/25487 China Mangrove Conservation Network (legal name: Putian Green Sprout Coastal Wetlands Research Center), China<br>3) NG/25182 Shan Shui Conservation Center, China | GHUB |
| West Asia | 11 | King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Royal Reserve Development Authority | KSRNR | Saudi Arabia | https://ksrnr.gov.sa/en | Government Agency | N/A | KSRNR |
| West Europe | 12 | Alive Fundació<br>(Alive Foundation) | AF | Spain | https://alivefund.org/ | National NGO | 1) NG/597 Lliga per a la Defensa del Patrimoni Natural (League for Natural Heritage Defense), Spain<br>2) AF/890 Parc Zoològic de Barcelona (Zoological Park of Barcelona), Spain | AF |

Change of membership category:

| Member ID | Name | Country | Current category | Requested new category |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| NG/69 | Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 - Hilfe für die bedrohte Tierwelt *(Frankfurt Zoological Society of 1858-Help for Threatened Wildlife)* | Germany | National NGO | Affiliate |

Change of name:

| Member ID | Previous name | New name | Country |
|---|---|---|---|
| ST/1251 | Ministero della Transizione Ecologica | Ministero dell'Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica / Ministry of Environment and Energy Security. | Italy |

# Knowledge Products and Knowledge Management: Strategic Roadmap

## Version 2.0

9 May 2023

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# Executive Summary

Knowledge management, and in particular, "knowledge products", have been the subject of debates within the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) for more than two decades. In the past, the Union has pursued an organic growth and fragmented approach to knowledge management. The last institutional review on knowledge management was commissioned in 2003 and its recommendations were never implemented. In September 2022, the need for a more comprehensive and strategic approach to managing "knowledge products" specifically was identified by the IUCN Council as a priority. The ultimate objective of the need for a coherent strategic approach to "knowledge products" – and by extension knowledge management more generally – is to secure adequate, predictable and flexible funding to maintain, improve and integrate (where possible) IUCN "knowledge products" in order to respond to the fast paced 21st century world.

Assessing and measuring impacts on nature and progress of conservation is a complex undertaking, and many stakeholders struggle to find the right metrics and data that would help them determine whether they are nature-negative or -positive. Existing IUCN "knowledge products" that aim to serve this purpose have a degree of uptake; however, there is potential to extend, systematise, improve and integrate IUCN's knowledge offering, in the strive to achieve IUCN's conservation mission.

This document has a number of limitations, including the fact that there is currently no agreed upon Union-wide definition of the term "knowledge product". As such, the proposed typology in this document should be interpreted as an interim classification of some of IUCN "knowledge products".

| Knowledge Products for assessments based on IUCN 'status based' Standards | Knowledge Products to guide conservation action: tools that do not require underpinning IUCN Standards | Knowledge Products for conservation assurance based on IUCN 'performance based' Standards |
|---|---|---|
| IUCN Red List of Threatened Species & Green Species Status (incl STAR metric) | Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) | Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas |
| IUCN Red List of Ecosystems & IUCN Global System Typology | World Heritage Outlook | IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions |
| Protected Areas Management Categories (Protected Planet) | Restoration Barometer | |
| Key Biodiversity Areas | ECOLEX | |
| IUCN Environmental Impact Classification of Alien Taxa | Contributions for Nature Platform | |
| | Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species | |
| | Natural Resource Governance Framework | |
| | Urban Nature Index | |

In 2021, the Director General commissioned a strategic review of IUCN data products to help IUCN understand opportunities to extend the uptake, reach, conservation impact, and financial sustainability of its "knowledge products". The study was based on set of "knowledge products", including at least one from each of the three categories as prescribed in the typology (see scope on page 13 of the Strategic review). The methodology included interviews with 29 key informants from 20 organisations including end-users (government, civil society, business, and finance), data providers,

institutions and individuals involved in developing and maintaining "knowledge products". Insights are summarised in the SWOT analysis presented in Figure 1 (below).

*Figure 1: SWOT summary of findings*

In the past, "knowledge products" have been developed independently from each other. This fragmented approach was also reinforced by both the previous structure of the Secretariat and by the lack of a clear approach to knowledge management across the Union. The Knowledge Management and Library Team (KM&L Team) was therefore established in 2021, under the Centre for Science and Data, with the intent to: 1) define and streamline Knowledge Management (KM) across IUCN and; 2) improve IUCN's approach to capturing, organising and promoting its knowledge and expertise. In terms of next steps, this strategic roadmap suggests the following:

- Defining Knowledge Management in IUCN (the "what?")
- Objectives in line with IUCN Statutes and mission (the "why?")
- Key target beneficiaries (the "whom?") need to be clearly defined (internally and externally) as well as key partnerships (the "with whom?") – within and beyond IUCN.

This roadmap then moves onto proposing the following strategic approach for two of the three categories of "knowledge products":

1) **Knowledge Products for assessments based on IUCN 'status based' Standards**

Consisting of: public financing, cost recovery through the project portfolio, cost recovery from the private sector through the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT), and technology & science developments through the Global Environment Facility (GEF)-secured funding to explore knowledge frontiers.

2) **Knowledge Products for conservation assurance based on IUCN 'performance based' Standards**

Consisting of positioning IUCN's 'performance based' Standards as: 1) best-practice benchmarking tool for systems-level programme planning, policy development or fund development; 2) a single intervention project design/ management planning tool; and 3) a verified assurance certificate.

# Preamble

The purpose of the *Knowledge Products and Knowledge Management: Strategic Roadmap Version 2* is to respond to Council Decision C108/15. The document is intended to serve as a second step towards the development of a Union-wide Strategy on IUCN Knowledge Products and Knowledge Management.

This second iteration incorporates feedback from IUCN Council's Programme and Policy Committee (PPC) received during its 9th meeting, written comments from the Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM) and the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), as well as refinement suggestions from relevant Secretariat experts, particularly scientists from the IUCN Centre for Science and Data. The Secretariat has not yet received feedback from the following Commissions: Species Survival Commission (SSC), Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP), World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL), Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) and the Climate Crisis Commission (CCC). The Secretariat stands ready to incorporate further feedback from Commissions upon receipt.

Building on the recommendation of PPC to the IUCN Council at its 108th meeting – i.e. to consult the draft document with Members – it is proposed that this second iteration of *Knowledge Products and Knowledge Management: Strategic Roadmap Version 2* goes through a Membership-wide consultation. This can be done via the soon-to-be launched IUCN Engage, inviting interested Members to share feedback. It is worth nothing that insights from the latest Annual Membership satisfaction survey demonstrate that out of the 18% of Members who responded to the survey, 60% find that IUCN "knowledge products" are a very important service of IUCN to their organisation[1].

In addition, as the Union component "*entrusted to develop and advance the institutional knowledge and experience and objectives of IUCN*"[2], it is imperative that all seven IUCN Commissions are consulted on a strategy that sets the direction of IUCN's knowledge generation, maintenance, development and funding.

# Chapter 1. Introduction

IUCN is a recognised provider of nature and conservation-related knowledge, data and standards used to guide nature conservation efforts globally. The Union relies on and continuously generates data, information and knowledge from across its Membership, Commissions and the Secretariat. This includes data, guidelines, tools, "knowledge products" (herein KPs) as well as formal publications under official identifiers (ISBN and ISSN). Over the years, IUCN's knowledge has gained prominence worldwide and it is believed to contribute to a wide range of global analyses on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

Today, governments, private sector and investors are under increased societal pressure to manage environmental risks and strengthen Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) practices. Assessing and measuring impacts on nature and progress of conservation is a complex undertaking, and many stakeholders struggle to find the right metrics and data that would help them determine whether they

[1] For more information, please refer to Annex 1: 2023 Annual Membership satisfaction survey – knowledge products results

[2] Article 73 of the IUCN Statutes and Regulations

are nature-negative or -positive. Existing IUCN KPs that aim to serve this purpose have a degree of uptake and utility; however, there is potential to extend, systematise, improve and integrate IUCN's knowledge offering, in the strive to achieve IUCN's conservation mission.

**It is evident that the Union has been attempting to address this matter for more than a decade. Throughout the years, KPs have been developed independently from one another; there is also currently no strategy on KPs, nor on knowledge management more generally, despite the numerous Congress Resolutions on this topic since the early 2000s. The Union has pursued an organic growth and fragmented approach to knowledge management, and in September 2022, the need for a more comprehensive and strategic approach to managing KPs was identified by Council as a priority.**

In 2021, the Director General commissioned a strategic review of IUCN data products. The review was shared with Council via the Director General's Report to Council meeting 107 in early 2022. In summary, the findings suggest that there are major opportunities for increased uptake and impact, including: 1) use by corporates for impact assessment, target setting, reporting and disclosure; 2) use by financial sector for screening of investment portfolios; 3) increased use in agribusiness, forestry, and fisheries, where certification is the main sustainability approach but there has been limited incorporation of IUCN KPs; and 4) increased use by governments for integrating national biodiversity and climate strategies.

It is within this broader context that an IUCN strategy on KPs should be developed. All existing IUCN KPs involve extensive work with and contributions from the Commissions, and many also involve Members; as such, a Union-wide strategy would require the buy in of all IUCN constituencies. Through the development of a clear Union-wide strategy on KPs, IUCN aims at securing adequate, predictable and flexible funding to maintain, improve and integrate existing KPs, and develop new ones, as necessary. A KP strategy would help deliver the IUCN Programme, service the Union, and reduce institutional risks.

**This report.** For readability purposes, the body of the report has been kept as succinct as possible. More detailed information and descriptions can be found throughout Annexes 1 to 6.

## Knowledge Products in IUCN Statutes

The term "Knowledge Product" is neither referred to nor defined in IUCN's statutory documents. There are, however, numerous references in the Statutes and Regulations to objectives, roles, mechanisms and activities of the various components of IUCN that are directly or indirectly related to what is currently understood as a Knowledge Product (Article 2, 3 (d) and (g) and bis of IUCN's Statutes; and Regulations 2 (b), (d), (e), (f), (l)).

> In order to attain its objectives to *"influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable"* (Article 2 of IUCN's Statutes), IUCN, among others, "*encourages research related to the conservation of nature and natural resources and disseminates information about such research*" and "*provides scientific and other authoritative information, including traditional ecological knowledge, in the form of assessments, analysis, and advice on the status and trends of nature and natural resources, including on threats, human behaviour, conservation measures and future scenario*" (Article 3 (d) and (g) of IUCN's Statutes). "*In working towards the objectives outlined in Article 3 (g) of the Statutes, the IUCN Secretariat and the IUCN Commissions are required to uphold high standards of scientific work and other knowledge systems and will be free from undue influence or conflict of interest in this regard."* (Article 3bis of IUCN's Statutes).

A legal analysis of knowledge and KP-related references in our Statutes is found in Annex 2: Knowledge in the IUCN Statutes – rapid legal assessment.

## Knowledge Products in IUCN Resolutions

Throughout the years, the Members' Assembly (i.e. Congress) has adopted many Resolutions and Recommendations that relate to KPs. Relevant Resolutions can be classified into two main categories: i.) Resolutions that provide general guidance for the development and sharing of KPs, and ii.) Resolutions that relate to specific KPs.

Out of the 37 Resolutions relating to KPs that were identified, 28 of them remain active, and 9 have been archived. A comprehensive list and information the status of implementation of these Resolutions are found in Annex 3: List of IUCN Resolutions with references to Knowledge Products and Annex 4: Status of Implementation of relevant Resolutions, respectively. It is important to note that information on the status of implementation is not always available, as the online reporting via the Resolutions and Recommendations Platform was launched after the Jeju Congress in 2012. Furthermore, data can unfortunately also be scarce for some of the Resolutions, as activity and progress reports were not always submitted by Resolution focal points.

### Council Decisions to implement the Resolutions

To implement the relevant Congress Resolutions, there are a number of Council Decisions since 2009. The relevant Council documents from 2009 onwards refer to a gap and reiterate the need to develop an overarching knowledge management policy and strategy:

1) *C/74/19 Jun 2010 - Endorses the proposed IUCN Framework of Principles for Managing Biodiversity Conservation Data and Information for implementation (Annex 6)*
2) *C77/14 - Adopts on an interim basis the Policy for Commercial Use of IUCN Biodiversity Data*
3) *C78/23 Feb 2012 - Approves the IUCN Framework of Principles for Managing Biodiversity Conservation Data and Information (Annex 14)*
4) *C78/24 Feb 2012 - Approves the Policy for Commercial Use of IUCN Biodiversity Data (Annex 15)*
5) *C/82/13 Nov 2013 – Recognizes the data underlying the flagship knowledge products mobilized through IUCN*
6) *C/83/21 May 2014 – Requests the review of the naming and governance of IUCN Knowledge Products (Agenda Item 10.2.2)*
7) *C/85/29 May 2015 – Requests the review of the naming and governance of IUCN knowledge products (Background document Agenda Item 5.2.2.2)*
8) *C/87/20 Oct 2015 – Notes the development of the Natural Resource Governance Framework (NRGF) (Agenda Item 6.2.3.2)*
9) *C/87/21 Oct 2015 – Notes the progress on the development of the People in Nature (Agenda Item 6.2.3.2)*

The Council 2008-2012 decisions repeatedly refer to the following four Congress Resolutions: WCC-2000-Res-023, WCC-2004-Res-085, WCC-2008-Res-012, and WCC-2008-Res-102, and the Council 2012-2016 decisions are basically the continuation of the efforts to develop the governance of KPs.

Council document C87/6.2.3.2 (2015) is the last documentation coming through Council and its Programme and Policy Committee (PPC), and the issue of KPs was not on the agenda during the Council 2016-21.

In general, the Council 2008-12 adopted policy dealing with specific aspects related to biodiversity data and Council 2012-16 saw the beginning of the implementation of the Congress request for an overall strategy/policy for knowledge management – which Council 2016-21 did not continue any further for a reason unknown.

# Chapter 2. Knowledge Products: overview

For ease of readability, the full descriptions of all identified IUCN KPs are found in Annex 5: Knowledge Products – Detailed descriptions. The list is by no means exhaustive. For each KP, the table in Annex 5 includes detailed descriptions of: governance arrangements, work processes and management, legal status, usage, estimated costs of implementation, required improvements and estimated cost of those improvements. The descriptions are in no particular order.

It is important to note that the term "knowledge product" has never been explicitly defined and as such, historically, the term has been used in a non-consistent manner, as a "catchall" term. Some KPs are referred to as products that are based on IUCN standards approved by IUCN's governance bodies, however, this definition has not been applied consistently.

The governance and legal arrangements, as well as the work processes and management of IUCN KPs vary significantly from one another. Similarly, on the financial side, the cost of maintenance and the envisaged improvement areas and their respective costs likewise vary.

Note: The term "**knowledge product**" seems to have begun in earnest in around 2004, when it was used throughout a "knowledge management study" (full study available here and executive summary here) commissioned by IUCN in response to external reviews of IUCN from 1999 and 2003 and the interactive sessions at the World Conservation Congress in Amman (2000) and the 2003 Consultative Group on Commissions.
It is believed that the first time the concept of knowledge products based on IUCN standards is put into the formal scientific record is in: *Thomas M. Brooks, Stuart H.M. Butchart, Neil A. Cox, Melanie Heath,Craig Hilton-Taylor, Michael Hoffmann, Naomi Kingston, Jon Paul Rodríguez, Simon N. Stuart & Jane Smart (2015) Harnessing biodiversity and conservation knowledge products to track the Aichi Targets and Sustainable Development Goals, Biodiversity, 16:2-3, 157-174, DOI: 10.1080/14888386.2015.1075903*

**As part of this strategic roadmap and its implementation, a Union-wide agreement on what constitutes a "knowledge product" may be required. This is aligned with feedback received from WCPA.**

## Typology of KP

This section provides a proposed typology of IUCN KPs, recognising the limitations stated above, i.e. a lack of an agreed definition of what constitutes a "knowledge product". Existing KPs can be grouped around three categories[3], as follows:

**Knowledge Products for assessments based on IUCN 'status based' Standards *(formerly "Datasets")***

These are global scale datasets and associated applications (actual or planned) with public facing 'products' (e.g. websites), whose core functionality is dependent on the application of an IUCN Standard, i.e. adopted by IUCN Council or Congress.

**Knowledge Products to guide conservation action: tools that do not require an underpinning IUCN Standards *(i.e. formerly "Tools" and "Guidelines")***

These are a series of authoritative public facing tools which: 1) provide access to global data sets but whose core functionality is not necessarily dependent on the application of an IUCN Standard; and/or 2) provide systematic methodologies for data collection, assessment and analysis but do not support global data sets nor are they underpinned by an IUCN Standard.

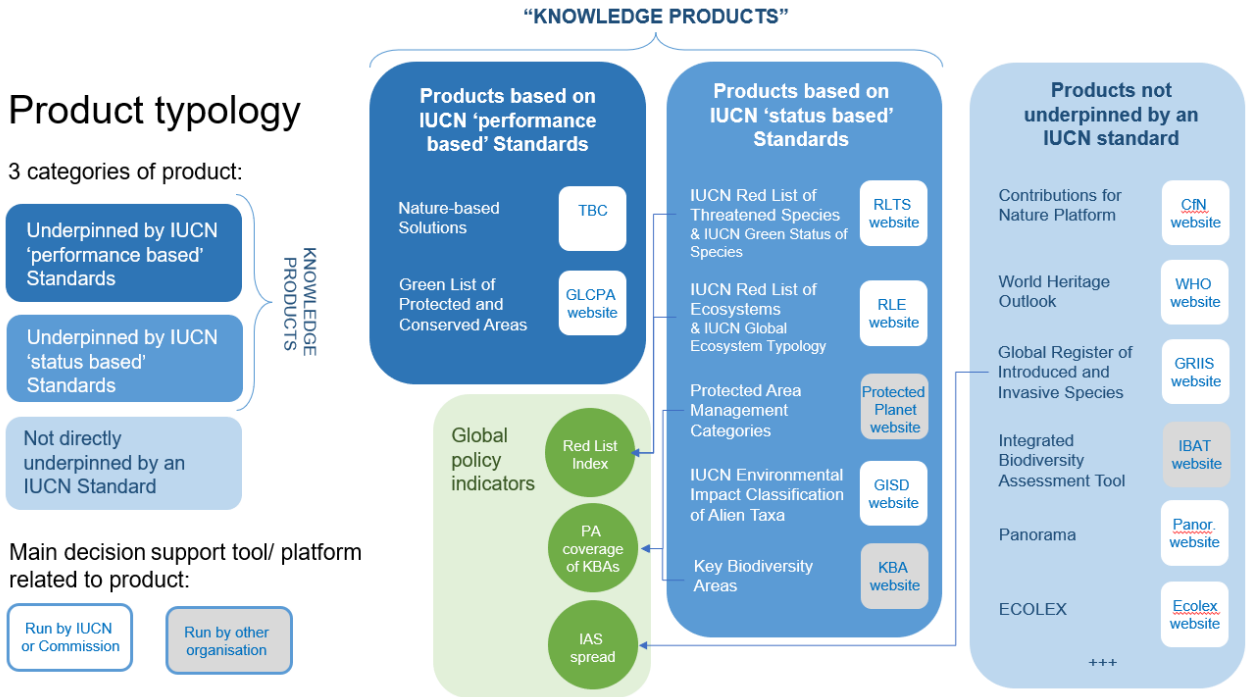
**Knowledge Products for conservation assurance based on IUCN 'performance based' Standards**

[3] The titles used in the typology are provisional, to be refined

A methodology, set of requirements and/or criteria used for evaluations and assessments of level of compliance and quality. Standards are the main vehicle for certification schemes, created to provide assurance to third parties.

Applying this typology to a set of existing IUCN KPs (see Annex 5 for full descriptions), the table below provides on overview of where various KPs would sit:

| Knowledge Products for assessments based on IUCN 'status based' Standards | Knowledge Products to guide conservation action: tools that do not require an underpinning IUCN Standards | Knowledge Products for conservation assurance based on IUCN 'performance based' Standards |
|---|---|---|
| IUCN Red List of Threatened Species & Green Species Status (incl STAR metric) | Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT) | Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas |
| IUCN Red List of Ecosystems & IUCN Global System Typology | World Heritage Outlook | IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions |
| Protected Areas Management Categories (Protected Planet) | Restoration Barometer | |
| Key Biodiversity Areas | ECOLEX | |
| IUCN Environmental Impact Classification of Alien Taxa | Contributions for Nature Platform | |
| | Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species | |
| | Natural Resource Governance Framework | |
| | Urban Nature Index | |



# Chapter 3. Changing Landscape

Today, the world is changing rapidly. Technological development is changing at unprecedented rates. The biodiversity data landscape is likewise evolving rapidly. Two key emerging themes are:

1) An increasing array of remotely-sensed data products of relevance to biodiversity are available, often with global or near-global coverage, at very high resolution and at low cost. Combined with vastly improved computing power, this has enabled the development of global-scale high-resolution derived datasets such as forest condition indexes[4] and broader "ecological integrity" indexes[5]. Many of these new datasets which are based on publicly funded remote-sensing are freely available, even for commercial use, driven by government "open data" policies.

2) Meta-databases based on species occurrence and/or abundance data like GBIF and PREDICTS have – at least partially – overcome early data quality control challenges, and so are an increasingly valuable source of 'raw' species data. This has enabled improved modelling of species distributions[6] and of species responses to pressures[7].

Some KPs have benefited from these developments – for example the Area of Habitat mapping that enabled the development of STAR, and the Global Ecosystem Typology that is fundamental for the Red List of Ecosystems were both dependent on the ability to perform global scale analyses of remote-sensed data. IUCN KPs always strive to use best available technologies, however, often times due to lack of predicable and stable funding, IUCN is unable to harness these technological developments.

In 2021, recognising the funding gaps of IUCN, the Secretariat worked closely with the Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to secure short and middle term funding to deliver critical improvement to The IUCN Red List for Threatened Species. The Secretariat successfully secured the *2022-2024 Knowledge4Nature Global Environment Facility Medium-Sized Project*. The project incorporates an output on scoping the application of "knowledge frontiers" for reducing the cost and increasing robustness and speed per unit assessment in generation of KPs, building from an initial review during the 2021 Congress. Some of these "knowledge frontiers" are also already being explored or applied in generation of KPs.

In addition to remote sensing and eta-databases, other examples of innovative technologies utilised in this space include:

- Artificial intelligence (AI)
- Modelling (possibilities currently under review through academic collaboration)
- Genetics and genomics (options being explored through collaboration with NatureMetrics in eBioAtlas)

[4] Hansen, A., Barnett, K., Jantz, P., Phillips, L., Goetz, S.J., Hansen, M., Venter, O., Watson, J.E.M., Burns, P., Atkinson, S., Rodríguez-Buritica, S., Ervin, J., Virnig, A., Supples, C. & De Camargo, R. (2019) Global humid tropics forest structural condition and forest structural integrity maps. *Scientific Data* 6: 232.

[5] Beyer, H.L., Venter, O., Grantham, H.S. & Watson, J.E.M. (2020) Substantial losses in ecoregion intactness highlight urgency of globally coordinated action. *Conservation Letters* 13.

[6] Hoskins, A.J., Harwood, T.D., Ware, C., Williams, K.J., Perry, J.J., Ota, N., Croft, J.R., Yeates, D.K., Jetz, W., Golebiewski, M., Purvis, A., Robertson, T. & Ferrier, S. (2020) BILBI: Supporting global biodiversity assessment through high-resolution macroecological modelling. *Environmental Modelling & Software* 132: 104806.

[7] Schipper, A.M., Hilbers, J.P., Meijer, J.R., Antão, L.H., Benítez-López, A., Jonge, M.M.J., Leemans, L.H., Scheper, E., Alkemade, R., Doelman, J.C., Mylius, S., Stehfest, E., Vuuren, D.P., Zeist, W. & Huijbregts, M.A.J. (2020) Projecting terrestrial biodiversity intactness with GLOBIO 4. *Global Change Biology* 26: 760–771.

- Application of cost models for delivery of conservation opportunities identified using STAR, in collaboration with Arizona State University Center for Biodiversity Outcomes
- Indigenous & Local Knowledge (mechanisms for application in assessments for both IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and Key Biodiversity Areas already established)
- National-Global linkage (already in place through SISconnect tool for linking national Red Lists with the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species)
- Citizen Science
- Social Media

Development of tools like eDNA-based assessment, citizen science portals (e.g., eBird) and improved big data / machine learning ("AI") approaches are likely to drive further innovation and rapid progress in availability of biodiversity data.

Through IBAT, multiple agreements are under development for use of IUCN KPs for investor decision-making, including through rating agencies. IBAT is a web-based map and reporting tool that provides fast, easy and integrated access to critical biodiversity information. It is an alliance between IUCN Members BirdLife International and Conservation International, IUCN and UNEP-WCMC. It is an increasingly important interface between conservation and the private sector and is the only place where commercial users can access the World Database on Protected Areas, the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas, the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and Species Threat Abatement and Recovery (STAR) metric. **IBAT aims to provide the best available biodiversity data to the private sector and to generate income that can be reinvested into the maintenance and updating of the underlying data sets.**

In addition to the availability of data, there is also increased development of biodiversity data providers and portals seeking to make biodiversity data available to users in useful ways. Please refer to the Strategic Review, compares the IBAT portal that provides access to IUCN KPs with three other portals: Global Forest Watch (GFW), NatureMap and EarthMap. The three other portals differ in focus, but all provide biodiversity data integrated with contextual data layers on the living and non-living environment, which is a key demand of end users and which IBAT does not currently do. Of these portals, GFW is the only one which, like IBAT, provides business-focused tools, webservices for easy integration into internal business processes and clear commercial licensing.

## New users of biodiversity knowledge and data

The appetite for delivery of contributions to biodiversity outcomes, especially from the finance sector, has undergone a dramatic increase over the last year, with many specific commitments framed by initiatives such as Nature100, the Finance4Biodiversity Pledge, and fresh-out-of-the-oven Outcome Statement from Finance Day at the CBD COP15. Many of these contain high-level frameworks that identify the need for outcome metrics for biodiversity impacts, without specifying exactly how targets can be set and delivered.

Emerging requirements and frameworks for disclosure and reporting for companies, such as Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosure (TNFD) and SBTN, are expected to generate demand for the use of IUCN KPs. If the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosure (TCFD) (the climate equivalent) is any precedent, then a subset of national jurisdictions will adopt the TNFD reporting requirements as compulsory. Initial discussions with TNFD indicate that an IUCN KP-based transition pathway scoring system would be an appropriate mechanism for the finance sector to evaluate progress towards TNFD reporting delivery. Similarly, if SBTI is any indication of the future of SBTN, companies will increasingly see alignment with SBTN as a key factor in market positioning and will engage actively.

In addition to these processes, with which IUCN is actively involved in negotiation around use of KPs, other disclosure frameworks such as the Carbon Disclosure Project are looking to use IUCN KPs for their biodiversity-related reporting tools.

## Analysing the current and potential impact of IUCN KP

A key objective of the 2021 Strategic Review was to understand opportunities to extend the uptake, reach, conservation impact, and financial sustainability of IUCN KPs. The Review focused on a selection of IUCN KPs, namely: the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, IUCN Red List of Ecosystems, IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas, IUCN Green Status of Species, IUCN Global Invasive Species Database, World Database on Key Biodiversity Areas, and World Database on Protected Areas/Protected Planet – and the metrics (e.g. Species Threat Abatement & Restoration metric), indicators (e.g. Red List Index), and tools (e.g., Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool) derived from these.

The Review found that while KPs already contribute to improved decision-making and positive outcomes for biodiversity, there are significant areas of improvement that should be considered in the development of a Union wide strategy. The most comprehensive analysis of use by national governments was by McCay & Lacher (2021)[8], who found the Red List of Threatened Species to be used in 189 of 234 National Biodiversity Strategies & Action Plans.

However, more generally, the Strategic Review suggests that there are relatively poor linkages between national and global level biodiversity data, meaning IUCN KPs are less relevant and useful for government and state end-users. Other weaknesses include: limited and fragmented marketing and strategic involvement in structuring processes, limited and dispersed end-user engagement, current strategic plans focus on continuity rather than on innovation, limited number of derived data products, few national-scale products/services, complex governance slowing decision-making, cost

**Figure 2: SWOT summary of Strategic Review findings**

[8] McCay & Lacher (2021) "National level use of International Union for Conservation of Nature knowledge products in American National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and National Reports to the Convention on Biological Diversity" Conservation Letters

and complex licensing dissuades use, inconsistent branding across products, data products often require expert interpretation, i.e. messaging needs to be simplified for some key user groups.

Figure 2 above provides an overview of the current Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) of IUCN KPs.

## Opportunities

Four major opportunities for increased uptake and conservation impact from KPs were identified:

1) Use by private sector for assessment of biodiversity impacts and opportunities in their value chains, setting science-based biodiversity targets, and for corporate reporting and disclosure. This is a rapidly growing area of private sector use of biodiversity data, and data products based on IUCN standards are not yet embedded in standard practices or approaches. Services from IBAT currently focus on assessing site-based risks and impacts, rather than corporate, portfolio or supply chain / value chain assessment.
2) Use by finance sector for screening of investment portfolios for biodiversity opportunity and risk. This is a fast-moving field and one where derived datasets like STAR have significant potential to be adopted.
3) Increased use for risk screening and project design for agribusiness, forestry, and fisheries, where certification is the predominant sustainability approach, but there has in many cases been limited incorporation of data products based on IUCN Standards to date. So far, private sector uptake of IBAT-supplied data has been greatest in the development finance and large extractives sectors but remains limited elsewhere.
4) Increased use by governments for Strategic Environmental Assessment and systematic conservation planning, particularly for integrating national biodiversity and climate strategies. The potential for countries to make quantified 'national voluntary contributions' under the newly adopted Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework along the lines of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under UNFCCC, could be a key driver for use of data products based on IUCN standards such as STAR derived from the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and potential similar metrics which could be derived from the Red List of Ecosystems.

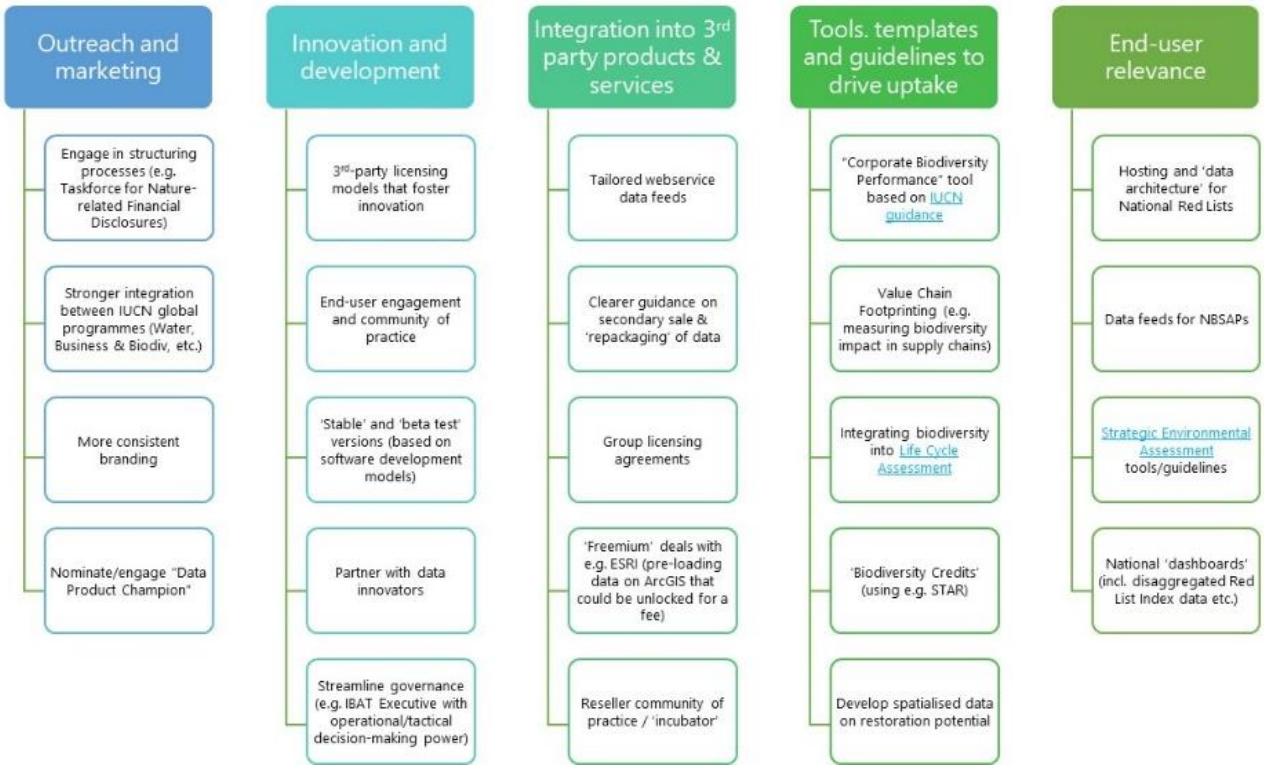
## Challenges and potential responses

While these opportunities exist, uptake of IUCN KPs will not be automatic. Today, there are several existing processes not currently integrating IUCN KPs, due to one or more of: 1) perceived complex licensing, 2) availability of free or lower-cost alternatives that are perceived as 'good enough', 3) unwillingness on the part of some standard setters to require companies to use non-free data, 4) lack of understanding or awareness of the value of IUCN KPs or 5) for national governments, a (perceived) lack of directly relevant tools.

To capitalise on the opportunity presented by increased awareness of and ambition for biodiversity will therefore require proactively addressing these perceived barriers. Five major potential components of a strategy to address these challenges are identified below (Figure 3).

Finally, it is worth noting that a very novel emerging challenge is that non-living attributes of nature such as water and air quality are starting to be used as a proxy en lieu of a more comprehensive framing of nature-related measurements, excluding biodiversity. If adopted globally, this would present a major challenge to the conservation community and to the delivery of the IUCN mission.

*Figure 3: Five potential components of a strategy to address barriers to uptake and achieve growth*



# Chapter 4. Financial challenges and opportunities

## Total expenses today and required funding for the different examined scenarios

The development and maintenance of KPs requires different types of activities which can be grouped as follows: a) collecting the data needed to produce the different KPs; b) processing and transforming the data; c) managing the data; d) publicising the KPs; and e) distributing KPs to target users.

These activities allow for the maintenance of the status quo and thus simply maintaining data relatively up to date. The status quo can also be extended to, for example, new species, new geographies, or new categories of data and knowledge. This can be done by using existing technologies or by improving and actualising the technological basis of existing operations. Examples of such actualisation with regard to the Red List cluster of KPs are the use of information from Earth Observation or analysis of gene fragments in a given space in order to enrich data, enable more efficient and cost-effective data generation and go beyond direct species observation. Finally, the integration of different KPs with each other or applying them to new and different parameters would expand the range of use of KPs and increase their usefulness for specific categories of users. These new and different parameters can include socio-economic studies and spatial data amongst other. Improving and integrating existing KPs and applying them into socio-economic studies would enable innovative, fit-for-purpose and demand-driven use of IUCN KPs.

The costs of these different objectives of a strategy for KPs – maintenance, actualisation and integration – differ across the different KPs and have not yet been studied in detail. Based on available information to date, Table 1 (below) provides a summary of cost estimates. **Note: for further context on the derived estimates, please refer to Annex 5: Knowledge products – detailed descriptions.**

Simply maintaining the current state of the KPs requires annual expenditures of more than CHF4 million per annum; and this does not include the true costs of implementing, for example, the KPs under the "Products based on IUCN 'performance based' Standards" category as prescribed in the typology above. Improving the KPs even partially – by, for instance, expanding their reach, applying modern technology to enable more automated screening methods, and essentially responding to the external changing landscape – and without a holistic overall strategy in place, involves annual costs of at least CHF 9 million per annum. This assessment does not include the in-kind contributions and investments of partners and IUCN Members and Commissions.

The annual costs of a fully integrated system, that links and pulls data from the various KPs into user-friendly and fit-for-purpose tools are currently unknown. A preliminary estimate is at 20 million per annum; further analysis is required.

**Table 1: Estimated Costs of KP for maintenance, Actualisation and Integration**

| KP | Maintenance today, CHF per annum | Maintenance true costs, CHF per annum | Partially actualised, CHF per annum | Integration, CHF per annum |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Red List of Threatened Species | 750 k | 1.2 m | 1.6 m | |
| RL Index | 50 k | | 270 k | |
| STAR | 50 k | | 400 k | |
| Red List of Ecosystems | 70 k | | 250 k<br>up to 17 m | |
| Green List | 300-500 k | 1.25 m | 2.5 m | |
| KBA | 50 k | | 1.9 m | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | up to 19.5m | |
| Conservation Categories | | | 100 k | |
| Protected Planet | 0.9 m | | | |
| WH Outlook | 0.6 m | | | |
| NR Governance Framework | | | 0.4 m | |
| Total | 4 million per annum | | 9 million per annum | 20 million per annum |

## Sources of income today

In principle, the costs of maintaining KPs can be covered by four types of income related to two different understandings of KPs.

### Financing a public good

Currently, membership dues are insufficient to cover all priority activities of the Union as defined in Article 3 of the Statutes, including the maintenance of knowledge products under Article 3g.

Framework partners' funds are made available to the Union to support the management of the Union's portfolio of projects through which we implement the Programme and thus it is not intended to finance KPs. Nevertheless, today, a small amount of funds is allocated to KPs, which varies from year to year but in recent years has been between CHF250,000 to 500,000.

A substantial portion of the expenses incurred by the Secretariat in managing the KPs is currently covered by the project portfolio, as shown in the table below. It is important to note that the annotated uplifts are produced by aggregating "KP-related" expenditures. Currently, it is not possible to analyse these expenditures in more detail. However, it can be assumed that only a part is invested in the maintenance of KPs, discounting the KP system, while other parts are related to the utilisation of KPs in specific projects.

| Sample of KPs | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| RL species assessments | 3'268'000 | 3'300'000 | 3'945'500 | 2'416'000 |
| RL of Ecosystems | 250'000 | 200'000 | 250'000 | 180'000 |
| Protected Planet | 190'000 | 945'000 | 2'060'500 | 1'906'500 |
| KBA's | 460'000 | 470'000 | 380'000 | 405'000 |
| GL (over the full period) | | | | 2'170'000 |
| | | | | |

## KP use by private sector: Monetisation Approach

"Monetisation" of some KPs has been taking place since 2007 through IBAT, meaning allowing users to use KPs for commercial purposes. After covering the operational costs of the consortium behind IBAT (IUCN, 2 IUCN Members and UNEP-WCMC), the amounts available to IUCN are limited.

| Year | Amount in CHF |
|---|---|
| 2017/18 | 270'000 |
| 2019 | 250'000 |
| 2020 | 320'000 |
| 2021 | 190'000 |
| 2022 estimate | 260'000 |

## IBAT's current monetisation strategy

There are 3 key aspects of the IBAT's monetisation strategy – IBAT subscriptions, PAYG, and the IBAT Inside approach (based on Application Programming Interface (API)), all of which are growing rapidly. Subscription and PAYG are aimed at growth in 3 focal sectors as defined in the strategy – direct physical impact, finance, food and soft commodity production. The IBAT Inside approach involves revenue sharing agreements predominantly with ESG Data Providers and the finance sector. These have the possibility to both considerably expand the reach of IBAT, and provide significant revenue, although all are in early stages of development. However, the IBAT Inside approach extends beyond just Finance and ESG Data Providers, to NGOs like WWF and a variety of other tool providers, like Vizzuality, NGIS, Space Intelligence and various carbon reporting platforms.

IBAT currently generates between CHF111k and CHF140k (or USD$120k and $150k) annually, used to support the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. IBAT achieved exceptional growth in revenue of ~37% in 2021. This level of growth will be more difficult to sustain in future years and will require further investment in the capacity of the IBAT secretariat and the functionality of the platform. By 2027, IBAT aims to invest a minimum of CHF927k (USD$1 million) annually to the IUCN Red List and a minimum of CHF230 (USD$250k) by 2024.

For more information on the IBAT Strategy 2022-2027, please refer to Annex 6: IBAT Strategy 2022-2027 Executive Summary.

## Potential sources of income for future development

To operationalise and finance a KP strategy, IUCN will have to refine a clear and compelling value proposition resonating to the different donor groups. Starting point should be the fact that IUCN is an effective organisation with a clear niche and an ability to produce science-based knowledge to help manage critical environmental challenges, convene, build trust and foster action amongst diverse stakeholders.

Regardless of the level of ambition that will decided in an IUCN KP strategy, it is important that funding:

- Is constant and predictable so that scientific work can be planned for the medium and long term;
- Is transparently and stably dedicated to supporting the KPs and the scientific work to produce them; and
- Consider the needs of the various components of the Union.

## Financing a public good

If KPs are considered public goods and their free access to users is generally guaranteed, then the costs of maintaining, updating and supplementing them must be borne by members of the Union itself through increased contributions. Otherwise, the necessary financial resources must be either raised from public actors or philanthropic organisations.

It is important to note that States and other public entities are more likely to participate in funding KPs collectively, as a "voluntary coalition", rather than individually. The decision to support KPs will need to be situated in the context of public responsibilities to global agreements, such as the newly adopted Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. States and other stakeholders are increasingly seeking innovative solutions that are up to par with the rapidly changing landscape.

Philanthropy (foundations, High Net Worth Individuals, namely through the 'Patrons of Nature' programme, and individual giving) has potential for mobilising resources for the IUCN KPs. Each subset of prospects requires a different engagement strategy and Unique Selling Proposition. Partnerships with Foundations and Patrons of Nature are particularly valuable as they often disburse funds with less restrictions than public sector donors and are able to take greater risks. They are also often strong communicators and networkers who can raise the profile of nature-related issues.

There is also potential to enhance IUCN's engagement with broader **individual giving** as a way to mobilise unrestricted or restricted funding from households, for example by building short campaigns around the releases of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

## Monetisation Approach

A monetisation of KPs has so far been considered possible and useful as a contribution to covering costs in cases where the user is private and uses them as part of its commercial operations. The data and information related to KPs must be fit-for-purpose in order to be utilised, i.e. in forms appropriate to the users' purposes and modes of operation (in other words, driven by demand).

IBAT achieved exceptional growth in revenue of 37% in 2021. This level of growth will be more difficult to sustain in future years and will require further investment in the capacity of the IBAT secretariat and the functionality of the platform. As noted in the section above, by 2027, IBAT aims to invest a minimum of USD1million in the Red List of Threatened Species. This value can probably be increased within the framework for a Union-wide strategy for KPs.

## Payments for services based on IUCN knowledge and KP

As noted above, IUCN currently funds KPs predominantly through the portfolio of projects. This includes funding for Commissions (e.g. to remunerate SSC experts for undertaking Red List assessments[9]).

This approach can be improved. The use of KPs in IUCN projects should become the rule and their remuneration should be provided for as frequently as possible. This is both in the cases where KPs are used as tools in the creation, management and evaluation of a given project and in cases where the use of KPs is the very purpose of the project.

[9] A small sample of examples includes:
Expert in Benin – paid USD $4,345 – to undertake 139 freshwater fish Red List Assessments in Western Africa (2019)
Expert in Russia – paid USD $8,000 – to undertake 261 of freshwater fish Red List Assessments in Russia (2020)
EUR 3,000 to undertake 10 Red List assessment for European Cetacean species – SSC Cetecacean SG Expert
EUR 8,000 to undertake 83 Red List assessment for European Amphibian species – SSC Amphibian Expert
EUR 181,800 to do 2,000 Red List assessment for European moth species – SSC Butterfly SG Expert (to an SSC expert, and their team via their institution)

# Chapter 5. Steps towards a stronger role of IUCN as data and knowledge provider

## Clarifying IUCN knowledge strategy

As noted earlier in this document, due to IUCN's ways of working and organic growth in the past, most KPs have been developed independently and do not necessarily "speak to each other". This fragmented approach was also reinforced by the previous structure of the Secretariat and by the lack of a clear approach to knowledge management and the related tools.

The Knowledge Management and Library Team (KM&L Team) established in 2021 under the Centre for Science and Data and is intended to: 1) define and streamline Knowledge Management (KM) across IUCN and 2) improve IUCN's approach to capturing, organising and promoting its knowledge and expertise[10]. **This presents an opportunity to enhance KM across IUCN share and promote knowledge and KPs within and beyond the Union.** The KM&L team pursue the following objectives:

- Make effective use of the knowledge we generate to improve our performance, integrating it into IUCN Programme and portfolio in a continuous learning loop;
- Increase accessibility to, utility and therefore uptake of IUCN-generated knowledge and data within and beyond the Union;
- Where appropriate, market knowledge to external audiences.

Being hosted within the same Centre that maintains KPs, the KM&L team can play a crucial role in managing, consolidating and packaging knowledge to increase opportunities for uptake and impact; as well as potentially increasing revenues from users particularly in the private and finance sectors.

**What are the required next key steps?**

a. Defining *Knowledge Management* in IUCN (the "***what***?"). A definition should:
   - Make clear reference to IUCN mission;
   - Refer to the conscious endeavour to collect, organise, consolidate, preserve and share knowledge systematically and comprehensively – and market it where opportunities to increase uptake, maximise impact and generate revenues exist;
   - Refer to the need to make data, information and knowledge accessible to all relevant audiences and potential users;
   - Refer to both behaviours and practices that support and promote learning, knowledge flows, sharing and uptake as well as processes, systems and tools for data and information organisation and management.

b. KM within IUCN should pursue the following objectives (the ***"why***?")
   - Internally, ensure quality, coherence and consistency across IUCN in KM and within functions that enable it to support IUCN to improve its effectiveness, performance and results as well as preserve institutional memory;
   - Externally, facilitate and support the use and exchange of knowledge across the conservation community, decision makers and the private sector to influence and change behaviours, practices, policies – including through successfully marketing knowledge based on IUCN data and standards;

[10] The Statutory basis for the work of the KM&L Team is that IUCN *"provides scientific and other authoritative information, including traditional ecological knowledge, in the form of assessments, analysis, and advice on the status and trends of nature and natural resources, including on threats, human behaviour, conservation measures and future scenarios" (para 3g*).

- Facilitate broader uptake and conservation impact in line with IUCN Mission, whilst generating new resources and funding streams.

c. For effective KM, key target beneficiaries (the "***whom***?") need to be clearly defined (internally and externally) as well as key partnerships and collaborations (the "***with whom***?") – within and beyond IUCN:
   - Engagement with IUCN constituencies (both as users and collaborators/key partners for knowledge creation and dissemination)
   - Key external audiences include Government agencies (Members and potential Members), corporate actors – with a focus on strategic sectors such agriculture/fisheries/forestry and food system supply chains, extractives, energy and renewables and infrastructure, and the finance sector.

## Measures to strengthen knowledge management in IUCN

The proposed next step in the development of a KM strategy would be to define the "how" of its implementation across the institution. Key initial considerations include:

- The Secretariat has been providing the IUCN ISBN publishing process, including the maintenance of the IUCN Editorial Board (peer review assurance for Union-wide publications). To improve the impact, quality and uptake of IUCN publications a business plan will be established to guarantee financial viability for the publication work whilst maintaining IUCN as an open access publishing provider.
- In addition to maintaining the IUCN Library, another key development will be exploring opportunities for the funding and launch of the new Digital Library – in collaboration with GSIG; this work will also encompass other well-established web-based information and collection management systems such as ECOLEX and WILDLEX.
- The coherence and consistency in Programme communications and outreach need to be increased. There is a strong need for synchronising internal communications across the portfolio, as well as external communications and campaigns.
- Programme MEL will work in tandem with and with functional reporting lines to Programme Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (PPME), to promote the establishment and uptake of MEL processes across the portfolio, systems and tools consistent with PPME guidance – including contributing to the generation of new portfolio-based learning and the use of learning for adaptive management;
- To promote interactive knowledge sharing, learning and replication of best practice solutions for people and nature, the Secretariat can build upon and scale up successful initiatives such PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet, the World Heritage Outlook and Leadership Programme, or the ELC Learning Platform.

The financial viability of the KM strategy needs:

- initial investment to finalising and operationalising the KM strategy and capacitate the teams involved;
- Including the true costs for IUCN KM services into projects from the outset – communications, MEL, publications and access to/use of learning platforms and initiatives amongst other.
- Seek donors – including "less-conventional" donors – with an interest in supporting and funding KM related activities and initiatives;
- Develop marketing approaches to recover costs of the knowledge generation

## A strategy for the data related cluster around the Red List of Threatened Species

The Red List of Threatened Species are a mature tool and rely on a strong partnership with a number of organisations well codified in the RL Partnership Agreement. The renewal of this agreement is currently underway and almost completed. There is no need to make major changes to existing structures, but rather improve the financing of the instrument and lay the ground for technical actualisation and integration with other sources of information.

The level of funding required to achieve these goals as well as the different opportunities to get there were analysed in Chapter 5 above.

### Public Funding

In continuation of IUCN's tradition and considering the decisions made by the various Congresses over the past decades, it seems obvious that the first approach to sustaining KPs is to collaborate with the public sector with the goal of creating an alliance of states ready to provide sufficient and stable funding for KPs for the coming years. To the extent possible, this alliance could be complemented by funding from institutions of private philanthropy. The Strategic Partnership Unit (SPU) of the Secretariat is tasked with implementing this approach as soon as the new Agreement is finalised.

### Cost recovery from the project portfolio

As previously explained, today, KPs are not systematically used in projects managed by the IUCN Secretariat. This use must become much more frequent and be at the same time a specific feature in IUCN's profile (unique selling point or value proposition) both when in the role of implementing and executing. At the same time, it must be ensured that the use of data and KPs is adequately reflected in the remuneration of projects.

### Cost recovery from the private sector through IBAT

The analysis of IUCN's current and potential use of KPs presented in the previous chapter reveals a number of new opportunities for the use of the Red List of Threatened Species and for generating revenue to devote to the production and development of KPs. IBAT is the tool that IUCN – along with its Members CI and Birdlife International, and UNEP-WCMC – has created in 2007 to monetise IUCN KPs. This tool seems to have the potential to take advantage of these opportunities. The Secretariat would like to improve its presence and also strategic support for the work of the IBAT team to accelerate its growth and development.

### Technology and science developments

The Science and Data Centre has a mandate to explore the potential of technological changes and scientific advances to improve and actualise existing KPs as presented in Chapter 4. As noted above, initial funding for this work has been made available by the GEF. It is worth nothing that the innovation element (See Chapter 4 above) was what secured the project; simply funding the maintenance of the status quo was not of interest to the GEF, not least due to its funding model.

## A strategy for the existing and future 'performance-based' standards

### Current use of the standards

Currently there is no single established framework for how IUCN Standards (herein 'Standards') should be used or governed, nor a clear pathway for their future development. IUCN currently lacks a consistent framework to oversee the review of and changes to current Standards. Some Standards in which IUCN played the instrumental role during the conceptualisation and developmental stage – notably the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative – are now completely dissociated from IUCN in terms of oversight and control. ASI has issued almost 160 certificates and has an annual operating budget of AUD1.1 million.

Strictly speaking, there are seven formal IUCN Standards that are associated with IUCN KPs. In line with the proposed typology in this document, five of these can be considered as standards for the compilation and collation of global-scale data sets (or "Knowledge products based on IUCN 'status based' Standards) and are primarily intended to ensure coherency, consistency and scientific rigour in assessment and categorisation. Those are:

- The IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria (v3.1)
- The IUCN Red List of Ecosystems (the *de facto* Standard being embedded into the broader knowledge product)
- The IUCN Protected Areas Categories
- Global Standard for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas (v1.0)
- The Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa

In line with the proposed typology, there are two other standards that are principally designed for benchmarking the quality of conservation interventions at site or network level. Unlike those listed above, neither of these Standards currently underpin a global-scale data set (although in theory, over time, they could) but rather are intended to provide assurance concerning the quality of conservation actions (i.e. "Knowledge products based on IUCN 'performance based' Standards"). They are:

a) The IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas: Standard (v1.1)

b) The IUCN Global Standard for Nature based Solutions

## Further developing the use of 'performance-based' Standards

The further development of the standards in order to help better position IUCN as a knowledge and data provider can be considered from two perspectives; the first is to ensure that any changes to the content of the Standards is properly and consistently governed (particularly who is authorised to approve such changes), that they are transparent and clearly communicated to users and that they are part of a scheduled periodic review cycle (in other words predictable rather than *ad hoc*). To a large extent the governance of the seven standards that underpin IUCN KPs are well understood although they do not operate to a consistent framework and some anomalies persist that might present risks to IUCN. This could be resolved with a meta-review of IUCN led by the Secretariat and Commissions with recommendations to be presented and approved by Council. Such a review could also establish a benchmark process for how proposals for new Standards are considered, authorised and their development overseen – thus avoiding situations such as that described above for the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative. Greater alignment on how we manage our Standards for the compilation and collation of global data-sets would also help IUCN systematise procedures for ensuring that individual data-sets are sufficiently equipped to interact with one and another – an issue that has been highlighted for at least two decades but never fully resolved.

The second perspective, which the rest of this section will focus on, relates to the opportunities for expanding the uptake and use of those Standards explicitly designed to benchmark and assure the quality and credibility of conservation actions. As mentioned, IUCN has currently two formally approved Standards designed for this purpose; the Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas and the Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions. Both Standards can be used in three ways:

a) ***As best-practice bench-marking tool for systems-level programme planning, policy development or fund development***. The Standards' criteria and indicators can serve as a useful framework to ensure that the structure/ architecture of third-party initiatives (state, private sector and NGO) have included all the necessary elements to deliver credible conservation outcomes. For example, a Protected Areas Authority could use the Green List Standard to broadly assess whether its protected areas network is aligned with best practice for management effectiveness. Equally a donor or investor could use the Global Standard for

NbS to assess whether a specific funding window or instrument designed to promote NbS actions is equipped to do so. There are examples of the two Standards already being used in this way – albeit in an *ad hoc* manner. A viable business model could be built around Service Level Agreements to provide advice and guidance to those agencies and investors who need to know whether their "systems" are adequately framed according to the Green List and NbS Standards.

b) ***As a single intervention project design/ management planning tool.*** This is a variant of the "systems-level" application but applied to help screen and periodically assess the viability of individual interventions. The Green List has already been used to better frame management effectiveness measures included in protected areas management plans while the NbS standard has a self-assessment toolkit that has been incorporated into IUCN Academy training as well as being distributed to over 1800 users. In 2023, IUCN intends to develop NbS investment screening frameworks for both the private and public sector as well as produce specific guidance for how the Standard can be used within specific sectors / communities of practice. A viable business model could be built around an "over-the-counter" offer linked to PANORAMA, the Contributions for Nature Platform and the IUCN Academy. It could be supplemented by the execution of grant agreement to further develop NbS and Green List tools and guidance as a global public good.

c) **As a verified assurance certificate.** There appears to be considerable interest from both public and private sector to acquire formal and independent assurance that their interventions meet or surpass quality benchmarks of performance that are aligned with both the Green List and NbS. The Green List already has a certification system up and running while certification models for NbS are currently being explored and pilots are scheduled to start in 2023. In both cases, the registry of certificates would be held by IUCN and IUCN would issue the certificates. The business model in the longer term would be an "over the counter" offer, but at the start-up phase, this would need to be largely supplemented through the execution of public and philanthropic grants – which is currently underway in both cases. The outcomes of the COPs of the three Rio Conventions in 2022 have increased the prospect that there will be a sufficient and sustained demand for both these certified products although the actual model of delivery will need to be tailored according to the market potential of each scheme. That is:

   - For the Green List – while the current maximum market ceiling is around 280,000 sites, a more realistic figure that could be achieved prior to the next World Conservation Congress would be somewhere in range of 500 to 1000 (there are currently 77 sites Green List certified at the minute). One possible strategy is to target those sites that either possess globally significant iconic conservation values and/ or are important for national income generation through tourism (for example Rwanda is seeking to certify all its 4 National Parks by the end of 2024). This would be viable with the current structure of national EAGLs. However, in order to do this, it is urgent that the Green List develops a more rigorous pricing structure that lays the groundwork to move beyond grant-based cost recovery.
   - For Nature-based Solutions – there is potentially a major demand, especially given that there is now increasing demand to avoid "greenwashing" claims. While the actual size of the market is unknown, one estimate puts the current market value at USD 133 billion. The actual figure, however, that would qualify according to the NbS Standard is in all likelihood significantly lower. In order to accelerate the NbS certification process with a view to achieving 2000 certificates by the end of 2025, it has been decided to partner with existing certification schemes so that IUCN could

offer NbS certification on the back of other processes. This will give us deeper reach into the market and reduce our transaction costs.

In summary, there is also scope to look at the development of other IUCN Standards designed to benchmark the quality of conservation interventions. However – as illustrated by the case of the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative, this needs to be owned by the entire organisation and work within a structured development that ensures ownership and governance of both the Standard setting process and its introduction into the market remains clearly with IUCN. Possible candidates might include an Urban-Nature certification scheme and a Good Governance certification scheme building on earlier work of the Urban Nature Index and the Natural Resource Governance Framework. That said, the first priority must be to make sure that the two existing Standards designed for conservation action benchmarking transition to viable IUCN governed and administered certification schemes.

## Relation with IUCN Programme

While the generation and dissemination of data and knowledge have always been an important facet of the IUCN Programme, the institution has struggled to systematically incorporate the use of IUCN knowledge across its portfolio of work. While IUCN generated-knowledge is deployed to track progress on several international agreements, including the Global Biodiversity Framework, the majority of the current portfolio is designed and implemented without any substantive reference to or use of our own knowledge products. This represents a major lost opportunity with respect to how IUCN profiles its knowledge as a unique selling proposition, not only in terms of resource mobilisation but, more generally, its overall value proposition. Better use of IUCN knowledge could improve the quality of programme and project design, the robustness of individual project's theory of change and the rigour of project monitoring, evaluation and reporting. There are three main benefits that justify a more systematic approach to the internal use of IUCN's knowledge and data:

a) **As a shop window**: With a portfolio value of almost CHF 1 billion there is a unique opportunity to demonstrate what the systematic use of good conservation science looks like in practice and in doing so better position IUCN to market its knowledge products to other users.
b) **As a living laboratory to explore and market-test new applications of IUCN knowledge products**: with the demand for conservation science and knowledge from non-traditional sectors now growing rapidly, a more proactive incorporation of our knowledge products into our portfolio would allow new applications to be explored and tested. It would enable IUCN to at least partially bypass one of the more persistent barriers to the development of new applications of knowledge – the sourcing of stand-alone R&D investments.
c) **As an internal market that provides a reliable source of income:** While a more systematic and properly costed use of IUCN knowledge and data within the portfolio will not resolve all of the institution's resourcing challenge it could make a useful and reliable contribution. In particular, a reasonable internal charge would enable IUCN to begin to address some of the underinvestment in so-called back office functions such as recurrent data management requirements.

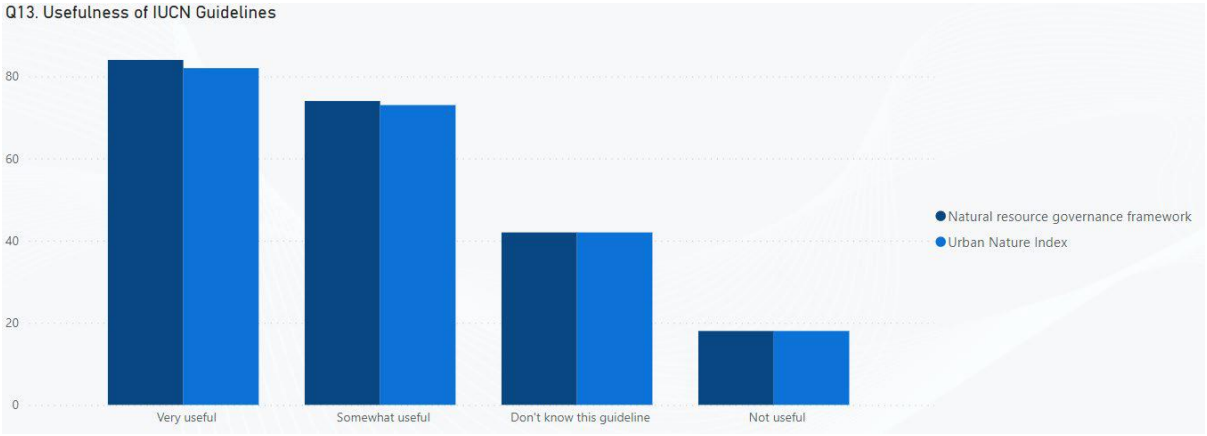
The changes put in place over the course of 2022 better position IUCN to implement such a course of action. There is now a dedicated Science and Data Centre that can systematically package a discrete set of internal offerings for incorporation into the IUCN project portfolio and work is already underway to establish a clear costing framework. More broadly, the Contributions for Nature platform has demonstrated how the standardised collation of data, filtered through an IUCN knowledge application (in this case the STAR metric) not only provides a valuable Union-wide service but more generally brings Members, Commissions and Secretariat around a common representation of the delivery of the Union's mission.

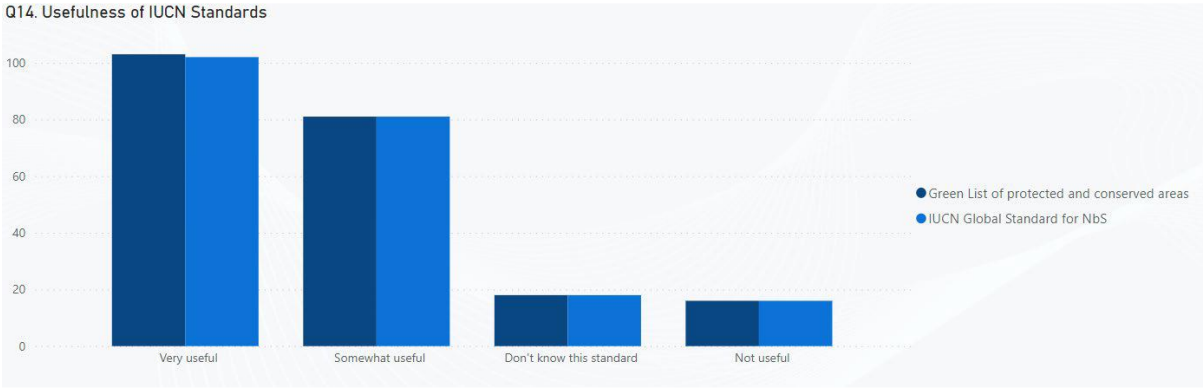
## Union-wide consultation

As stated in the Introduction, given IUCN's knowledge and KPs are derived through Commissions, Members and the Secretariat, it is imperative that a Union-wide strategy has the buy in of all IUCN Constituencies. The work that is currently planned and proposed in this document is essentially an attempt to implement past Congress Resolutions. IUCN has had the remit given by Members to extend, systematise, improve and integrate IUCN's KPs and knowledge more generally for more than a decade. Building on this remit, it is recommended that any consultation on an IUCN KP strategy is aligned with the ongoing implementation of Congress Decision 147: Development of a 20-year strategic vision for the Union, which has a planned Union-wide consultation in 2023. Such a consultation can therefore be conducted on the back of the consultation on the 20-year strategic vision. A two-folded approach is envisaged: 1) through the new, soon-to-be-launched digital members zone IUCN Engage, supplemented by 2) regional engagement through National and Regional Committees. Having both a virtual and in person consultation would enable greater engagement and therefore buy-in. In addition, Regional Conservation Fora are expected to take place in 2024. They would provide excellent opportunities to engage Members to discuss and mobilise their involvement in IUCN's "knowledge products" and knowledge management more broadly.

# Annex 1: 2023 Annual Membership satisfaction survey – knowledge products results

Please note that due to the timing of the survey, the questions followed the categories presented in the previous version of the typology.


Q13. Usefulness of IUCN Guidelines
80
60
40
20
0
Very useful
Somewhat useful
Don't know this guideline
Not useful
Natural resource governance framework
Urban Nature Index


Q14. Usefulness of IUCN Standards
100
80
60
40
20
0
Very useful
Somewhat useful
Don't know this standard
Not useful
Green List of protected and conserved areas
IUCN Global Standard for NbS

# Annex 2: Knowledge in IUCN Statutes – rapid legal assessment

The term "Knowledge Product" is neither referred to nor defined in IUCN's statutory documents. There are, however, numerous references in the Statutes and Regulations to objectives, roles, mechanisms and activities of the various components of IUCN that are directly or indirectly related to what is currently understood as a Knowledge Product.

A few highlights include the following:

**IUCN as a whole**

IUCN's role in providing scientific and authoritative information, including in its objectives and means of achieving such objectives (article 2, 3 (d) and (g) and bis of IUCN's Statutes) and the description of the activities of the Union defined in an integrated programme (Regulations 2 (b), (d), (e), (f), (l)).

In order to attain its objectives to *"influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable"* (article 2 of IUCN's Statutes) IUCN, among others, "*encourages research related to the conservation of nature and natural resources and disseminates information about such research*", and "*provides scientific and other authoritative information, including traditional ecological knowledge, in the form of assessments, analysis, and advice on the status and trends of nature and natural resources, including on threats, human behaviour, conservation measures and future scenario*" (article 3 (d) and (g) of IUCN's Statutes). "*In working towards the objectives outlined in Article 3 (g) of the Statutes, the IUCN Secretariat and the IUCN Commissions are required to uphold high standards of scientific work and other knowledge systems and will be free from undue influence or conflict of interest in this regard."* (article 3bis of IUCN's Statutes).

In order to achieve these objectives, IUCN World Congress adopts a quadrennial programme and financial plan, which are interconnected. The IUCN programme is described, in Regulation 2, as an *"integrated programme of activities, formulated, coordinated and implemented by the Members and components of IUCN"*. Certain aspects of the programme can be connected to the notion of knowledge products such as:

*"(b) monitor and assess what biological diversity exists, under what conditions, identify the threats to its conservation, and develop an enhanced capacity to define priorities for conservation action; (…)*

*(d) develop tools likely to be most effective in compensating for or correcting damaging impacts;*

*(e) examine how human behaviour, institutions, value and knowledge systems, social policy, development approaches and economic activities relate to and may affect conservation, sustainable use and equitable access to natural resources;*

*(f) increase public awareness of the conservation of nature and natural resources through education and the wide dissemination of information; (…)*

*(l) collect, analyze, interpret and disseminate information, including by the preparation, publication and distribution of documents, legislative texts, scientific studies and other information.*

**The role of the different IUCN components**

*The Secretariat and the IUCN Director General*

It is the IUCN DG's responsibility to, among others, implement the policy and the programme of IUCN, and coordinate the work of the Secretariat with all other components of IUCN (article 79 of IUCN's Statutes).

*The IUCN Commissions*

The IUCN Commissions, as they are "entrusted to develop and advance the institutional knowledge and experience and objectives of IUCN" (article 73 of the Statutes), play a considerable role in connection with IUCN's knowledge, broadly, and IUCN's Programme. Amongst other, the functions of the Commissions (Article 75 a, b, c, d, e of the IUCN's Statutes):

- analyse issues and prepare assessments, reports, action plans, criteria and methodology and undertake research and other scientific and technical work;
- undertake tasks assigned to them within the integrated programme of IUCN;
- provide advice on any matter within their fields of competence;
- broaden knowledge and competence on matters relating to their mandates;
- work with Members and the Secretariat to develop activities within the various Regions, and to support Members and components of IUCN with necessary expertise

*IUCN Council's*

It is part of IUCN' Councils "oversight and general control of all the affairs of IUCN" (article 37 (b) (ii) of IUCN's Statutes) to, among others:

- review the work of the Commissions (article 46 of IUCN' Statutes), implied, including in relation with their contribution to Knowledge Products;
- review regularly the implementation of the IUCN Programme (article 46 (e) of IUCN's Statute)
- approve the annual report of the Director General and the audited financial statements (article 46 (g) of IUCN's Statutes),

which may all encompass reference to the work and the financing of the Knowledge Products, and to provide guidance on these subject matters.

The inference from the above points is that as the Knowledge Products contribute to achieve IUCN's objectives and are comprehended in IUCN's Programme and in the Secretariat's activities, the DG is ultimately responsible for their development and implementation, with the support of the Commissions, who are, as defined in the Statutes "networks of expert volunteers entrusted to develop and advance the institutional knowledge and experience and objectives of IUCN".

**Considerations on the Financial Aspects**

The IUCN DG is responsible for the finances and accounting of IUCN (article 79 (c) of IUCN's Statutes). The financial power of the DG includes in particular, the authority to establish as necessary, financial policies and procedures, accept grants, donors and other payments on behalf of IUCN and maintain an appropriate level of reserves (Regulations 88 (a), (b), (c))).

Again, the inference is that to "deploy new funding mechanisms for the "Knowledge Products"" (which was announced by the DG as a financial strategic objective in his Annual Report to Council and approved by Council in February 2022), falls within the remit of the DG's responsibility. As far as the income sources for Knowledge Products is derived *"from membership dues, contracts, grants, donations, investments and from any other sources approved by the Council" (*article 87 of IUCN's Statutes) there is no requirement for an additional express Council approval on any specifics. Since most Knowledge Products are developed in partnership with other organizations, which may be IUCN Members, they are usually enabled through contracts with various donors or with other partners contributing to the partnership either with staff time, funds or a combination thereof. In the context of such contracts, the agreed terms and conditions of use of data and results may include a reasonable fee to access the information, especially for certain types of users such, as the private sector.

There is no express provision in the IUCN's Statutes that prevents IUCN from requesting a reasonable fee to access and use available information relating to Knowledge Products. As for other endeavours and services of IUCN, it is understood that the development and management of the Knowledge

Products has a cost and that such cost may be borne (if only partly) by those who benefit from the products available. This is implied, for example, in article 12 (a) (v) in connection with a fee regarding publications. This fee is meant beyond and above the membership fee that covers other services/products provided to the Members.

# Annex 3: List of IUCN Resolutions with references to Knowledge Products

**i. Resolutions that provide general guidance for the development and sharing of KPs**

Some Resolutions provide general principles for IUCN to follow when developing and sharing KPs. Among them, many recall that IUCN is a signatory to the Principles of the Conservation Commons, supporting open access and fair use of biodiversity data, information and knowledge, while recognising the need to keep some data partially private (for research, education or security).

1) WCC 2000 RES 2.023 Improving IUCN capacity for strategic information management/information technology (Archived)
2) WCC 2004 REC 3.085 Principles of knowledge sharing of the Conservation Commons (Archived)
3) WCC 2008 RES 4.012 IUCN policy and strategy for the management of biodiversity data and information (Active)
4) WCC 2008 RES 4.102 Advancing knowledge management in conservation (Archived)
5) WCC 2008 REC 4.108 Open access to biodiversity data and information (Active)
6) WCC 2012 RES 5.003 Prioritizing IUCN membership awareness and support (Active)
7) WCC 2020 RES 7.063 Urgent call to share and use primary biodiversity (Active)

**ii. Resolutions that relate to specific IUCN KPs**

Other Resolutions relate to specific IUCN KPs, such as the Red List of Threatened Species, the Global Invasive Species Database and the Red List of Ecosystems amongst other. Among these Resolutions, some directly ask for the development of new KPs, while others focus on the improvement or further development of exiting KPs. The Resolutions below present some of the many Resolutions that deal with this matter.

IUCN Red Lists

8) WCC 1996 RES 1.025 Guideline for Using the IUCN Red List Categories at the Regional, National and Sub-national Level (Archived)
9) WCC 2004 RES 3.013 The uses of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (Active)
10) WCC 2012 RES 5.017 Enhancing the usefulness of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (Active)
11) WCC 2012 RES 5.018 Support for the development and implementation of national and regional red lists (Active)
12) WCC 2012 RES 5.055 Consolidation of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems (Active)
13) WCC 2016 RES 6.016 The IUCN Red List Index for monitoring extinction risk (Active)
14) WCC 2020 RES 7.061 Partnerships and further development of a Global Ecosystem Typology (Active)

Invasive alien species

15) WCC 2012 RES 5.021 Implementing the provisions on invasive alien species of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (Active)
16) WCC 2016 RES 6.018 Toward an IUCN standard classification of the impact of invasive alien species (Active)
17) WCC 2020 RES 7.096 Maximizing return on conservation investments and sustainable development: eradicating invasive alien species (IAS) to conserve island biodiversity and benefit society (Active)

IUCN Green Lists

18) WCC 2012 RES 5.035 Facilitating conservation through the establishment of protected areas as a basis for achieving Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (Active)
19) WCC 2012 RES 5.036 Biodiversity, protected areas and Key Biodiversity Areas(Active)
20) WCC 2012 RES 5.041 Development of objective criteria for a Green List of species, ecosystems and protected areas(Archived)
21) WCC 2012 RES 5.076 Accelerating the global pace of establishing marine protected areas and the certification of their effective management(Active)

IUCN's contribution to international processes

22) WCC 2012 RES 5.083 Advancing the role of nature-based solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation and their potential to contribute to the global climate change regulatory regime (Active)
23) WCC 2012 RES 5.118 A significant role for IUCN in the Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (Active)

24) WCC 2012 RES 5.180 IUCN's engagement in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (Active)

## Legal knowledge products and tools

25) WCC 2008 RES 4.092 Maintenance of ECOLEX: the gateway to environmental law (Archived)
26) WCC 2008 RES 4.096 The International Academy of Environmental Law (Active)
27) WCC 2012 RES 5.130 ECOLEX-the gateway to environmental law (Active)
28) WCC 2022 RES 7.044 Climate crisis legal toolkit (Active)

## Education and knowledge learning

29) GA 1988 RES 17.006 An Improved System of Information Management for Natural Resources Data (Archived)
30) WCC 2004 RES 3.026 Establishment of the World Conservation Learning Network (Archived)
31) WCC 2004 RES 3.027 Education for sustainable development (Archived)
32) WCC 2008 RES 4.104 The World Conservation Learning Network: next steps (Active)

## Others

33) WCC 2004 RES 3.012 Governance of natural resource for conservation and sustainable development (Active)
34) WCC 2012 RES 5.079 Protection of the deep ocean ecosystem and biodiversity from the threats of seabed mining (Active)
35) WCC 2012 RES 5.084 Promoting ecosystem-based adaptation (Active)
36) WCC 2012 RES 5.098 The human right to water and sanitation (Active)
37) WCC 2016 RES 6.069 Defining Nature-based Solutions (Active)

# Annex 4: Status of Implementation of relevant Resolutions

Resolutions can be classified into two main categories: a. the Resolutions that provide general guidance for the development and sharing of KPs, and b. the Resolutions that relate to specific KPs. Both of these clusters, as well as a brief summary of the status of implementation of these Resolutions are presented below.

**a. Resolutions that provide general guidance for the development and sharing of knowledge products**

Some Resolutions provide general principles for IUCN to follow when developing and sharing KPs. Among them, many recall that IUCN is a signatory to the Principles of the Conservation Commons, supporting open access and fair use of biodiversity data, information and knowledge, while recognizing the need to keep some data partially private (for research, education or security).

Resolution 2.23 *Improving IUCN capacity for strategic information management/information technology* confirmed that IUCN must make a serious and sustained commitment to build an information technology and information management infrastructure and requested the Secretariat to identify resources to develop and implement a strategic plan for information technology which is adapted to the organization's international mission.

Resolution 3.085 *Principles of knowledge sharing of the Conservation Commons* called upon IUCN members, and all sectors of the international community, to endorse the Principles of, and participate in, the Conservation Commons.

Resolution 4.012 *IUCN policy and strategy for the management of biodiversity data and information* urged the Secretariat to develop a clear policy and strategy for the management of biodiversity data and information in line with the Principles of the Conservation Commons, and called for IUCN to play an active leadership role in biodiversity data-sharing initiatives, and to ensure that all non-sensitive biodiversity data be made freely and openly available through these processes.

Resolution 4.102 *Advancing knowledge management in conservation* invited all IUCN members to collaborate in improving knowledge management practices across the Union, requested Council to give urgent consideration to knowledge management within the Union's overall Programme, and called on IUCN to formulate standards and guidelines for better knowledge management across the Union.

Resolution 4.108 *Open access to biodiversity data and information* recommended that a biodiversity data and information management plan, which supports open access to monitoring and research results and a long-term policy for archiving this data, accompany all new proposal for biodiversity assessments, conservation and research.

Resolution 5.003 *Prioritizing IUCN membership awareness and support* requested that the Secretariat, Commissions, Members and relevant partners disseminate its resources through a programme focused on improving knowledge, understanding and application of IUCN's work and knowledge products among the membership and staff of Members and Commissions, as well as universities.

Finally, Resolution 7.063 *Urgent call to share and use primary biodiversity in situ data* called on Commissions, Members and the global community of in situ data collectors to consider these data as a public good for the planet; readily deposit these data in globally available repositories and platforms, or public national biodiversity repositories; readily share these data at local, regional/national and global levels using the most unrestricted Creative Commons data-sharing licenses; ensure and demand that these platforms comply with the "Sensitive Data Access Restrictions Policy for the IUCN Red List"; and minimize the time that data are embargoed under any of these platforms to maximize their utility

for the conservation of species, while recognizing the need to keep some data partially private (for research, education or security).

**b. Resolutions that relate to specific IUCN knowledge products**

Other Resolutions relate to specific IUCN KPs, such as the Red List of Threatened Species, the Global Invasive Species Database, the Red List of Ecosystems or the Green List. Among these Resolutions, some directly ask for the development of new knowledge products, while others focus on the improvement or further development of exiting knowledge products. The Resolutions below present some of the many Resolutions that deal with this matter.

Resolution 6.018 *Towards an IUCN Standard classification of the impact of invasive alien species* requested SSC and the Secretariat to conduct a consultation process involving all relevant stakeholders within the Union to develop EICAT, integrating the outcomes into the IUCN Global Invasive Species Database and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Resolution 7.044 *Climate crisis legal toolkit* requested the Secretariat and WCEL to create a climate action toolkit to assist interested actors to implement relevant climate mitigation and adaptation actions and inform relevant policies and legislation.

Resolution 5.017 *Enhancing the usefulness of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* recommended that the Red List Strategic Plan include clear strategic results by 2020 for expanding the taxonomic and geographic coverage of the Red List, encouraging repeat assessments of taxonomic groups completely assessed, and developing appropriate mechanisms to maintain and enhance the rigour of the IUCN Red List, among other things.

**Status of implementation of these Resolutions**

**WCC Resolution 2.23 Improving IUCN capacity for strategic information management/information technology**

1. CONFIRMS that IUCN must make a serious and sustained commitment to build an information technology and information management infrastructure which is commensurate to its size and international mission;
2. REQUESTS the Director General, in consultation with members and Commissions, to identify resources to develop and implement a strategic plan for information technology which is adapted to the organization's international mission and the Secretariat's Component Programmes, and which supports implementation of IUCN's Overall Programme;

**Status of implementation:** Implemented (archived Resolution). No other information available

**WCC Resolution 3.085 Principles of knowledge sharing of the Conservation Commons**

ACKNOWLEDGING that open access to sharing and use of conservation data, information, and knowledge resources by all sectors of society is essential both to enable effective decision-making and to empower those concerned with the conservation of biodiversity and the natural world;
RECOGNIZING that global inequities directly restrict access to data, information and knowledge for many of the world's people, with adverse impacts on the conservation of biodiversity and the natural world;

1. CALLS UPON IUCN members, and all sectors of the international community, to endorse the Principles of the *Conservation Commons* annexed to this Recommendation;

Principle 1 - Open Access: The Conservation Commons promotes free and open access to data, information and knowledge for conservation purposes.

**Status of implementation:** Obsolete (Resolution archived).

- The first operative clause calls for IUCN to endorse the Principles of the conservation commons; which IUCN has done. (https://www.iucn.org/content/conservation-commons). However, the conservation commons are no longer an operational body; therefore, the second operative clause urging participation in the conservation commons is now obsolete.

**WCC Resolution 4.012 IUCN policy and strategy for the management of biodiversity data and information**

RECALLING that IUCN is a signatory to the *Principles of the Conservation Commons*, supporting open access and fair use of biodiversity data, information and knowledge;

1. URGES the Director General to develop a clear policy and strategy for the management of biodiversity data, information and expert analysis generated through the work of the IUCN Secretariat and Commissions;
2. REQUESTS that this policy and strategy, including clear access and use guidelines, support the fundamental principle of open access to these assets as called for in the *Principles of the Conservation Commons*; and
3. CALLS FOR IUCN to play an active leadership role in the work of global, regional and national-level biodiversity data-sharing initiatives, and to ensure that all non-sensitive biodiversity data generated by the Secretariat and Commissions be made freely and openly available through these processes.

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active. No other information available.

**WCC Resolution 4.102 *Advancing knowledge management in conservation*.**

AWARE that the subsequent IUCN Knowledge Management Study in 2004 *(Mobilizing IUCN's Knowledge to secure a sustainable future)* recommended moving beyond producing knowledge to:

a. influencing change;
b. making better use of IUCN's intellectual capital by strengthening relationships and sharing knowledge;
c. strengthening both external and internal aspects of managing IUCN's knowledge; and
d. creating an enabling information and communication technology environment;

2. REQUESTS IUCN's Council to give urgent consideration to knowledge management within the Union's overall Programme before the 5th Session of the World Conservation Congress;
3. REQUESTS the Director General, with the assistance of IUCN's Commissions, to formulate standards and guidelines for better knowledge management across the Union.

**Status of implementation:** Implemented (archived Resolution).

**WCC Resolution 4.108 Open access to biodiversity data and information**

1. CALLS ON IUCN's members to:
   b. endorse the Principles of the Conservation Commons; and
   c. ensure open access to all non-sensitive biodiversity data collected through conservation efforts and scientific research;
2. RECOMMENDS that IUCN's members:
   b. take full advantage of existing global, regional or national open-access mechanisms for publishing biodiversity data (e.g. GBIF, Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network (IABIN), and the Reference Centre on Environmental Information (CRIA), among many others); and
   c. ensure that species/specimen-level data, geospatial data, associated metadata, and information on conservation results are made available through openaccess mechanisms; and

3. RECOMMENDS that a biodiversity data and information management plan, which supports open access to monitoring and research results and a long-term policy for archiving this data, accompany all new proposals for biodiversity assessments, conservation and research.

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active. No other information

**WCC Resolution 5.003 Prioritizing IUCN membership awareness and support**

1. REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with IUCN Commissions, IUCN Members and other relevant partners, in line with the One Programme, to disseminate its resources through a programme focused on improving knowledge, understanding and application of IUCN's work and knowledge products among the membership and staff of Members and Commissions, as well as universities and other teaching institutions; and
2. ASKS that the progress of this Membership awareness and support programme be monitored and reported on to the next Congress

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- Members' knowledge, understanding and application of IUCN's work and knowledge products have been improved since all components of IUCN now share a common platform of resources and information.

**WCC Resolution 7.063 Urgent call to share and use primary biodiversity *in situ* data**

1. CALLS ON Commissions, Members and the global community of in situ data collectors to:
    a. consider these data as a public good for the planet and a valuable resource to manage, benefit and conserve biodiversity for the benefit of nature and people;
    b. readily deposit these data in globally available repositories and platforms, or public national biodiversity repositories;
    c. readily share these data at local, regional/national, and global levels using the most unrestricted Creative Commons data-sharing licenses such as CC0 (public domain) or CC-BY (attribution generic); but
    d. ensure and demand that these platforms comply with the 'Sensitive Data Access Restrictions Policy for the IUCN Red List' such that the exact sampling locations for sensitive species are obscured for their protection;
    e. minimise the time that data are embargoed under any of these platforms to maximise their utility for the conservation of species, while recognising the need to keep some data partially private (for research, education or security); and
    f. share needs concerning specific knowledge products at local, regional and global scales;

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active. No other information available

### Resolutions relating to IUCN Red Lists

**WCC Resolution 1.25 Guideline for Using the IUCN Red List Categories at the Regional, National and Sub-national Level**

1. REQUESTS the SSC, within available resources, to complete the development of guidelines for using the IUCN Red List Categories at the regional level as soon as it is practicable, in an open and transparent manner in collaboration with:
    a. experts and institutions throughout the world who are involved in monitoring and managing species at the regional level;

b. the Environmental Law Centre, members of the Commission on Environmental Law, NGOs and others involved in developing legislation and regulations concerning threatened species;

2. FURTHER REQUESTS the SSC :
   a. to convene a representative international workshop as part of the process to develop these proposed guidelines;
   b. to strengthen participatory processes whereby regional assessments feed into global assessments;
5. REQUESTS the Director General and the Chair of SSC:
   a. to obtain the comments of IUCN members, SSC members and others on the draft guidelines once they have been developed;
   b. to consider such comments, to revise the proposed guidelines and to circulate them to SSC members for further comments before submitting them to Council for formal adoption;
6. REQUESTS the Chair of SSC and the Director General to communicate with the SSC network of members, IUCN members and others to promote the appropriate use of the guidelines, once developed, on a national level.

**Implementation status:** Implemented (Resolution archived)

- Guidelines for use of the IUCN developed, peer reviewed and available for download on IUCN Red List website

**WCC Resolution 3.013 The uses of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species**

2. REGARDING use of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species to support the implementation of international conventions:
   e. REQUESTS the SSC, as a matter of urgency, to implement the Sampled Red List Index based on repeated Red List assessments for a stratified selection of species that is representative of biomes (including marine, freshwater and arid ecosystems), regions and taxonomic groups (including invertebrates and plants); and
   f. FURTHER REQUESTS the SSC, in partnership with other organizations, to expand the taxonomic coverage of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species to enhance its representativeness, thereby enabling the Red List Index to be more robust, and with this in mind, to:
      i. complete comprehensive assessments for all mammals, reptiles, freshwater fish, sharks and molluscs;
      ii. regularly reassess the status of amphibians and birds; and
      iii. give greater priority to initiating rigorous comprehensive assessments for selected groups of plants, marine species and invertebrates;
3. REGARDING use of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species for conservation planning and priority setting:
   b. REQUESTS the SSC, working in partnership with IUCN members, to convene a worldwide consultative process to agree a methodology to enable countries to identify Key Biodiversity Areas, drawing on data from the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and other datasets, building on existing approaches and paying particular attention to the need to:
      i. enlarge the number of taxonomic groups used for site-based priority-setting approaches;
      ii. have quantitative, transparent and objective criteria to identify Key Biodiversity Areas; and
      iii. report on progress towards achieving this objective at the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress;

4. REGARDING implications of the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species for scientific research:
    b. REQUESTS the SSC to develop technical guidance for IUCN members and others on precautions to be taken for species listed in particular Red List Categories, and under particular Red List Criteria, in order to help ensure that scientific collecting is beneficial, and not detrimental, to globally threatened species.

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active. No other information

**WCC Resolution 5.017 Enhancing the usefulness of the *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species***

2. RECOMMENDS that the Red List Strategic Plan include, among others, clear strategic results by 2020
4. REQUESTS SSC, the Director General and IUCN Members working in this field to continue to improve the IUCN Red List to address topics such as:
    a. the response of species to changing climate (as called for in Resolution 4.016 Development of climate change guidelines for IUCN Red List assessments adopted by the 4th IUCN World Conservation Congress (Barcelona, 2008), with an SSC Task Force now working on the topic);
    b. the consistent listing of species as Extinct and Critically Endangered (Possibly Extinct);
    c. development of guidance on collection and harvest of threatened species as an annex to the "Guidelines for Appropriate Uses of IUCN Red List Data", in order to help ensure that Red List data are used appropriately to guide regulation and management decisions;
    d. the definition of "wild" populations (including reintroduced populations), and the implications for the consistent listing of species, for example, of species living within fenced areas within their natural ranges, of natural populations dependent on management interventions, and of populations resulting from "benign introductions" (as defined in the IUCN Reintroduction Guidelines) of threatened species outside their original ranges;
    e. improvement of the "Guidelines for using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria" to foster application of the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria to island States and insular species; and
    f. means to reconcile the expected taxonomic coverage of the IUCN Red List with the need to maintain the highest scientific standards; and
5. CALLS ON the Director General, SSC and IUCN Members to encourage funding agencies, international organizations, multilateral conventions, and others to support the further development of the IUCN Red List in order to maintain it as the global standard for assessing species, and thereby inform policy and action at all levels throughout the world.

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

In 2015, the Cambridge Office reported that:

- Draft guidelines on the harvesting of threatened species were prepared and circulated for comment. Once finalised and accepted, these were to be incorporated as an Annex into the SSC Guidelines for Appropriate Uses of IUCN Red List Data.
- The network of trained Red List Trainers continued to grow.
- The Red List Strategic Plan 2013-2020 was under review and all targets were being updated and revised where necessary. Good progress was made on this. This was shown through the continued growth of the number of species on the IUCN Red List and the growing numbers of plants, invertebrates, marine organisms and fungi that were being assessed.

- A major achievement in 2015 was the creation of PDF accounts for all global assessments on the IUCN Red List each with a unique DOI number making them permanently citable and retrievable.
- The SIS database system was enhanced through the development of a Data Uploader function to expedite bulk uploads of assessments from external database systems; which was a significant new development to help reach the 160,000 barometer of life target. National and regional assessment initiatives were supported where possible

**WCC Resolution 5.018 Support for the development and implementation of national and regional red lists**

1. CALLS UPON IUCN to continue supporting these initiatives through the production of tools, software and training materials, as well as training local experts to lead national red list assessments, data management and analysis;
6. CALLS UPON IUCN and countries developing or updating national red lists to work more closely together to ensure that data are exchanged and assessments of endemic species are harmonized as far as possible at the global and national scales;
7. REQUESTS the Director General to provide policy support to these national red-listing initiatives, in consultation with the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), in conjunction with their Secretariat focal points and the IUCN membership;
9. REQUESTS the Director General to bring the importance of performing periodic national red list assessments to the attention of the CBD and other relevant conventions, as well as to potential sources of financial support for these assessments

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- A number of National Red List training workshops were held to build capacity and the network of trained Red List Trainers is slowly being expanded to help with this.
- Tools for Red List work are being improved, a key advance being the development of the Data Uploader to import assessments into SIS from external database systems. This should improve the incorporation of endemics on national Red Lists into the IUCN Red List.
- The decision by the Red List Committee to allow assessments to be submitted and published in selected other languages will have a significant impact on the whole process.
- The various stakeholder meetings have helped to identify various issues and barriers to national Red List activities and there has been a general increase in activity as evidenced by the growth of the National Red List database.
- In 2015 it was reported that the Modes and Modalities paper that was being prepared would help us to engage with all stakeholders. Efforts were underway to look at better mechanisms for providing biodiversity data to policy-related processes like the compilation of NBSAPs, etc.

**WCC Resolution 5.055 Consolidation of the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems**

2. CALLS on IUCN Council, once the draft categories and criteria have been rigorously tested, to take the necessary steps for formal approval of the categories and criteria as an official IUCN data analysis protocol for use by Members and any other stakeholder interested in ecosystem risk assessment, after they have been finalized and are submitted to Council by CEM and the Secretariat;
3. REQUESTS CEM to work with the support of SSC and the Secretariat to raise the necessary funds for the development and implementation of an operational plan for The IUCN Red List of Ecosystems which includes a strategy for its integration with the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and other knowledge products. This should ensure that adequate staff,

financial and technical resources are made available for the integration of these two IUCN Red Lists, such that their databases are linked, and users are able to conduct simultaneous searches on the status of species and ecosystems, including the coverage by Key Biodiversity Areas and the World Database on Protected Areas;

4. URGES CEM and the Secretariat to assess the status of the world's terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems in order to be able to report on progress towards achieving Aichi Target 5: "By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced;"
5. REQUESTS CEM and the Secretariat to develop a mechanism for providing technical support and training for developing national ecosystem risk assessments, such that they are carried out in alignment with approved categories and criteria, making use of the best available data, and aimed at achieving maximum impact on biodiversity conservation policies, and at assuring human livelihoods and well-being; and

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- RLE criteria adopted by Council in 2014
- Version 1 of RLE Guidelines produced and about to be published in 2015
- The RLE for the Americas were being completed (overall and approx 10 national level RLE's), which supported the EU Red list of Habitats. Many smaller cases studies were being produced in 2015
- In 2022, CEM reported initial findings from applying four IUCN RLE criteria to 655 terrestrial ecosystems in temperate and tropical North America, or 8.5% of the global land surface.
- On-going actions: Extending experience of this red listing effort to data deficient ecosystem types in North America and applying results to identification of Key Biodiversity Areas in Canada and USA.

**WCC 6.016 The IUCN Red List Index for monitoring extinction risk**

2. REQUESTS the IUCN Red List Partnership, SSC and Director General to ensure that the IUCN Red List incorporates repeat assessments of taxonomic groups in order to calculate RLIs, and makes these accessible online to facilitate their incorporation, as appropriate, into, inter alia:
    a. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) Action Plans, and CBD National Reports; and
    b. regional, thematic, and global environmental assessments including those by IPBES, GEO, and GBO;
5. ENCOURAGES the IUCN Red List Partnership and SSC to continue to develop the RLI methodology, including through refining methods for thematic and geographic disaggregation, calculating uncertainty, and projecting trends under alternative policy scenarios

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- The RLI and various disaggregations were included in the IPBES Global Assessment, published in May 2019, with the indicators extrapolated to 2020 to assess progress towards the Aichi Targets and to 2030 for the SDGs. The RLI and various disaggregations are profiled in the draft Global Biodiversity Outlook-5
- RLIs, disaggregated to national level, were included in the 'country profiles' on the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool, and made available to CBD national focal points, among others.
- A Swiss Government-funded project led by IUCN Secretariat was supporting the development of functionality on the IUCN Red List website to serve up RLIs and various

disaggregations of them to users, and to support more streamlined production of these indicators each year.

**WCC Resolution 7.061 Partnerships and further development of a Global Ecosystem Typology**

1. TAKES NOTE of the ongoing work to develop a GET;
2. ENCOURAGES Council to:
    a. promote and support Members, including indigenous peoples, local communities, and public actors, Commissions, and public and private partnerships, in applying the GET to support global, regional and national efforts to assess and manage risks to ecosystems;
    b. support adaptation to national and regional levels of the IUCN criteria and categories for Red Lists of Ecosystems, as well as continued development of national Red Lists of Ecosystems to enhance implementation of action for conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems and their biological diversity;
    c. support application of Red List of Ecosystems criteria to assess risk of collapse in the world's thematic priority ecosystems; and
    d. as part of the IUCN Annual Report, report on progress on development of the Red List of Ecosystems database, integration of the Red List of Ecosystems approach, as well as in IUCN position and policy products for UN Sustainable Development Goals and Biodiversity Targets;

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.
Global Ecosystem Typology (GET):

- Scientific publication in Nature (https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-022-05318-4) of the GET. In less than one month since publication, the publication has been consulted >33k times
- Adoption of IUCN GET as the reference typology for Ecosystem accounting in United Nations Systems- SEEA EA. https://seea.un.org/ecosystem-accounting

Red List of Ecosystems (RLE):

- Development of open online training course in the IUCN Academy on use of Red List of Ecosystems for Assessors.
- To date of this report >4k ecosystems across terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems assessed

### Resolutions relating to KPs and invasive alien species

**WCC Resolution 5.021 Implementing the provisions on invasive alien species of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020**

1. REQUESTS the Director General and IUCN Commissions to:
    c. improve interoperability between IUCN knowledge products with particular reference to the Global Invasive Species Database, the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems and the World Database on Protected Areas for supporting the identification of priority invasive alien species, and enhancing early warning systems and rapid responses to new invasions

**Status of implementation**: The Resolution is still active. No other information on this specific operative paragraph.

**WCC Resolution 6.018 Toward an IUCN standard classification of the impact of invasive alien species**

RECOGNISING the efforts carried out by the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) for developing authoritative global knowledge products on invasive alien species, namely the IUCN Global Invasive Species Database and the Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species;

1. REQUESTS the SSC and the Director General to conduct a consultation process involving all relevant stakeholders within the Union to develop EICAT, integrating the outcomes into the IUCN Global Invasive Species Database and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, thus providing an essential background for the achievement of Aichi Target 9 (and subsequent related targets) and SDG Target 15.8;
2. REQUESTS Council to adopt the framework for the IUCN Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa, once the consultation process referred to above has been completed, as the Union's standard for classifying alien species in terms of their environmental impact;
3. CALLS ON all Members, and national, regional and global institutions, and the scientific community to work in collaboration with SSC on:
    b. EICAT and the integration of its outcomes into the IUCN Global Invasive Species Database and The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, as this information is essential to prevent and mitigate the impacts caused by invasive alien species; and
    c. fostering the formal adoption of EICAT and promotion of its use as a decision support tool; and
4. CALLS ON the scientific community to apply EICAT, in coordination with SSC, providing comprehensive supporting information to be published in the IUCN Global Invasive Species Database.

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- IUCN Secretariat and SSC ISSG jointly ran a workshop to edit the EICAT proposed standard in response to comments received through the 1st IUCN-wide consultation (held in 2017). Following this, a second version of the EICAT proposed standard (and additional Guidelines for their application) was published. In August 2019 a second Union-wide consultation was run to solicit feedback on the second version of the EICAT standard. The consultation, using an online survey, went to all IUCN members, commissions and secretariat staff and ran for 5 weeks ending in September. Additional edits have been made to the EICAT standard and a version 3 will be submitted to the IUCN Editorial Board in early 2020, to be submitted to IUCN Council
- A number of EICAT training workshops have been run across Europe, including as part of the EU Life INVASAqua project for the Iberian Peninsula. Additional EICAT assessments have also been undertaken by members of the IUCN EICAT Authority.

**WCC Resolution 7.096 Maximizing return on conservation investments and sustainable development: eradicating invasive alien species (IAS) to conserve island biodiversity and benefit society**

2. CALLS ON the Director General and Commissions to:
    a. promote and support transfer of knowledge products that inform prioritization of efforts, including the Threatened Island Biodiversity Database, IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, and Global Invasive Species Database, and to track returns on investments to biodiversity, people and communities, and sustainable development;

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- IUCN Secretariat along with the SSC ISSG have worked with the EC to produce awareness raising material, manuals, guidance and other scientific and technical outputs focused on IAS.

- In addition a member of Coalition Clean Baltic (Green Federation "GAJA" (Poland)) produced a Manual on combating invasive alien species (IAS) by anglers and hunters.
- IUCN has also published the first batch of IUCN Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT) assessments on the IUCN Global Invasive Species Database.
- IUCN worked with the International Maritime Organisation through its GEF GloFouling Project to produce guidelines on management of biofouling on recreational sailing vessels.
- The Comité national de l´UICN, France has also launched an analysis of the impacts of IAS on threatened species on the Red List in French overseas communities.
- The IUCN Secretariat and the SSC ISSG have continued to engage in discussions on the formulation of an invasive species target for the Global Biodiversity Framework.
- IUCN has also published its Global Species Action Plan which includes actions and resources to address IAS.
- IUCN and the Coalition Clean Baltic have participated in the Technical Working Group on IAS which supports implementation of the EU IAS Regulation.

**Resolutions relating to IUCN Green Lists**

**WCC Resolution 5.035 Facilitating conservation through the establishment of protected areas as a basis for achieving Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity**

3. REQUESTS the IUCN Commissions, IUCN Members, UNEP-WCMC, the ICCA Consortium and other organizations to collaborate in support of CBD Decision X/2 to:
    e. promote guidance and training to expand regular assessment of management effectiveness to all protected areas and develop and implement a system for the voluntary appraisal of protected area management effectiveness and governance quality that will illuminate and communicate innovative and effective approaches to protected area management and governance (e.g. the IUCN Green List of Well-Governed and Well-Managed Protected Areas)

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active

- Technical and policy guidance provided to the SCBD with practical recommendations on how to accelerate implementation of Target 11.

**WCC Resolution 5.036 Biodiversity, protected areas and Key Biodiversity Areas**

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), and the Director General to:
    a. support the development of a data system for collection and publication of data linking biodiversity and protected areas, specifically:
        i. standards for data quality and quantity;
        ii. trends in the distribution and abundance of species inside and outside protected areas, and the linkage between species trends and protected area management inputs; and
        iii. documentation of the global significance and protected area coverage of Key Biodiversity Areas;
    b. implement such data system development in ways which build from, strengthen, and collaborate with, not duplicate, complementary initiatives such as the:
        i. Living Planet Index
        ii. Tropical Ecosystem Assessment and Monitoring programme;
        iii. World Biodiversity Database;
        iv. Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool; and

v. Global Biodiversity Information Facility; and c. undertake such data system development in ways which draw from and link to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (and related systems such as the Global Invasive Species Database), the World Database on Protected Areas, including the associated management effectiveness data and emerging Green List of Protected Areas, and, at such a time as it becomes operational, the IUCN Red List of Ecosystems.

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- Compiled a unique global database on marine protected effectiveness and governance, drawing on the work of many other researchers, exploring link to Protected Planet.
- Completed a global review of all available Management Effectiveness Tracking Tools (METTs). identifying and cataloguing 2094 METT assessments from the GEF and UNDP PMIS project folders provided. These were placed into a quality-assured data base and shared with the UNEP-WCMP to be linked to Protected Planet.
- Enhance the Living Planet Index (LPI), particularly for protected areas, exploring link to Protected Planet.

**WCC Resolution 5.041 Development of objective criteria for a Green List of species, ecosystems and protected areas**

1. REQUESTS the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management (CEM), and WCPA, whose expert networks support and provide scientific guidance and information on species, ecosystem and protected area conservation respectively, to conduct international scientific consultations to develop objective, transparent and repeatable criteria for Green Lists that systematically assess successful conservation of species and ecosystems, including in protected areas;
2. REQUESTS SSC, CEM and WCPA to explore synergies with the criteria being developed for the Green List of Well-Managed Protected Areas, possibly with a view to developing a consistent approach to the Green List Criteria across IUCN;
3. REQUESTS the Director General to provide support to these efforts;
4. REQUESTS SSC, CEM and WCPA to report to the next IUCN World Conservation Congress on progress achieved;

**Status of implementation:** Implementation underway (archived Resolution)

**WCC Resolution 5.076 Accelerating the global pace of establishing marine protected areas and the certification of their effective management**

6. REQUESTS the Director General, in collaboration with IUCN Members and WCPA, to support the recommendations above and to jointly strive to achieve implementation of coherent, representative and effective networks of MPAs at all levels, as fundamental tools to give proper protection to species and to marine and coastal habitats, and resilience to marine ecosystems, by:
    e. implementing management effectiveness assessment systems, by:
        ii. developing and testing an IUCN certification scheme for effective and equitable management of MPAs, according to the IUCN categories, building upon the IUCN Green List, and making sure to take into account the specificity of the marine environment;

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active. No other information on this operative paragraph

**Resolutions relating to IUCN's contribution to international processes**

**WCC Resolution 5.083 Advancing the role of nature-based solutions to climate change mitigation and adaptation and their potential to contribute to the global climate change regulatory regime**

REQUESTS the Director General to:

a. develop key knowledge products that will contribute to the work of the IPCC and of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES); and in developing these products, draw upon, inter alia, regional information collected in the course of IUCN's project activities

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- Report produced on Adaptation-Mitigation linkages - produced jointly by GEMP and GFCP as a basis for future action

**WCC Resolution 5.118 A significant role for IUCN in the Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES)**

2. AFFIRMS the interest of IUCN to play a significant role in IPBES based on its major assets; and REQUESTS the Director General to pursue this role with the governments and UN agencies involved with IPBES, including support to the governance structures, particularly subsidiary bodies such as the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, regional structures, working groups and external review groups, and provision and management of scientific data and knowledge;
4. NOTES the scientific expertise of IUCN's Commissions and involvement of its government and non-governmental Members dedicated to biodiversity which IUCN can contribute to the future work programme of IPBES
6. ENCOURAGES IUCN Members, Councillors, IUCN National and Regional Committees, IUCN Commissions and the Secretariat to engage actively in IPBES as providers of knowledge and expertise and potential beneficiaries of its outputs; this involvement could take the form of, inter alia, nominating experts, proactively proposing tools and methodologies, offering data and knowledge, developing capacities of policy makers for the best use of IPBES knowledge and services, and disseminating and communicating IPBES activities and outputs; and

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- IUCN successfully mobilised, across the Union, nominations into MEP with several nominations accepted during IPBES-3.
- In 2015, IUCN experts are also well represented in groups working on IPBES deliverables, 1/8 to 1/6 of experts are from IUCN.

**WCC Resolution 5.180 IUCN's engagement in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020**

APPRECIATING THAT IUCN is the leading global authority on biodiversity conservation, and has a long history of creating and providing credible and trusted knowledge on biodiversity through its flagship knowledge products such as the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and (with UNEP-WCMC) the World Database on Protected Areas, and therefore has a significant leadership role to

play in supporting the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020; and, critically, the basis of key indicators to measure progress in their achievement

13. REQUESTS the Director General to:
    c. support the strengthening and integration of IUCN's key flagship knowledge products to underpin work for the achievement of the Targets and the development of indicators at the global and national level;

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active. No other information available

### Resolutions relating to legal knowledge products and tools

**WCC Resolution 4.092 Maintenance of ECOLEX: the gateway to environmental law**

2. CALLS ON the ECOLEX partners to participate financially, maintain its up-to-date content, continue to enhance its software and forcefully reach out to other possible partners and associates such as convention secretariats and other data providers with a view to building ECOLEX as the global cooperative hub for environmental law;
3. INVITES the Director General to continue and increase, as appropriate, IUCN's support and contribution to ECOLEX, maintaining IUCN's function as the ECOLEX Management Unit, and capitalizing on its success.

**Status of implementation**: Superseded by Resolution 5.130 (Resolution archived)

**WCC Resolution 5.130 ECOLEX-the gateway to environmental law**

4. REQUESTS the ECOLEX partners to intensify their efforts to promote the use of ECOLEX significantly beyond what has already been achieved, in particular by:
    a. increasing online access of users, especially in developing countries and universities globally; b. collaborating with institutions, programmes and projects which would benefit from cross-pollination with legal data, such as scientific/technical data on species and protected areas;
    d. contributing to the efforts of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to develop information systems and platforms to share information facilitating synergies in their implementation, such as InforMEA, by establishing links from such systems directly to ECOLEX and vice versa;
    e. developing products based on ECOLEX data to produce analytical information, subject-based (e.g. wildlife law) or country-based (i.e. country profiles); and
    f. seeking collaboration with publishers of regularly updated specialized electronic environmental law series; and
5. INVITES the Director General to continue and increase, as appropriate, IUCN support and contribution to ECOLEX, in particular by:
    b. maintaining the role of IUCN as a key partner in ECOLEX, as custodian of two databases (treaties; policy and law literature);
    c. maintaining the IUCN Environmental Law Centre's (IUCN ELC) function as the ECOLEX Management Unit (MU) and enlarging its capacity; and
    d. enlarging the capacity of the ELC and/or MU to take the lead in developing a node of biodiversity-related information on governance, policy and law for use by international institutions including the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), now co-located at the ELC, in Bonn (Germany).

**Status of implementation**: The Resolution is still active.

- In 2016, the technical revamp of the ECOLEX backend and interface was completed. A new database of decisions of the Conference of Parties of selected multilateral environmental agreements was added to ECOLEX.

**WCC Resolution 7.044 Climate crisis legal toolkit**

1. REQUESTS the Director General and World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL) to create a climate action toolkit to assist interested national, sub-national and local actors, as appropriate, to implement relevant climate mitigation and adaptation actions, from which State Members can identify those most appropriate for their governance structure, judicial system and ecosystem, to inform relevant policies and legislation;
2. RECOMMENDS strengthening synergies and interlinkages between environmental law databases, such as ECOLEX and InforMEA, and increasing resources on climate change;

**Status of implementation**: The Resolution is still active.

- The IUCN Environmental Law Centre has developed "CLIMA" a practical toolkit to assess the effectiveness of climate change action and EbA measures worldwide.

## Other Resolutions relating to knowledge products

**WCC Resolution 3.012 Governance of natural resource for conservation and sustainable development**

6. REQUESTS the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas, through the refining of its guidance on Protected Area Management Categories and in other ways that are part of its mandate, to:
    d. offer suggestions to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) World Conservation Monitoring Centre for more complete reporting of governance types in the World Database on Protected Areas and the United Nations List of Protected Areas.

**Status of implementation**: Resolution is still active.

**WCC Resolution 5.079 Protection of the deep ocean ecosystem and biodiversity from the threats of seabed mining**

REMAINING CONCERNED about the potential impact on the marine environment of future deep seabed mining activities given the current level of knowledge and understanding of deep seabed mining

7. CALLS on all constituent parts of IUCN to cooperate to develop specialist groups and knowledge products on impacts of seabed exploration or mining activities;

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- The Commission on Ecosystem Management established a specialist group on Deep Sea Ecosystems and Mining
- The CEM Specialist Group on Deep Sea Ecosystems and Mining worked with The National Institute of Water and Atmosphere (NIWA) in New Zealand and prepared an information brochure on environmental issues associated with deep-sea minerals exploration.
- IUCN Provided best available scientific knowledge and generated new knowledge through oceanographic campaign for a better understanding of biodiversity and ecosystem functioning of Sea Mounts

**WCC Resolution 5.084 Promoting ecosystem-based adaptation**

6. REQUESTS the Director General to ensure that ecosystem-based adaptation is effectively deployed as a nature-based solution within the IUCN Programme 2013–2016 and in particular by:
    e. encouraging the dissemination of knowledge products on lessons learned from ecosystem-based activities and projects

**Status of implementation:** The Resolution is still active.

- Report on EbA Mapping exercise of all EbA (and related) projects in IUCN (and this will then also include UNEP and UNDP as well as BMUB) to have a consolidated web site and ability to analyze EbA across the globe

**WCC Resolution 5.098 The human right to water and sanitation**

2. REQUESTS the Director General in collaboration with IUCN Commissions, Members and other relevant partners in line with the One Programme approach, to:
    b. develop knowledge products which promote the fulfilment and the practical implementation of the right to water to be considered at the next IUCN World Conservation Congress

**Status of implementation**: The Resolution is still active. No other information available.

**WCC Resolution 6.069 Defining Nature-based Solutions**

3. CALLS ON the Director General and Commissions to finalise the NbS principles, parameters and guidelines for applying NbS, reporting as appropriate to Council on progress;

**Status of implementation:** This Resolution is still active. However, this operative paragraph has been implemented

- An extensive consultation process on the draft NbS global standard was carried out in 2019, involving over 800 individuals from commissions, membership and secretariat, spanning over 100 countries. IUCN members have provided technical feedback on criteria and indicators of the standard.
- In July 2020, IUCN launched the first-ever Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions.

# Annex 5: Knowledge Products – detailed descriptions in no particular order

## *i. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*

| Elements | IUCN Red List of Threatened Species |
|---|---|
| **Governance** | **The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species** is governed by a Partnership Agreement. The IUCN Red List Partnership formed in 2000 and has 12 members. The Partnership Agreement expired in September 2020. A dialogue between IUCN and the Partners is underway to agree a new Partnership Agreement that will include changes to the governance structure. |
| **Work processes & management** | The high-level work processes in the IUCN Red List are set out in **the IUCN RL Partnership Agreement.**<br>• IUCN and the RL Partners each operate their own institutional work process and management to deliver the agreed obligations. The Partners, in addition to signing the overarching RL Partnership Agreement, also sign a bilateral commitment which details the specific contributions to the IUCN RL Strategic Plan. Decisions pertaining to the implementation of the IUCN RL Strategic Plan are made by the RL Committee.<br>• There is an independent RL Standards and Petitions Committee to oversee maintenance of the RL Standard and the provision of guidance on its application plus adjudication on any petitions against published assessments.<br>• The RL Unit and the Biodiversity Systems team within IUCN's Science and Data Centre responsible for the day to day running of the whole process and the production of the periodic RL updates.<br>• The Biodiversity Systems team are responsible for managing and undertaking improvements to the data infrastructure and for developing many of the tools used. |
| **Legal Status** | IUCN is the custodian of The IUCN Red List and of The IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria, develops and maintains protocols and procedures for Red List assessments, and convenes a large network – mostly volunteers – through the IUCN Survival Species Commission (SSC) and the Red List Partnership.<br>The Red List Partners, whose financial, technical and in-kind contributions have been considerable and whose continuing substantive commitments help advance and develop the IUCN Red List in a variety of ways including.<br><br>The IUCN Red List Partnership Agreement has expired and a new Partnership Agreement is under negotiation. |
| **Use Conditions** | The type and quantity of use of the IUCN Red List is summarised in the 2016-2020 IUCN Red List Quadrennial Report. The primary use of the IUCN Red List is:<br>• Global Species Monitoring<br>• Guiding Decision-making to Conserve Species<br>• Catalysing Conservation Action<br>• Science-based Species Conservation<br>• Influencing Global Ambition for Species Conservation<br>• Influencing Resource Allocation<br><br>In the period 2016-2020 the IUCN Red List has a user in every country of the world. The IUCN Red List website had 16.2 million unique visitors, 81.5 million-page views, 28 million website sessions and allowed the download of 190 million species maps. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | The IUCN Red List Partnership estimated the full costs of implementing the IUCN Strategic Plan (2020-2030) to be CHF 77.2m (noting that this includes the IUCN Green Status of Species and the Red List Index). The IUCN Secretariat's annual cost to maintain the IUCN Red List is ca. CHF 752k. Noting that the IUCN |

| Elements | IUCN Red List of Threatened Species |
|---|---|
| | Secretariat's team is under-resourced, it's been estimated that the true cost would be CHF 1.2m annually. Further work on the costs of the IUCN Red List will take place in the Knowledge4Nature Global Environment Facility Medium-Sized Project as part of developing a sustainability plan. |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | The IUCN Red List Partnership identified the major potential areas of improvement in the IUCN Red List Strategic Plan, and these included:<br>• Automated methods developed to conduct preliminary screenings and model potential changes in threat status to guide re/assessment of species and i derive input data and key parameters for the assessment process<br>• An expert system is developed to guide Red List assessors through the steps of data analysis and modelling necessary for assessing the impact of climate change on species extinction risks<br>• The SIS user interface allows for efficient, intuitive and streamlined entry and edit of Red List and Green Status data by users<br>• SIS Connect is the primary mechanism used for importing and exporting assessments and data to and from external database systems, including Red List Partners and national Red List processes<br>• Spatial data are well-integrated with tabular data, including through: i) development of a spatial data upload portal (incorporating quality checks and generation of metrics) and ii) the ability for users<br>• The Red List API is maintained and improved so that it supports more advanced querying and manipulation of data, and improved spatial data outputs<br>• Dynamic publication of assessments to the Red List website ensures that species assessments are published promptly post validation |
| **Costs of the improvements** | The cost of the improvements in (vi) were estimated to be CHF 1.6m in 2020 by the Red List Partnership (see IUCN Red List Strategic Plan). |

### *ii. The IUCN Green Status of Species*

| Elements | IUCN Green Status of Species |
|---|---|
| **Governance** | **The IUCN Green Status of Species** is part of the IUCN Red List and are governed by the IUCN Red List Partnership Agreement. |
| **Work processes & management** | Operates in the same way as the IUCN Red List. Assessments, training, research and development are conducted collaboratively between IUCN and the Red List Partners. Green Status assessments are published on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species website through a process that is managed by the IUCN Science and Data Centre. |
| **Legal Status** | Part of the IUCN Red List and all governance and decision making takes place within the Red List committee structure. |
| **Use Conditions** | Approved by IUCN Council in 2020 as a new component of the Red List of Threatened Species.<br><br>Green Status assessments are the world's first standardised method for assessing species' progress toward recovery. It recognises that although preventing extinction is the first critical step toward successful conservation, it is not the end goal. Rather, the true mark of success would be to recover species to the point where they can fulfil their ecological functions throughout their range - resulting in species that are not just surviving, but thriving. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | *See above in IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* |

| Elements | IUCN Green Status of Species |
|---|---|
| Needed or potential improvements | • SIS Connect is the primary mechanism used for importing and exporting assessments and data to and from external database systems, including Red List Partners and national Red List processes<br>• Spatial data are well-integrated with tabular data, including through: i) development of a spatial data upload portal (incorporating quality checks and generation of metrics) and ii) the ability for users<br>• The Red List API is maintained and improved so that it supports more advanced querying and manipulation of data, and improved spatial data outputs<br>• Dynamic publication of assessments to the Red List website ensures that species assessments are published promptly post validation |
| Costs of the improvements | |

### *iii. The IUCN Red List Index*

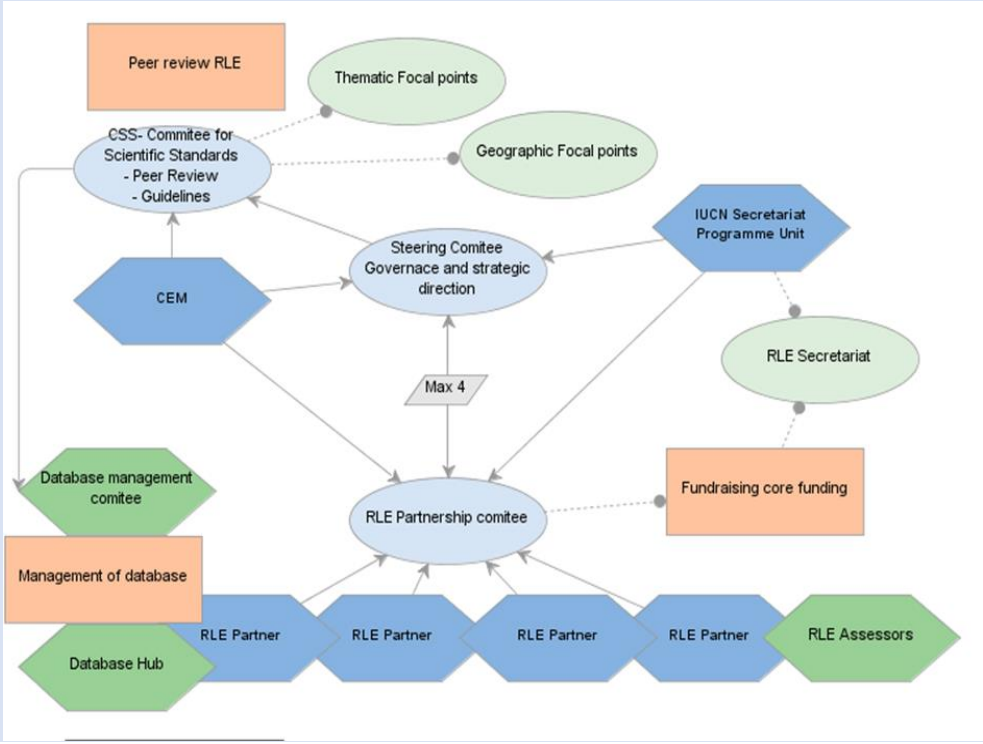
| Elements | Red List Index |
|---|---|
| Governance | **The IUCN Red List Index** is part of the IUCN Red List and are governed by the IUCN Red List Partnership Agreement. |
| Work processes & management | The Red List Index tracks trends in aggregate extinction risk over time. It is generated each November by the Red List Unit in the Secretariat, disseminated to National Statistical Offices for consultation through the IBAT Country Profiles, and finalised for submission to UNSD each February. Annual generation of the Red List Index will be largely automated under the 2022-2024 Knowledge4Nature Global Environment Facility Medium-Sized Project – a project the Secretariat invested significant efforts and resources to secure during the extremely busy period of the 2021 Congress. |
| Legal Status | Part of the IUCN Red List and all governance and decision making takes place within the Red List committee structure. |
| Use Conditions | • Widely adopted in different policy contexts, including for assessing progress towards the Convention on Biological Diversity's 2010 target and Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (for which it is official indicator 15.5.1), the Convention on Migratory Species (and several of its daughter agreements), etc.<br>• Recommended as headline indicator (A.3) for the Goals and Targets in the CBD's post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.<br>• used in the regional, thematic and global assessments of the Integrated Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Global Environment Outlook, Global Biodiversity Outlook and other assessment reports and processes. |
| Costs of maintaining the current status | An annual investment of approximately CHF 46k in staff time is necessary to generate the annual Red List Index, run the annual consultation by National Statistical Offices through the IBAT Country Profiles, and submit the final data, graphics, and storyline to UNSD. This annual investment may be halved with planned automation of the submission. |
| Needed or potential improvements | Mechanisms are built and implemented to automatically generate the Red List Index on demand, and serve it through IUCN Red List web services to relevant platforms. |
| Costs of the improvements | Within the 2022-2024 Knowledge4Nature Global Environment Facility Medium-Sized Project, CHF 277k is planned for automating annual generation of the Red List Index and serving it through the Red List website. |

### *iv. The IUCN Species Threat Abatement and Restoration*

| Elements | Species Threat Abatement and Restoration (STAR) |
|---|---|
| **Governance** | **STAR** is part of the IUCN Red List and are governed by the IUCN Red List Partnership Agreement. |
| **Work processes & management** | The STAR metric uses global data from comprehensively assessed species groups on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species to measure opportunities to contribute to species conservation goals, either by reducing threats or by undertaking restoration. STAR is served for commercial use through IBAT; its periodic generation and dissemination through an API from the Red List website will be largely automated under the 2022-2024 Knowledge4Nature Global Environment Facility Medium-Sized Project |
| **Legal Status** | A derived product from the IUCN Red List. It is framed through a series of peer-reviewed publications and does not have its own legal status. |
| **Use Conditions** | • Focuses on addressing the threats driving species extinction risk<br>• Simple, standardised and scalable<br>• Uses global data from comprehensively assessed species groups on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species to measure opportunities to contribute to species conservation goals<br>• Help businesses identify both opportunities and risks associated with their activities and value-chains.<br>• Provide a basis for setting corporate "science-based targets" for biodiversity nature that contribute to global conservation goals. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | STAR is a very new derived product; full financial evaluation of the costs of its maintenance and revenue generated are planned under the 2022-2024 Knowledge4Nature Global Environment Facility Medium-Sized Project. It is estimated that once the infrastructure for serving STAR through the Red List website is in place, it will require CHF 46k of staff time annually to maintain this; it is anticipated to generate annual revenue of several times this figure through its licensing for commercial use through IBAT. |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | Development and implementation for automated re-calculation, updating, and maintaining STAR metric and serving it through web services to relevant platforms such as IBAT.<br>A marine and freshwater layer is developed for the STAR metric, incorporated into the global heat map and published in the literature.<br>Current and historical Area of Habitat (AoH) are incorporated into Red List species pages and mechanisms developed for streamlining input of spatial information, maintenance and recalculation of AoH. |
| **Costs of the improvements** | Within the 2022-2024 Knowledge4Nature Global Environment Facility Medium-Sized Project, CHF 199k is budgeted for automating generation and service of AoH through the Red List website, and a further CHF 202k for periodic generation and service of STAR through the Red List website. |

### *v. Red List of Ecosystems*

| Elements | Red List of Ecosystems |
|---|---|
| **Governance** | Currently the RLE governance structure is composed of four informal bodies (i) RLE Partnership Committee, (ii) Committee of Scientific Standards, (iii) Database Management Committee, and (iv) RLE Steering Committee. The Steering Committee is composed of Chair CEM, Lead CEM RLE Thematic Group, Chair RLE Committee of Scientific Standards, Head, IUCN Biodiversity Assessment and Knowledge Team, IUCN Chief Scientist and RLE Partners. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Work processes & management** |  |
| **Legal Status** | The RLE Partnership is based on a legal agreement between (i) IUCN, (ii) The University of New South Wales, Deakin University, Arizona State University, Provita, Wildlife Conservation Society, Coastal Oceans Research and Development – Indian Ocean and Conservation International (Colombia). |
| **Use Conditions** | At present there are two products within the Red List of Ecosystems<br>• Red List of Ecosystems Assessments<br>The IUCN Red List of Ecosystems is a tool to assess the conservation status of ecosystems. It is based on scientific criteria for performing evidence-based analyses of the risk of ecosystem collapse, including changes in geographical distribution and the degradation of the key elements of ecosystems. There are currently > 4000 ecosystem assessments across > 100 countries, mostly at the national levels. Currently, approximately 10% of these assessments are available publicly in a centralised database managed by Provita on behalf of the RLE Partnership (https://assessments.iucnrle.org/).<br>• Global Ecosystem typology<br>The IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology is a comprehensive classification framework for Earth's ecosystems that integrates their functional and compositional features. This new typology helps identify the ecosystems that are most critical for biodiversity conservation, research, management and human wellbeing into the future and can be accessed here. Through its 110 ecosystem functional groups it provides the framework for completing an IUCN global ecosystem assessment. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | The costs of maintaining the current status is CHF 69k annually (CHF9k database, CH30k assessments, CHF30k technical support from IUCN Secretariat). This is a fraction of the costs of completing, and maintaining, an IUCN global RLE assessment. |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | Key improvements identified for the RLE include:<br>● Improve RLE database capabilities to host spatial analysis and increase functionality including user experience<br>● Improve Global Ecosystem Typology database to host Level 4 units of IUCN Global Ecosystem typology, and allow user-friendly exploitation of results<br>● Importing existing assessments into the RLE database<br>● Integration of IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology in harmonised way with Ecosystem Accounting (UN SEEA EA) and Ecosystem Risk Assessment<br>● Improve map quality for ecosystem functional groups that are not up to standard<br>Complete global assessment of full ecosystem functional groups and incorporation of these assessments into IBAT |
| **Costs of the improvements** | The minimum cost of improvement is CHF 250k for the database but the full estimated costs of implementing the suite of required changes for mapping (see Resolution 061) and assessments is CHF 17m[11]. |

### *vi. Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas*

| **Elements** | **Green List of Protected and Conserved Areas** |
|---|---|
| **Governance** | An independent evaluation is being undertaken of the governance and management arrangement for the IUCN Green List leading to recommendations to enhance these arrangements.<br>Under the **current arrangements**, as set out in the IUCN Green List User Manual 1.2, the **Green List Committee** appointed by the Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas oversees the review and maintenance of the IUCN Green List Standard and its adaptations in different jurisdictions, and governs the process for admitting sites to the IUCN Green List that achieve the Standard.<br>The IUCN Green List Standard is the foundation of IUCN's work on enhancing the performance of protected and conserved areas worldwide to achieve effective conservation outcomes. The development of the Standard conforms to the ISEAL Codes of Good Practice: a global reference for standard-setting and impact evaluation for social and environmental sustainability standard systems. The Standard was approved by the **IUCN Council** in 2017.<br>Appointed by the Chair WCPA, the co-chairs of the **Green List Standard Committee** appoint experts to maintain and review the Green List Standard and to ensure it reflects current scientific and technical best practice and remains relevant. The Standard Committee also provides technical review of any adaptations of the Generic Indicators proposed by Expert Advisory Groups (EAGLs) in participating Green List jurisdictions and makes recommendations to the Green List Committee for approval. |
| **Work processes & management** | Under the current arrangements, the Director General appoints the IUCN Green List Management Committee to coordinate implementation of Green List activities across IUCN. It oversees the strategic development and management of the IUCN Green List Programme, and ensures it achieves and maintains compliance with ISEAL Codes of Good Practice for standard-setting, assurance and impact assessment. The Management Committee sets the strategy and development plan for the IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Area Programme. It approves new jurisdictions in the IUCN Green List Programme, ensures that procedures for standard-setting, assurance, and impact assessment are ISEAL compliant, approves the User Manual, and guides and coordinates the implementation of projects involving the Green List across IUCN. |

[11]Full details of costing estimation developed in 2022 in Cambridge with the IUCN Secretariat and CEM. Optimistic scenario would require CHF 16.8m, if fragmented funding or addressing complex Functional Groups, this could raise up to CHF 49.3m

| | |
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| | **The main elements of the work flow for the Green List** are the identification and commitment of a Green List jurisdiction, the establishment of an Expert Assessment Group (EAGL), and the compilation of a set of candidate sites. EAGLs are jurisdictional expert bodies convened by WCPA and approved by an assigned Reviewer. In practice most experts are members of WCPA, and if not, are encouraged to become members of WCPA. The primary tasks of an EAGL are to ensure that the IUCN Green List Standard is applicable in their jurisdiction and to evaluate PAs against the Indicators of the Standard. To satisfy their roles and responsibilities as described below, EAGLs need to understand the IUCN Green List Standard and follow the User Manual's rules and procedures. By signing a Declaration of Engagement and implementing its provisions, the EAGL members demonstrate that this is the case.<br>Nominating sites compile all of the information that provides evidence of meeting all of the 17 criteria of the Green List Standard, and upload these on the Compass information system. When the dossier is complete, the EAGL reviews the dossier and evaluates whether the site meets the standard, and may refer the dossier back for further information if needed. The EAGL also conducts a field visit to verify the information provided, and makes a recommendation to the Green List Committee for listing. The recommendation may include time-bound conditions for listing. An independent assurer certifies whether all of the process steps needed have been undertaken.<br>Capacity development is undertaken at all levels, to build understanding of the process of compiling and submitting a dossier, but also to ensure that those involved have the necessary competences to address all of the dimensions of the criteria. In practice, the purpose of the Green List is to use the Standard to diagnose the capacity needs to implement effective conservation practice in the jurisdiction. A further quality control step is being introduced to ensure that the dossiers are comprehensive, prior to their consideration by the Green List Committee. |
| **Legal Status** | The IUCN Green List of Protected and Conserved Area Standard is the property of IUCN.<br>Related to the development of the IUCN Green List Standard and its Generic Indicators, IUCN publishes on the COMPASS information system, the names and affiliations of organisations, groups and/or individuals invited to comment on the IUCN Green List Standard and its Generic Indicators during each stage of its development or revision. It publishes the comments and a synopsis of comments received during review of the Standard and how these were taken into account. IUCN also publishes the decisions of the governance and management bodies, and any complaints received about the IUCN Green List Standard, its Generic Indicators and the Green List User Manual. IUCN similarly publishes all of the information relating to the adaptation of the Standard in a particular jurisdiction<br>Regarding the information contained in the dossiers of candidate sites, whereas these remain the property of the nominating authorities, IUCN publishes the names, locations, conservation values, contact information of all PAs that are applying for, have been added to or have been removed from the Green List; a narrative summary of each PA in English and in the regional language; the EAGL and Reviewer recommendations on PAs in English; and brief biographies of the members of Expert Assessment Groups. In certain cases, only restricted access is provided to information on COMPASS concerning potential triggers and negative comments by PA stakeholders who request confidentiality, information covered by PA confidentiality agreements, information that is the subject of relevant national privacy or data protection legislation, and information that, if published, could jeopardise the conservation mission of the PA (e.g. PA actions on combating poaching). |
| **Use Conditions** | The Green List is currently being developed in 60 countries in all regions of the world, with the ambition of the Development Plan to expand this to 100+ countries by 2030, and to involve 50% (by area) of the world's protected and conserved areas. The main users of the Green List Standard are the authorities responsible for the governance and management of the world's protected and conserved areas, as well as their stakeholders and rightsholders, the governments and non-governmental organisations involved in their establishment, and the development partners and funders who support their enhancement.<br>The Green List Community is a growing network of practitioners, experts, and partners in the regions, countries and jurisdiction where the Green List is being implemented. Although steadily growing, by 2021, there were approximately 60 countries committed, and in 43 of these, regional/national/subnational EAGLS have been established, and 500+ protected area professionals are contributing in a variety of volunteer roles, as experts, mentors and applicants). Implementation in jurisdictions is supported by 30+ implementing partners (public/private, academic/research organizations) and by IUCN Commission members, notably the IUCN Green List and Management Effectiveness Specialist Groups of the WCPA. Beyond the global figures, there is great diversity in the organization of the EAGLs and implementing partners in the countries, with different levels of centralization, |

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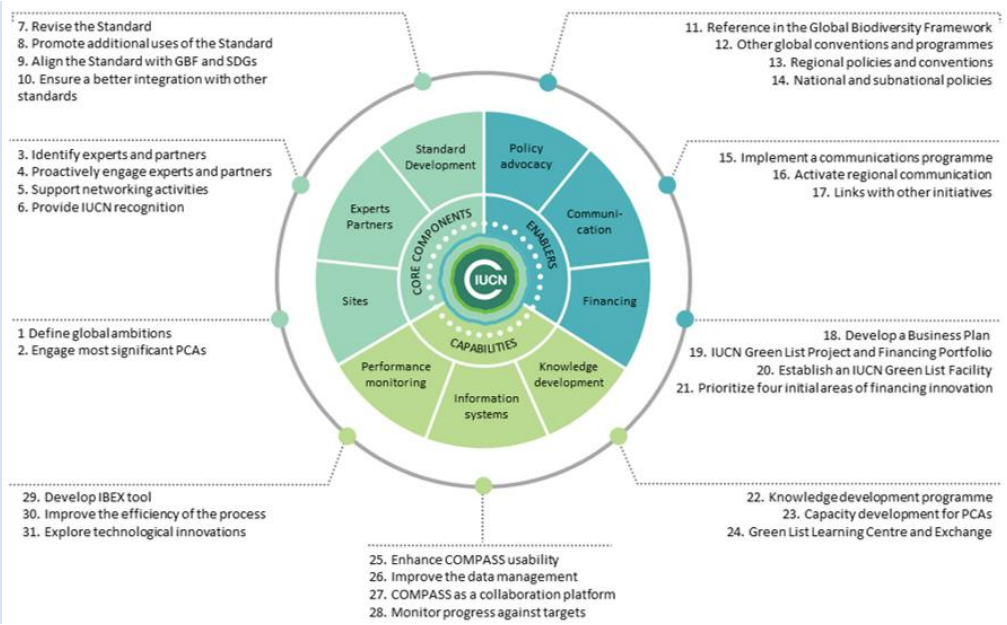
| | types of institutions and expertise represented. The implementation of the Green List has also highlighted the increasing importance of mentors to help sites meet the standard and the need for greater support for volunteer experts to ensure quality control.<br>The mobilisation of experts and partners is central for strategic growth of the Green List. Engaging 100+ countries and 50% of the world's protected and conserved areas by 2030 will require the significant recruitment of experts and partners for IUCN, including experts from the IUCN Commissions and IUCN member organisations, e.g. the 200+ State and government agency members, local government, as well as 1200+ NGOs and indigenous people's organizations. The IUCN Green List network of experts will be diverse in terms of skills and knowledge, representative of regions, and inclusive with effective participation of young professionals, women and indigenous people. These principles also apply to partners, by promoting different levels of partnerships, with governments, NGOs and the private sector. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | The current status of the Green List is maintained through a project portfolio with a value in 2022 of between CHF 300-500K, which includes operational support for the management of all Green List activities as well as substantive implementation of activities in jurisdictions and sites.<br>The Green List Development Plan estimates that the operational support component will increase with the numbers of jurisdictions and sites to approximately CHF 1,125,000 per annum by 2030. The plan is to offset these costs through revenues derived from projects and sites that cover the operational costs of implementing the Green List.<br>It should be noted that maintaining the current status and readying the programme for scaling up requires the improvement of information management and other infrastructure, estimated to cost an initial investment of CHF750K. |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | The Green List Development Plan systematically describes the improvements required to scale up the number of jurisdictions and sites in the following aspects (elabored in 31 actions in the diagram below). The full description can be found here with a useful summary in : Green List Development Plan starting on Page 205<br>• Sites<br>• Experts and partners<br>• Green List Standard Development<br>• Policy<br>• Communication<br>• Financing<br>• Knowledge management<br>• Information systems<br>• Performance monitoring |

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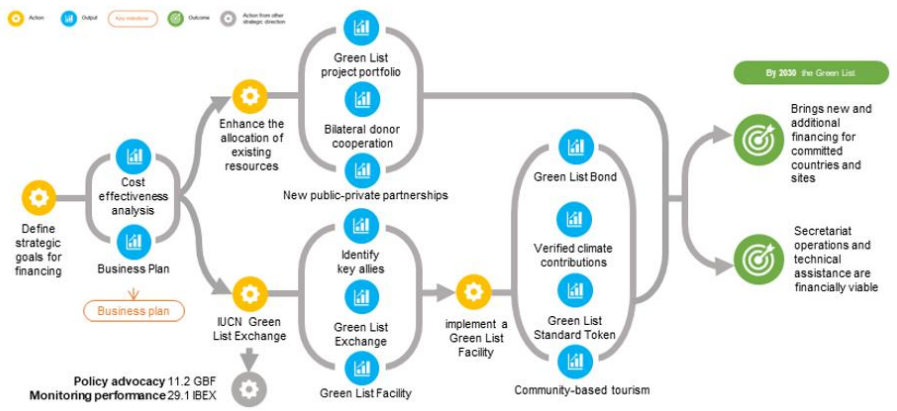
| **Costs of the improvements** | The Green List Development Plan estimates the total cost of improvement to enable a fully-functional Secretariat and infrastructure to support implementation. It suggests that an initial capital investment of CHF 750K in 2022 is required and further investment totalling CHF 2.5m is required over the period to 2030.<br><br>The main source of revenue for these improvements is through the operation of the GL programme itself, with sites paying a unit fee for the process of certification (and the costs for this coming from their own budgets or project support budgets in their hands or in IUCN's hands). But the Green List Development Plan also makes provision for a Green List Impact Bond, Verified Climate Contributions and a Green List Standard Token. The process for | **Interconnectivity between actions**<br>  |

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| | developing these is contained in the Development Plan. |

### *vii. Key Biodiversity Areas*

| Elements | Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) |
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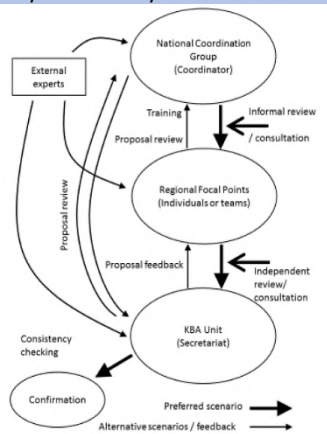
| **Governance** | The Key Biodiversity Areas Programme (https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/working-with-kbas/programme) is governed by a Key Biodiversity Areas Partnership, under a Key Biodiversity Areas Partnership Agreement. There are 13 KBA Partners, including IUCN and BirdLife International designated as having permanent voting roles on the KBA Committee. IUCN has special responsibilities for maintaining the KBA Standard, and KBA Guidelines (version 1.2), and adjudicating appeals, through the IUCN SSC and IUCN WCPA -appointed Standards and Appeals Committee. BirdLife International has special responsibilities for maintaining the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas. |
| **Work processes & management** | The KBA workflow is visualised in Annex 2 of the KBA Partnership Agreement. In sum, identification process is undertaken at national levels through multi-stakeholder coordination groups, passes through regional review, for eventual publication in the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas:   |
| **Legal Status** | The Key Biodiversity Areas Partnership Agreement provides the legal basis for the programme, including specifying IP arrangements in Annex 4. These then form the basis of the Terms of Use of the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas. |
| **Use Conditions** | The World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas is widely used by conservation organisations (not least, the KBA Partners, including >100 national organisations within the BirdLife and WWF national networks, many of them IUCN Members in their own right), national governments and intergovernmental agreements (KBA coverage by protected areas and other-effective area-based conservation measures is served as three official UN SDG indicators - 14.5.1 for marine, 15.1.2 for terrestrial and freshwater, 15.4.1 for mountains - and proposed as indicator 3.1 for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework), the private sector (its inclusion within the International Finance Corporation's Performance Standard 6 drives extensive traffic to IBAT subscriptions from companies and pay-as-you-go reports from consultancies), and the general public. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | Juffe-Bignoli et al. (2016 "Assessing the Cost of Global Biodiversity and Conservation Knowledge" PLoS ONE) assessed the annual costs of maintaining the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas as CHF 796k . In practice, the annual cash cost to each of the KBA Partners is currently approximately |

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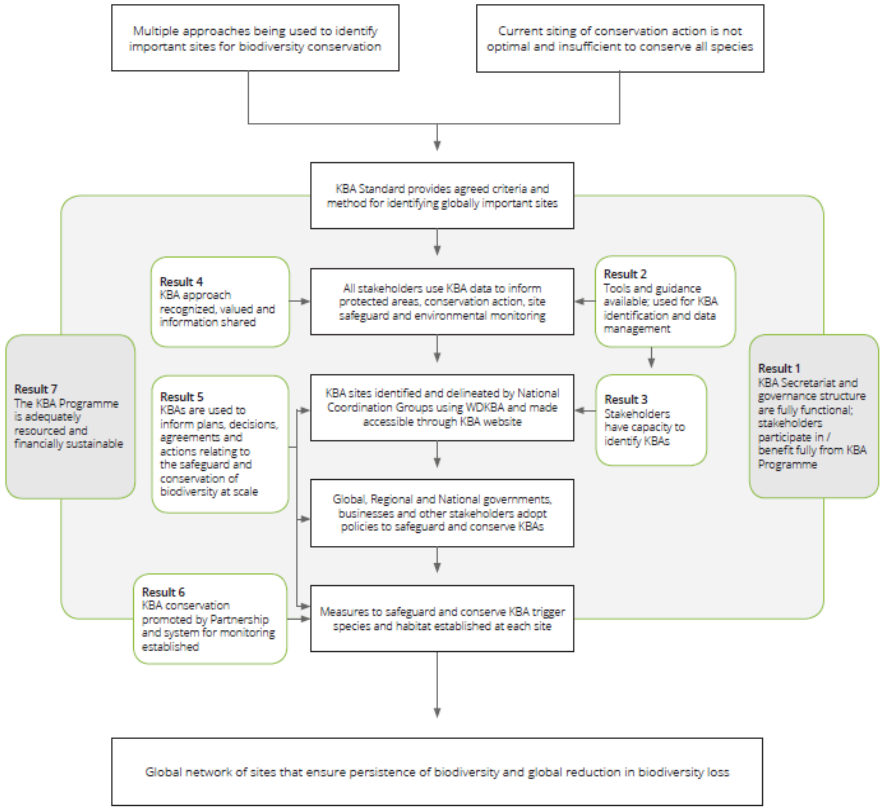
| | CHF 42k (currently reduced to CHF 23k with the Bezos Earth Fund investment in BirdLife International for comprehensive Key Biodiversity Area identification in the Andes and Congo). |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | Full planned implementation of the Key Biodiversity Areas Programme are documented in the Key Biodiversity Areas Strategic Plan, encompassing seven result areas across a documented theory of change, as:<br>  <br> |
| **Costs of the improvements** | Juffe-Bignoli et al. (2016 "Assessing the Cost of Global Biodiversity and Conservation Knowledge" PLoS ONE) assessed the one-time cost of reaching comprehensive global coverage as CHF 19.5m (mainly through National Coordination Groups), and the annual cost of maintaining the World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas as CHF 1.9m once this comprehensive global coverage has been reached. |

### *viii. Conservation Categories*

| Elements | Conservation Categories |
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| **Governance** | The IUCN Guidelines for Protected Area Management Categories were first published in 1994. By Resolution IUCN WCC RES 3.048 a consultative process managed by a WCPA Task Force, and involving input from IUCN Commissions, IUCN Members and many stakeholders, the guidance, including the IUCN definition of a protected area, was revised and published in 2008, and remains current. IUCN WCC 4.035 adopted the IUCN protected area management categories as a basis for guidance and reporting on Aichi Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Further guidance on applying the system at national levels was added to the guidance in 2013. |
| **Work processes & management** | The IUCN Protected Area Management Categories are used in the reporting of protected areas to the World Database of Protected Areas, managed jointly by IUCN and UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre. Through a supplemental agreement between IUCN and UNEP WCMC, a joint work plan is managed for Protected Planet and its component databases, including the World Database on Protected Areas, maintaining information on, inter alia, the management categories of protected areas. Guidance on the use of the categories for reporting is contained in the User Manual. In practice, IUCN, WCPA and UNEP-WCMC address numerous questions from agencies and sites regarding the application of the categories. |
| **Legal Status** | The IUCN Guidelines on Protected Area Management Categories are published by IUCN and copyright is held by the IUCN. Their use in the World Database of Protected Areas is governed through the Framework Agreement of Cooperation between IUCN and UNEP, and the Supplemental Agreement on Cooperation on data and information pertaining to biodiversity and protected areas. Agencies reporting to the World Database on Protected Areas provide the information on protected area management categories in their jurisdictions in terms of a Data Contributor Agreement. This ensures that there is a written record of the data provider agreeing for their intellectual property (IP) to be included in the databases and the terms for which it is made available. The agreement specifically states how the data provided will be used and that redistribution or use of the data by third parties will be subject to the WDPA Terms of Use. |
| **Use Conditions** | The World Database on Protected Areas (as a component of Protected Planet) enables a spectrum of users to access data for information-based decision making, policy development, and business and conservation planning. Businesses in a range of sectors including mining, oil and gas, and finance use the WDPA and associated databases to identify the biodiversity risks and opportunities of a given project. Conservation planners use the information to predict the outcomes of various proposals and focus on initiatives and areas that are most likely to result in positive impacts. The US Agency for International Development (USAID) uses the Millennium Challenge Corporation's (MCC) annual policy performance scorecards to inform decisions on allocations on funds; MCC uses the WDPA in its indicator to measure the effectiveness of policies related to Natural Resource Protection.<br>In addition to serving as a business, conservation and aid investment planning tools, Protected Planet (see more below) provides the basis for monitoring and reporting on progress towards international environmental targets such as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Every two years, UNEP-WCMC releases the Protected Planet Report on the status of the world's protected areas and recommendations on how to meet international goals and targets. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | The costs of maintaining the IUCN PA Management Categories system relate mainly to the costs of providing technical advice on the use of the Guidelines. These costs are borne by volunteer experts of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas and by IUCN Secretariat staff. From time to time, IUCN Members and protected area management agencies request specific advice on the categorisation of a particular protected area. IUCN Secretariat or WCPA experts provide this advice. Where costs are involved, such as for a field visit, these are borne by the agencies themselves. The costs of incorporating the PA Management Categories into the WDPA and Protected Planet are better addressed in the context of the wider application of Protected Planet. |

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| **Needed or potential improvements** | It has long been realised that all IUCN Secretariat staff, as well as WCPA members should possess a good understanding of the IUCN PA Management Categories (as well as the IUCN PA Governance Types). Several slide-show primers and MOOCs have been developed to provide this information. The availability and accessibility of training on the IUCN PA Management Categories could be improved. A more extensive suite of case studies could be provided to assist with capacity development. There is also a need to consider how the PA management categories could be applied to "other effective area-based conservation measures" where relevant. WCPA is planning to assess the need and opportunity to do so through a new Specialist Group or Task Force on definitions and standards. |
| **Costs of the improvements** | As was the case for the revision of the PA Management Strategies, the costs of workshops and consultations could amount to circa CHF 150k on a periodic (10 yearly basis). There are costs in making available the guidance in a broad spectrum of languages (probably CHF 10k per language), and for conducting training in a number of formats whether in-person or online (CHF 10k online to CHF 50k for group training in person. One-off costs for developing online training courses could amount to CHF 50k per course developed. Providing regular access to expert support by trained professionals would require appointing staff for this purpose. Volunteer experts could provide extensive support without compensation. |

### *ix. Protected Planet*

| **Elements** | **Protected Planet** |
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| **Governance** | Protected Planet is an overall name given to a cluster of databases that inform the monitoring of the elements of goals for protected and conserved areas. These include the World Database on Protected Areas, the World Database on OECMs, the Global Database on Protected Areas Management Effectiveness, and the ICCA Registry. Protected Planet was conceptualised by IUCN and UNEP-WCMC within the Framework Agreement of Cooperation between IUCN and UNEP, and the Supplemental Agreement on Cooperation on Data and Information Pertaining to Biodiversity and Protected Areas. In addition to the component databases, Protected Planet allows for four dimensions to facilitate building and sharing knowledge:<br>• Deliver - The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) continues to be the authoritative and credible dataset of conservation areas globally.<br>• Connect - Communication resources for interacting with key target audiences.<br>• Analyze - Development of analytical tools and methodologies that can track progress in achieving biodiversity targets.<br>• Change - Promoting implementation of biodiversity and environmental policies and best practice guidance.<br><br>The Supplemental Agreement provides for a Joint Programme Committee which serves as the oversight body for all activities under the Supplemental Agreement. It consists of a senior management representative nominated by each Party and up to four additional members nominated by each Party, including representatives of IUCN Commissions, for up to a total of ten JPC members. The senior management representatives of each Party co-chair the JPC. The JPC reports on its progress, and the progress of individual Joint Work Programmes, including that for Protected Planet, to the Executive Director UNEP and the Director General IUCN following JPC meetings, which are held annually.<br>An important point of reference is that several decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity request the support of IUCN and UNEP-WCMC to compile information on the status of protected and conserved areas, including several elements.<br>CBD Decisions regarding Protected Planet .<br>For example:<br>**COP X1/24, 2012** “Invites the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and its partners, including the World Commission on Protected Areas of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), to continue to report progress towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and related targets through the Protected Planet Report". |

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| | **COP XIII/2, 2016** "Invites the International Union for Conservation of Nature and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre to work with Parties and other Governments to update the World Database on Protected Areas and also to contribute to the assessment of progress in the implementation of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11". |
| **Work processes & management** | Protected Planet is a joint project between UN Environment Programme and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The compilation and management of the databases is carried out by UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), in collaboration with governments, non-governmental organisations, academia and industry. There are monthly updates of the data which are made available online through the ProtectedPlanet website where the data is both viewable and downloadable.<br>Data and information on the world's protected areas, and the elements of the targets compiled through Protected Planet are used for reporting to the Convention on Biological Diversity on progress towards reaching the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (particularly Target 11), to the UN to track progress towards the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, to some of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) core indicators, and other international assessments and reports including the Global Biodiversity Outlook, as well as for the publication of the United Nations List of Protected Areas. Every two years, IUCN and UNEP-WCMC releases the Protected Planet Report on the status of the world's protected areas and recommendations on how to meet international goals and targets.<br>Guidance on the use of the Protected Planet databases are contained in User Manuals. All data contributed to the databases are managed through data contributor agreements, and no data are accepted without these agreements in place.<br>• For protected areas, the work flow is contained in the WDPA User Manual.<br>• For OECMs, the work flow is contained in the WD-OECM User Manual.<br>• The ICCA Registry collates information on Territories and Areas of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities through a specific work flow. The ICCA Registry User Manual describes the work flow.<br>• For protected area management effectiveness, the work flow is contained in **the** GD-PAME User Manual . This includes information on the PAME evaluations it contains, how these are collected, managed and distributed, and how the PAME information should be interpreted and used for analyses and research. |
| **Legal Status** | Protected Planet is governed through the Framework Agreement of Cooperation between IUCN and UNEP, and the Supplemental Agreement on Cooperation on Data and Information Pertaining to Biodiversity and Protected Areas. Agencies and other contributors reporting information to the databases provide the information in terms of a Data Contributor Agreement. This ensures that there is a written record of the data provider agreeing for their intellectual property (IP) to be included in the databases and the terms for which it is made available. The agreement specifically states how the data provided will be used and that redistribution or use of the data by third parties will be subject to the Terms of Use of the databases contained in Protected Planet. |
| **Use Conditions** | UNEP-WCMC tracks use of the Protected Planet knowledge product. The Protected Planet website had over 1 million page views in 2022. While governments remain the Protected Planet Initiative's primary data providers, it also focuses on other stakeholders – both in their capacity as data providers to improve the data on non-state PCAs (specifically indigenous peoples, local communities and private actors), and in their capacity as data users. Users include:<br>Data-contributors<br>• Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and other national and sub-national governments (and bodies contributing data on their behalf, such as the European Environment Agency)<br>• Governing authorities of PCAs (and bodies contributing data on their behalf)<br>• International secretariats (and bodies contributing data on their behalf)<br>Users and Partners<br>• Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and other national and sub-national governments |

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| | • Governance and management authorities responsible for PCAs<br>• International secretariats<br>• Private and financial sector<br>• Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and inter-governmental institutions<br>• Indigenous peoples and local communities<br>• Educators<br>• Media<br>• Academics |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | UNEP-WCMC takes responsibility for the core operational costs of the Protected Planet suite of databases. Revenues are derived from commercial user licences, and from the Proteus Partnership as well as other donors. The Arcadia Fund is contributing significantly to Protected Planet costs between 2022 and 2026. Protected Planet costs around CHF 0.9m to run per year. IUCN has supported UNEP-WCMC with project funding, in particular through the European Commission-funded BIOPAMA programme to build the completeness and accuracy of the Protected Planet databases. The current commitment is for approximately CHF 500k over five years. |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | At the last Joint Programme Committee, the following improvements were suggested in the medium term (to 2025).<br>• Deliver and enhance the core databases for Protected Planet PP Initiative: WDPA; WD-OECM; GD-PAME<br>• Evolve to support the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and continue to support SDGs<br>• Deliver and enhance the Protected Planet website and communication materials.<br>• Improve the accuracy and quality of data in the PP databases<br>• Better integrate data on non-state PAs in the WDPA<br>• Develop capacity on OECM data reporting<br>• Collaborate with international secretariats to ensure relevant datasets are high quality<br>• Collaborate to ensure the PP initiative is sustainably financed as UNEP-WCMC moves towards an open data policy<br>• Incorporate quality metrics into Protected Planet<br>Plan for the future of Protected Planet Reports |
| **Costs of the improvements** | UNEP-WCMC has a grant of CHF 4.6m to support the above improvements up to 2026. No cost estimates are currently available for the post-2026 period, and there is no direct call on IUCN to meet the financial needs of this knowledge product. IUCN and UNEP-WCMC have agreed as part of the Supplemental Agreement to jointly search for project funding support to sustain and improve Protected Planet. |

### *x. World Heritage Outlook*

| **Elements** | **World Heritage Outlook** |
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| **Governance** | WH Outlook is governed by the IUCN WH Panel, which is appointed under the mandate of the DG, and is composed of 12 members, who represent the different specialist groups of WCPA, SSC, Protected & Conserved Areas Team, and chaired by the Head of Heritage, Culture & Youth Team. |

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| **Work processes & management** | |
| **Legal Status** | WH Outlook is prepared by IUCN consistent with our statutory role as Advisory Body, but is a wholly owned produce of IUCN, with IP entirely our own regarding the brand, methods and outputs. The States Parties whose sites are reported on are signatories to the WH Convention, and therefore are mandated to ensure the protection of WH sites. The WH Outlook is a complementary monitoring mechanism under the Convention to support States Parties in meeting their obligations. |
| **Use Conditions** | WH Outlook is aimed at a broad range of WH actors, particularly the site managers and management authorities to provide an independent assessment of sites as a complementary mechanism to the statutory reporting, but it can also be used by NGOs and SOs to support any site-or policy-level activities. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | Contract with the web developer for the maintenance of the WH Outlook website is CHF 20k /year, however the significant costs will be the next report scheduled for 2025 and thus fundraising plans are needed from 2023. The costs of producing the next edition of the report are estimated at a minimum of CHF 592k over the period 2023-25 (CHF 2,467 per natural WH site), but the programme could also be scaled up from this figure. |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | Significant improvements were made to the WH Outlook in its last update in 2020, particularly on its site assessment modules. Outlook Think-Tank sessions were organised following the launch of WH Outlook 3, in which some suggestions for improvements included linking Outlook to Green List. |
| **Costs of the improvements** | Improvements will be considered as part of the next update in 2025, and therefore the cost of the improvement alone cannot be costed for separately. In 2023 we are intending to transition Outlook to be more fully integrated with the IUCN Green List Standard and potentially take advantage of economies of scale. |

## *xi. Natural Resources Governance Framework*

| Elements | Natural Resources Governance Framework |
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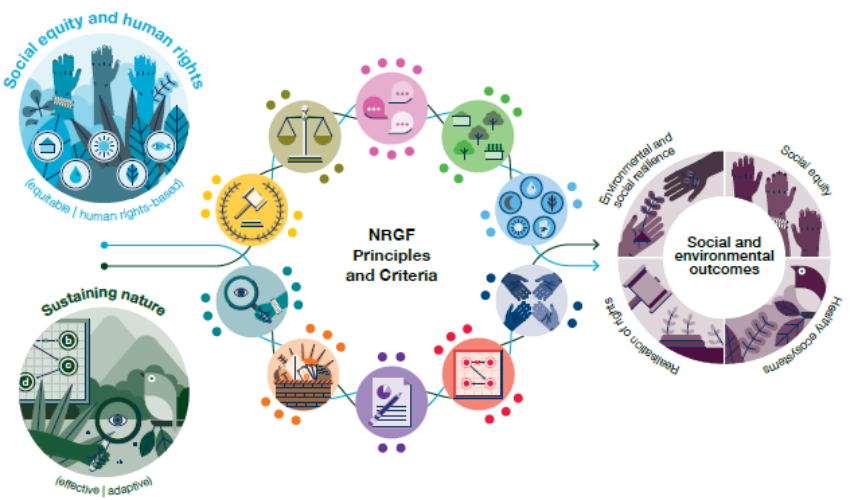
| **Governance** | The Natural Resource Governance Framework (NRGF) is an IUCN initiative created for the purpose of providing a robust, inclusive, and credible approach to assessing and strengthening natural resource governance, at multiple levels and in diverse contexts. The overarching goal of NRGF is to set standards and guidance for decision-makers at all levels to make better and more just decisions on the use of natural resources and the distribution of nature's benefits, following good governance principles, such that improved governance will enhance the contributions of ecosystems and biodiversity to equity and sustainability. The NRGF builds on and complements the governance-related work of multiple IUCN Centers, Offices, Commissions and Members. The overall NRGF initiative is co-convened by the IUCN Center for Society and Governance (former Global Programme on Governance and Rights-GPGR) and the IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP). Custody of the NRGF is supported by a Working Group. |
| **Work processes & management** | The NRGF was conceived in 2013, and has developed through three phases: research, consultation, and conceptual development; consolidation; and testing of diverse ways it can be used.<br>Pilot uses include:<br>a) Assessing strengths and challenges in governance of a context or system and identifying pathways for change;<br>b) Analysing ways to align / enhance environmental governance-related approaches and tools;<br>c) Analysing ways that conservation activities / projects can enhance how governance principles are addressed.<br><br>The NRGF includes guidance tools and processes, and is built on a central framework with principles, criteria, and cross-cutting values to inform natural resource governance.<br>  <br> |

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| **Legal Status** | The NRGF is a knowledge product published and produced by IUCN, under correspondent copyright: © 2021 IUCN. ISBN: 978-2-8317-2161-3. DOI: https://doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.CH.2021.16.en The framework is an open source resource available online. Operational agreements include collaboration with IUCN Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) and the IUCN CEESP NRGF Working Group. |
| **Use Conditions** | The NRGF provides an organizing framework that diverse stakeholders and rights-holders can use to assess and understand natural resource governance issues relevant to their contexts, and identify — through participatory processes — the actions needed to improve governance for equitable, rights-based, and effective conservation. The framework has a wide range of potential users and audiences, including conservation practitioners, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, policy makers, civil society organisations and others with an interest in better understanding and improving natural resource governance. The framework and other complementary elements and resources (such as resources for assessments of governance systems and contexts; assessments of natural resource projects, programmes and actors; and assessments of and alignment with other natural resource governance-related tools) will be updated and developed on an ongoing basis. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | Maintaining current status does not imply additional costs. |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | As outlined in the Conservation as a pathway for good governance IUCN project, potential improvements include to specify NRGF interactions and complementarity with IUCN Environment and Social Management Standards (ESMS), and assessing and validating the desirability of upscaling the NRGF towards a global standard on governance, building upon the solid foundation of the framework, in collaborating with CEESP, the Working Group and the diverse range of individuals and organisations who contributed to its development over time. |
| **Costs of the improvements** | Estimated amount of CHF 350k-450K in a 2-3 years period, including coverage of staff time, consultancy services and consultation process. |

### *xii. Urban Nature Index*

| **Elements** | **Urban Nature Index (UNI)** |
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| **Governance** | In Hawaii, 2016, IUCN Members voted to establish an 'Urban Alliance' (WCC 2016 Res 029) charged with "incorporating urban dimensions of nature conservation into the work of the IUCN."<br>In September 2018, IUCN launched the Urban Alliance – a broad coalition of IUCN constituents working towards "a world in which nature thrives in cities, delivering solutions to multiple environmental, social and economic challenges." With the financial support of Arcadia – a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin, the IUCN Urban Alliance committed to developing an IUCN Urban Nature Index (UNI) to measure the ecological performance of cities. The UNI was intended to bring together existing tools, data sources and indicators to create a single coherent yet flexible tool of value for local governments.<br>In Marseille, 2021, IUCN Members adopted two relevant motions: one to strengthen the Urban Alliance (WCC 2020 Res 067); and another to create a new membership category for subnational governments (WCC 2020 Dec 138). IUCN Members also adopted the Marseille Manifesto comprising a bold commitment "to expand universal access to high-quality green spaces and to enhance urban biodiversity in 100 cities, representing around 100 million citizens by 2025, and assess their impact according to the IUCN Urban Nature Index." To date, over 30 cities have expressed their intention to implement the IUCN Urban Nature Index. Meanwhile, the Nature 2030 IUCN Programme comprises a prominent 'Impact Target' to ensure "Nature and people thrive in cities while delivering solutions to urban challenges and a sustainable ecological footprint." |

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| | As a response, in 2022, IUCN DG selected the Strategic Investment "Realizing the Urban Opportunity", where the strategy for the Urban Nature Index future development must be rolled-out, including services the Union may offer for cities, for instance setting science-based targets for urban ecological performance building other standard and key knowledge products of IUCN (Red lists, STAR), validation and/or verification of ecological performance (results), standard/quality assurance. |
| **Work processes & management** | UNI built through 2 consultation phases, involved CSO, municipalities and IUCN Commissions and builds on other well-established tools.<br>UNI guidance document currently going through peer-reviewing while the online platform of UNI shall become available in three languages by the end of January 2023.<br>Urban team to finalize a toolbox that would improves cities' understanding of IUCN knowledge products. For instance, NbS Standard, ROAM could help assess opportunities for urban NbS, design and verify them. Panorama can help cities learn from each other, including through on-site workshops. |
| **Legal Status** | IUCN owns Intellectual Property of the Urban Nature Index and is therefore responsible for publishing and updating the Urban Nature Index guidance documents. The maintenance of the UNI web-platform is also under full responsibility of IUCN, UNEP-WCMC will host the platform until February 2023 (end of current consultancy for the web-platform development). |
| **Use Conditions** | UNI will be the first biodiversity monitoring tool that offers a platform for cities to communicate on their results. UNI indicators are strongly aligned with IUCN threat classification scheme and would therefore allow reporting on threat calibration at urban level for cities to report their contributions to address biodiversity loss in accordance with IUCN approach to nature-positive development (red list of species and ecosystems).<br><br>While the use of the UNI platform would be granted for free to cities, training and validation of results (by assessing adherence to UNI instructions) are services expected to be provided by IUCN secretariat and strategic partners, including members and commission experts.<br><br>Based on UNI early application in IUCN-ORMACC, it appears cities are looking for IUCN expertise to assess the following indicators: Animal species, plant species, connectivity, and invasive species. Commissions experts (especially SCC) would be ideally positioned to support cities for these indicators. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | Hosting, support and maintenance costs of UNI web-platform is estimated at CHF 9.8k /year. On-going support for addressing questions and reviewing results submitted by cities through UNI requires a minimum of 0.5 FTE of 1 programme officer (P1) (app. CHF 29k) with oversight from the programme coordinator (0.1 FTE – CHF 8357). Considering other indirect costs, maintaining current status would require a total of CHF 54k. |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | • First proceed with a market analysis by defining the need, scope and requirements for developing a standard for ecological performance, considering UNI as a foundational basis: currently, authorities can choose different levels of assessment (partial to full) based on the city's capacity. A market analysis and an internal stakeholder consultation could help define the extent of the assessment required for a certification scheme.<br>• After starting engagement with cities in 2022 in both Europe (Berlin, Paris, Marseille) and Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean's (City of Guatemala, Mexico, Comitán de Domínguez, Curridabat, Panamá) through IUCN Regional offices, IUCN will consolidate its work in those regions as well as expanding in other strategic zones, such as North America and Asia during 2023. In 2024, other regions (South America, Africa, Eastern Europe) shall be approached to provide global coverage by 2025.<br>• Another opportunity for improvement is to develop a target-setting module in line with IUCN approach to nature positive development, where targets for urban ecological performance would be set according to main threats affecting ecosystems and species assessed through the Red List.<br>• Positioning of Urban Nature Index as a flexible tool, which scope may be adapted to cities capacities, as a complementary monitoring tool for platforms that support cities in registering their actions for nature (i.e. City With Nature Action Platform, Nature Contribution Platform, Restoration Barometer).<br>• Establishing a standard: based on the results of the market analysis, development of IUCN approach to nature positive metrics, and other complementary initiatives (NbS Standard) and work with cities, a decision will be made on whether creating a standard for verifying progress toward urban nature-positive development, considering the Urban Nature Index a foundational effort, is desirable. |

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| **Costs of the improvements** | Considering the development of consultation, a market analysis and potential development of a standard for verifying cities ecological performance, a target-setting module for urban nature-positive development and/or additional guidelines for applying NbS in cities, would require an additional CHF 172k per year (2023-2025) considering staff time, external services and indirect costs. |

### *xiii. Restoration Barometer*

| **Elements** | **Restoration Barometer** |
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| **Governance** | The Restoration Barometer is a project funded by the government of Germany's International Climate Initiative. It is managed by the Forest and Grassland Team/Centre for Conservation Action with the active participation of the donor BMUV. Many other IUCN teams provide strategic inputs, including the Ocean team, Species Conservation Action team, Red List of Species Team, Urban Alliance and others in the IUCN network. The donor (BMUV) is a very active partner who provides inputs on and endorses the overall strategic direction and any changes in it.<br>The Barometer project was first funded in 2016 as the Bonn Challenge Barometer - a progress-tracking framework and tool to support pledgers in meeting the critical need to assess and report on the implementation of national and subnational forest landscape restoration (FLR) pledges made under the Bonn Challenge. The Barometer protocol was launched in 2017 and further refined with in-depth application in five countries – Brazil, El Salvador, Mexico, Rwanda and the United States – in 2018. Additionally, in-depth application was begun in Sri Lanka. A rapid application of the protocol was undertaken in 13 additional countries to provide a broad snapshot of progress, which was presented in a report in 2019.<br>By this point it was very clear that there was broad demand from countries for the Barometer. More than 50 countries have endorsed the Barometer via regional declarations (Astana, COMIFAC, Dakar, Lilongwe). Most recently the Government of Canada endorsed the Barometer upon announcing a 19 million ha pledge to the Bonn Challenge during COP15 and upon the publication of the Restoration Barometer 2022 report, including data from 18 countries.<br>In 2021, in recognition of the adoption of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and reflecting the interests of both IUCN and the donor, the applicability of the Barometer was expanded to all terrestrial ecosystem types including coastal and inland waters. In light of these changes, the tool was rebranded as the Restoration Barometer. This expansion was underpinned by the development of IUCN's Restoration Intervention Typology for Terrestrial Ecosystems, building on IUCN's Typology of Ecosystems and involving a wide range of IUCN teams, commission members and other experts.<br>In addition, a new user pathway was opened under the Barometer for companies as a pilot involving 30 companies working with the World Economic Forum.<br>Decisions about the strategic direction of the Barometer are recommended by IUCN and taken in partnership with the donor BMUV. |
| **Work processes & management** | The process for the application of the Barometer has changed from 2016-2019 to current times, for a number of reasons including that limitations caused by COVID revealed and encouraged other effective modalities. In the beginning applications in countries were enabled and supported through consultative processes to gather and validate data that could take a year. This was not sustainable and the donor was not interested in funding such a burdensome process. At the same time, country demand for the Barometer sky-rocketed, causing real capacity challenges.<br>For all of these reasons the Barometer process changed to the following workflow:<br>• Gathering of data for the authority responsible for implementation of a restoration pledge<br>• In-country validation of that data<br>• Review of the data by IUCN regional colleagues<br>• Posting of the data on the RB website<br>• Presentation of highlights and trends in a report (most recently December 2022).<br>The RB can monitor progress on ANY hectare-based restoration pledge, including under the Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and now Target 2 of the GBF. |

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| | There are 8 indicators, which were developed in consultation with the first pilot group of countries as well as IUCN experts, and since refined, in partnership with other teams in IUCN, including for example the Species and Economics teams.<br>The private sector pilot in 2022 has secured data from 30 companies which will be presented jointly with the World Economic Forum in January 2023.<br>The data lives on the website and can be updated any time by participating countries (and companies), providing a real time picture of real progress.<br>A project manager is assisted by a team built for purpose of about 30 global, regional and country colleagues under the overall guidance of the Head of the Forest and Grassland team. |
| **Legal Status** | As indicated above, the legal status of the Restoration Barometer is an IUCN project funded by BMUV. The project was to end in January 2023 but a no-cost extension was secured to June 2023, at BMUV's suggestion, to enable adequate time to consider funding for the next phase of activity.<br>Barometer reports are published in the name of IUCN "with the support of BMUV".<br>IUCN has IP rights over the data. Participating governments sign data consent forms. By choosing to report on restoration progress by submitting data to the Barometer, governments and companies are volunteering to make information public about the nature of the progress they are making on restoration. When the private sector pathway moves from the development of company profiles to the submission of data on the dashboard/website, companies will be signing data consent forms. |
| **Use Conditions** | By Q2 2023, the Restoration Barometer website will show data from more than 35 countries. It is expected to continue to the end of the Decade on Ecosystem Restoration in 2030, reporting on progress in at least 1 billon hectares of ecosystem restoration.<br>The main users are the governmental authorities responsible for the implementation of restoration commitments, be they in country NDCs, Bonn Challenge pledges, Decade on ER flagships, or other restoration pledges. Thirty companies who have made 1t.org restoration pledges are also now applying the Barometer. Governments and companies provide data. They sign data consent forms. IUCN owns the IP. IUCN packages the data and makes it available on an open-source basis. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | The costs of maintaining the Restoration Barometer pertain – at the most basic level – to the maintenance of the website, which is covered by project funding. On top of this, the donor supports country applications – more specifically IUCN staff time to develop capacities in countries, provision of technical advice (e.g. the "Guides" to the RB), collaboration with other platforms (e.g. RESTOR with its project level data), and promotion of the Barometer and the results of its applications.<br>Basic maintaining (without additional full applications or improvements but some rapid applications) costs around CHF 98k/yr, covered by the project. |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | Next steps for the Barometer – rather than improvements per se – include:<br>• Further country and company applications.<br>• Further functional linkages with the Contributions for Nature platform (A member of the Quality Assurance Management team has been supported specifically to do this.)<br>• Addition of the private sector pathway to the website.<br>• Further development of linkages to reporting under the GBF target 2 on restoration. |
| **Costs of the improvements** | A functioning secretariat and infrastructure to support implementation (support to users, development of guidance as needed, development of periodic reports) will require an investment of about CHF 750k in 2023 and an estimated investment of CHF 2.8m to 2030. |

### *xiv. EcoLex*

| Elements | ECOLEX |
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| **Governance** | ECOLEX is an information service on environmental law, operated jointly by FAO, IUCN and UNEP.<br>Its purpose is to build capacity worldwide by providing the most comprehensive possible global source of information on environmental law.<br>This unique resource, which combines the environmental law information holdings of FAO, IUCN and UNEP, seeks to put this information at the disposal of users world-wide, in an easily accessible service, employing modern technology.<br>IUCN Members passed several resolutions related to the IUCN Environmental Law Centre library and ECOLEX e.g. Jeju: WCC-2012-Res-130-EN ECOLEX – the Gateway to Environmental Law -- inviting the IUCN Director-General to continue and increase IUCN support and contributions to ECOLEX.<br>Currently, the ELC Library's collection contains more than 90,000 items; more than 40,000 of those are in ECOLEX. |
| **Work processes & management** | As part of the recently completed thematic programme restructure, the HQ Library, ELC Library and ECOLEX became part of the Knowledge Management and Library team in the Centre for Science and Data. As part of this team, the IUCN Libraries and Library services will work together to curate and makes easily accessible all relevant conservation knowledge produced by the IUCN Secretariat, Membership, and Commissions – and beyond – to IUCN staff, members and the broader conservation community; manage all physical literature collections, preserve and disseminate IUCN archives and publications, and create and maintain metadata and knowledge-based taxonomies. |
| **Legal Status** | To join forces and combine the strength of the three organizations therefore made eminent sense, and while cooperation in this field between UNEP and IUCN was firstly mandated by the Governing Council of UNEP in 1995, it is in 2001 that a **Partnership Agreement** was signed by FAO, IUCN and UNEP for the integration of their data, and of FAOLEX into ECOLEX.<br>The resulting combined information resource is the largest available on environmental law globally, with over hundred thousand references to relevant documents already being available on the web.<br>ECOLEX contains copyrighted material and/or other proprietary information and thus, are protected by intellectual property agreements and copyright laws and regulations worldwide. This User Agreement sets forth the terms and conditions of a license for users to use ECOLEX. |
| **Use Conditions** | The ECOLEX database includes information on treaties, international soft-law and other non-binding policy and technical guidance documents, national legislation, judicial decisions, and law and policy literature. Users have direct access to the abstracts and indexing information about each document, as well as to the full text of most of the information provided.<br>What is now available on the web (www.ecolex.org) owes much to a project funded by the Dutch government, which ascertained the feasibility of a joint service, and set the stage for the implementation of the resulting partnership between FAO, IUCN and UNEP. This joint service is now being further refined and developed by the three partners to best meet the needs of the user.<br>The users will be granted a license to use, download and print the materials contained in ECOLEX solely for non-commercial purposes and in accordance with this User Agreement, provided that users do not alter or remove any copyright symbol or other identification concerning authorship of any of the materials contained on or otherwise made available in ECOLEX. FAO, IUCN and UNEP and their licensors are the sole and exclusive owners of all right, title and interest, including trademarks, copyrights, trade names, trade secrets and other intellectual property rights, contained in the data and software of ECOLEX. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | The persistent reduction of core funding support over the years have also jeopardised IUCN's capacity to fulfil its role as an ECOLEX partner.<br>• Staff, Documentation Officer, Library (P1) -- 100% = CHF 90k/year (calculated started from mid-level as indicated by HR Bonn, based on figures for 2023)<br>• ECOLEX IT support (external), incl. necessary framework upgrades, hosting and basic system maintenance (external) = CHF 15k/year |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | ECOLEX must be maintained, refined and further developed with a view to serving the end users as efficiently as possible.<br>In this context, the long-term objectives of ECOLEX in building capacity worldwide are as follows: |

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| | • Maintain, refine and develop the environmental law databank and its related information and resources;<br>• Present these data in a user-friendly format, facilitating searches for references and full texts through the development of multilingual retrieval possibilities (English, French, Spanish);<br>• Provide global access to the database in an efficient and cost-effective manner;<br>• Address the special needs and access problems of users;<br>• Develop a distributed network of associates, at regional and national level;<br>• Develop special ECOLEX products and services aimed at increasing knowledge and building capacity in environmental law at the local, national and regional levels; and<br>• Expand the consortium of partners of ECOLEX. |

### *xv. IUCN Environmental Impact Classification of Alien Taxa (IUCN Global Invasive Species Database)*

| Elements | Environmental Impact Classification of Alien Taxa | Global Invasive Species Database |
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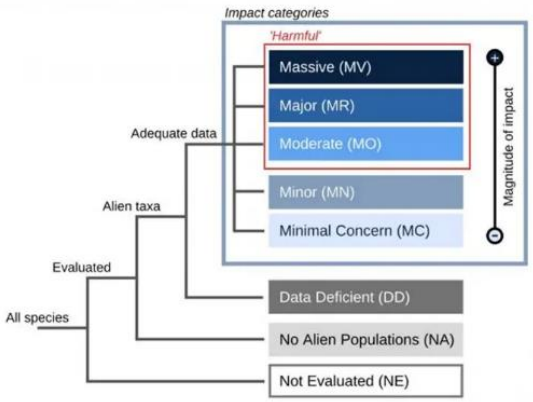
| **Governance** | The Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT) is the IUCN global standard for measuring the severity of environmental impacts caused by animals, fungi and plants living outside their natural range. This tool alerts scientists, conservation practitioners and policy makers to the potential consequences of alien species, guides the development of prevention and mitigation measures, and assists in the prioritisation of management actions. | The Global Invasive Species Database is a free, online searchable source of information about alien and invasive species that negatively impact biodiversity. The GISD aims to increase public awareness about invasive species and to facilitate effective prevention and management activities by disseminating specialist's knowledge and experience to a broad global audience. It focuses on invasive alien species that threaten native biodiversity and natural areas and covers all taxonomic groups from micro-organisms to animals and plants. |
| **Work processes & management** | EICAT can be applied at the national, regional and global levels. All global EICAT assessments will be published on IUCN's **Global Invasive Species Database**.<br>  | GISD is managed by the Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) of the IUCN Species Survival Commission. It was developed between 1998 and 2000 as part of the global initiative on invasive species led by the erstwhile Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP).<br>The GISD database structure including the GISD interface and presentation of information underwent an update in 2004/2005 supported by the NBII of the USGS. In 2013/2014 the GISD underwent a major redesign with support from the Abu Dhabi Environment Agency, the Italian Ministry of Environment and ISPRA - the Institute for Environmental Protection and Research, Italy. This redesign was aimed at better presentation of data and information, enhanced search and download function, inclusion of information components focused on key areas such as Threatened species, Islands and Protected Areas. Crucially the redesign facilitated the inclusion of key identifiers such as IUCN Red List species codes, WDPA (World Database of Protected Areas) codes, ISO country codes etc. that allow seamless integration with allied databases such as the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and the WDPA, as well as other invasive species resources. The |

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| | | most recent restructure took place in 2021 and 2022 to incorporate the results of Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT) assessments. |
| **Legal Status** | Resolution WCC-2016-Res-018-EN Toward an IUCN standard classification of the impact of invasive alien species was adopted at the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress. This Resolution requested the SSC to develop EICAT, and to consult with all relevant stakeholders within the Union to inform this process. It also requested that the SSC integrate the outcomes into the IUCN Global Invasive Species Database and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, thus providing an essential background for the achievement of Aichi Target 9 (and subsequent related targets) and SDG Target 15.8. Additionally, the Resolution requested IUCN Council to adopt the framework for the IUCN Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa, once the consultation process referred to above had been completed, as the Union's standard for classifying alien species in terms of their environmental impact. | |
| **Use Conditions** | Invasive alien species are one of the main drivers of biodiversity loss and species extinctions, and one of the most serious and rapidly growing threats to food, health and livelihood security. EICAT is a key tool for prioritising alien species that could lead to the most harmful environmental impacts, helping to make the best use of resources to prevent or limit their negative consequences.<br>The EICAT Categories and Criteria provide a simple, objective and transparent method to classify alien species into one of eight categories, according to the severity of their environmental impact. This is determined by the extent to which native species are affected and whether the impact is reversible. | The GISD focuses on invasive alien species that threaten native biodiversity and natural areas. It covers all taxonomic groups from micro-organisms to animals and plants in all ecosystems. GISD have targeted some of the worst invasive species by consulting with international experts and analysing available data to identify species with serious impacts on biological diversity and/or human activities, and their illustration of important issues surrounding biological invasion.<br>The life blood of the GISD flows from the generous contribution of invasive species information by ISSG members and invasive species specialists and programmes all over the world. They share their knowledge for the good of us all and their names appear as reviewers, principal sources and contact people on each species profile. |
| **Costs of maintaining the current status** | | The development of the GISD, and population and enhancement of content over the past decade and more has been **supported through key partnerships** with the erstwhile National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) of the United States Geological Survey (USGS), University of Auckland- New Zealand, Manaaki Whenua-Landcare Research- New Zealand, and Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF). **Additional financial support** has been provided by The Global Environment Facility (GEF), La Fondation d'Entreprise TOTAL, US Fish and Wildlife, The Pacific Development and Conservation Trust, New Zealand Aid, the Terrestrial and Freshwater Biodiversity Information System (TFBIS) Programme (NZ), Taiwan Biodiversity Grant, Biodiversity Research Centre Academia Sinica (BRCAS), IUCN French Committee, United Kingdom Overseas Territories Programme (UKOT).<br>The GISD until 2014 was hosted by the University of Auckland, New Zealand; with the launch of the revised GISD. |

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| **Needed or potential improvements** | | • Links to/data integration with the Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species (GRIIS) to ensure that the distribution information mobilized for GRIIS is reflected in the species accounts of the GISD.<br>• Investment is needed to update and increase the number of invasive alien species accounts on GISD, which can be prioritised through the EICAT assessment process.<br>• Links to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species also need to be updated/improved. |

### *xvi. Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species*

| Elements | Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species |
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| **Governance** | The Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species (GRIIS) was developed as a concept and prototype by the IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) in 2006 as part of a project undertaken for the Defenders of Wildlife on the Regulation of Live Animal Imports into the United States.<br>The concept was revisited and expanded by the ISSG to address Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 and support its achievement. GRIIS hosted by the ISSG compiles annotated and verified country-wise inventories of introduced and invasive species. Development and population of the GRIIS was undertaken by the ISSG within the framework of activities of the Information Synthesis and Assessment Working Group of the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership (GIASIP). The GRIIS was previously hosted by ISPRA (Italy) and is now hosted/run by La Trobe University in Australia. |
| **Work processes & management** | A summary of the process<br>• The compiler team will conduct a comprehensive lit review of authoritative and credible source information and develop a draft annotated country inventory of introduced and invasive species.<br>• Annotations include species name (accepted name and synonym if used by the source), higher taxonomy, environmental/system in which the species occurs, biological status (provenance and invasiveness-evidence of impact),<br>• Country editor/editors are identified and consulted with for advice including knowledge of any key resources<br>• The draft inventory is posted on the GRIIS website and also as a checklist on Global Biodiversity Facility (GBIF).<br>• Draft inventories are submitted to country editors for a review for both accuracy of information and for any significant gaps. Revisions are implemented based on feedback.<br>• Every species record includes a check (indication) if the status has been verified as feedback is received. In cases where 'evidence of impact' information is gathered from peer-reviewed literature or reports; the species status will be considered 'verified'<br>• Names of the editors as well as the complete reference list of sources consulted is recorded. Updates will be implemented six-monthly including change in status of species or any new records |
| **Legal Status** | The development of the Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species (GRIIS) is an initiative supported by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and is implemented within the framework of the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership. The IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group is the project lead. The resource will be a support to Parties to make progress to Achieve Aichi Target 9 -in the development of their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans, their National Invasive Alien Species Strategy and Action Plan, target setting and monitoring. |

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| **Use Conditions** | • The data are supplied only for conservation purposes, scientific analysis or research.<br>• The recipient of the data will provide a full and appropriate acknowledgement and citation in any materials or publications derived in part or in whole from the data; relevant citation details will be provided with each dataset. For any publications making substantial use of the data, IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) welcome the opportunity for co-authorship, collaboration and to comment prior to publication.<br>• Reproduction of the dataset or products derived from it, either whole or in part, for commercial purposes is prohibited without prior written permission from a representative of IUCN ISSG. |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | Investment is needed to improve the search functionality and data access on the GRIIS site<br>Investment is also needed for the continued updating of the country checklists, and other data associated with the records (e.g. pathways, impacts). |

### *xvii. Nature based Solutions Standard*

| **Elements** | **NbS Standard** |
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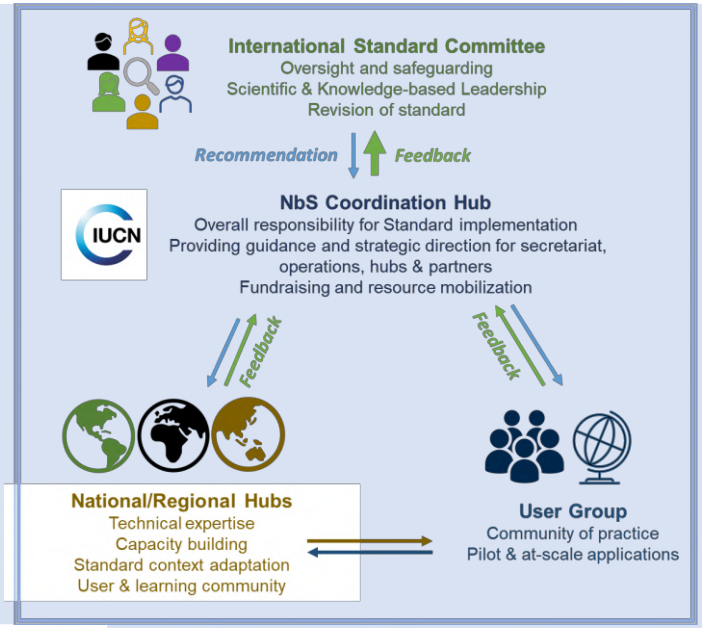
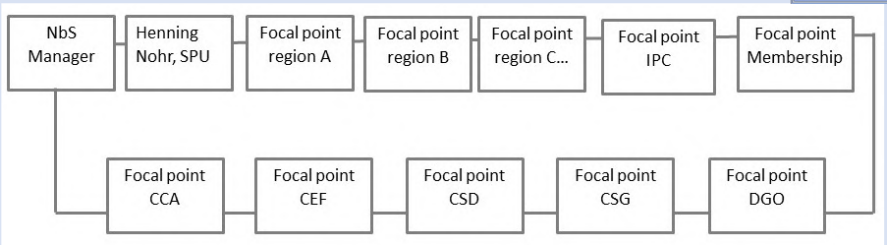
| **Governance** | IUCN is the originator of the NbS concept. Building on the past 2-3 decades of experiences with ecosystem management approaches, IUCN launched the formal definition of NbS1 - "actions to protect, sustainably manage and restore natural or modified ecosystems, that address societal challenges (e.g. climate change, food and water security or natural disasters) effectively and adaptively, simultaneously providing human well-being and biodiversity benefits" in 2016. Following this, **IUCN authored and launched a global standard for NbS in 2020**. The standard launch triggered several major outcomes for financing, policy, knowledge and capacity, as well as implementation. IUCN Headquarters, regional, sub-regional, outposted and country offices are currently, actively supporting policy and implementation of NbS globally, regionally and across about 108 countries. Daily demands for NbS technical support, policy advice, best practices, information on financing NbS and capacity building are received from Governmental agencies, the private sector, civil society, donors and research or higher education entities.<br>The IUCN Global Standard on Nature-based Solutions is the foundation of IUCN's work on providing a framework for design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of NbS interventions. The development of the Standard conforms to the ISEAL Codes of Good Practice: a global reference for standard-setting and impact evaluation for social and environmental sustainability standard systems. The Standard was approved by the IUCN Council in 2020.<br>The center of the governance system of the NbS Standard is IUCN's International Standard Committee (ISC), which aims to guide the robust application of the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions, oversee proactive learning based on practitioner experience, and lead periodic revisions in line with ISEAL best practice guidance. The Standard will undergo reviews every four years, with changes endorsed by the IUCN Council. In fulfilment of its mandate, the ISC will liaise with the three other affiliate bodies of the Standard's governance structure:<br>• Science and Knowledge Committee that is responsible for the scientific oversight of the Standard, providing the scientific and knowledge-based evidence behind their revisions, and setting and exploring a research agenda;<br>• User Group that drives the learning and feedback for evolving the Standard through lessons learnt from applications;<br>• National/Regional Hubs that support the adaptation of associated guidance for the Standard to the local context. |
| **Work processes & management** | The IUCN Global Standard is developed in joint collaboration with the IUCN Secretariat and IUCN Commissions, in specific the Commission of the Ecosystem Management (CEM). IUCN Headquarters, regional, sub-regional, outposted and country offices are currently, actively supporting policy and implementation of NbS globally, regionally and across about 108 countries. Daily demands for NbS technical support, policy advice, best practices, information on financing NbS and capacity building are received from Governmental agencies, the private sector, civil society, donors and research or higher education entities. The IUCN CEM Nature-based Solutions Thematic Group is also working on developing and improving the knowledge base on NbS. It is helping to better integrate NbS in |

planning and decision-making, and developing practical tools to be implemented on the ground, to address global societal challenges. An NbS Management Hub/Group will also be established in 2023 to enable dedicated capacities to rollout NbS knowledge, products and services.
The IUCN Global Standard on NbS is available in eight languages and is also accompanied by a guidance document and an assessment tool, which has been developed to enable Standard users to assess the adherence of their intervention against the IUCN Global Standard for NbS. The assessment tool is the centre-piece in the different services IUCN provides to the different sectors who seek assistance in regards to NbS.

**NbS Management Group** below:




The International Standard Committee (ISC) provides the scientific, local and Indigenous knowledge-based leadership of the Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions (NbS Standard).

**The International Standard Committee** is the guardian of the NbS Standard, its integrity and its evolution. The purpose of the ISC is to (1) **ensure the general oversight and safeguarding** of the NbS Standard and its criteria and indicators based on the ISEAL code for Standard Development, (2) periodically lead consultations to review the Standard, in the light of current scientific and technical best practice, and make recommendations for any necessary modifications to the IUCN Director General, (3) advise on the **best** (scientific, traditional, local and Indigenous Peoples-based) **knowledge** available, as well as most **recent policy developments**, to be considered in the Standard's evolution and ongoing improvement.

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| | The ISC regularly liaise with the NbS Coordination Unit, who will ensure clear lines of communication with the IUCN NbS secretariat and operations teams, **National & Regional Hubs** and with the **User Group** to. |
| **Legal Status** | The IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions lists the Criteria and Indicators, as adopted by the 98th Meeting of the IUCN Council in 2020. The centre of the governance system of the NbS Standard is IUCN's International Standard Committee (ISC), which aims to guide the robust application of the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions, review the Standard every four years, oversee proactive learning based on practitioner experience, and lead periodic revisions in line with ISEAL best practice guidance. The Standard and its accompanying guidance document are available for public access through IUCN library. However, the assessment tool is only available through registration at the IUCN User Group.<br>IUCN is also in partnership with several certification schemes for the certification on NbS interventions in accordance with the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions. Under this NbS certification system entities from the public and private sectors interested in obtaining certification of their NbS intervention, will be able to apply for certification through one of several existing sustainability certification schemes recognised by IUCN. IUCN is currently working on launching a pilot of the certification scheme on NbS in 2023, in partnership with the Gold Standard. |
| **Use Conditions** | The rapidly growing IUCN Global Standard for NbS User Group shows highest levels of demand coming from NGOs and research institutes, as well as business, for access to the self-assessment tool of the Standard. The analysis from over 1600 registrations of the User Group shows that the main societal challenges in demand are "Environmental degradation and biodiversity loss" and "Climate change", followed by "Economic and social development", "Disaster risk reduction" and "Water Security".<br>IUCN tracks the interest in NbS through the data from the IUCN User Group. Data from over 1800 registrations from 148 countries shows that the main societal challenges in demand are "Environmental degradation and biodiversity loss" and "Climate change", followed by "Economic and social development", "Disaster risk reduction" and "Water Security". The demand is mostly from non-governmental organizations (23%), followed closely by research institutes (22%) and the private sector (20%). |
| **Needed or potential improvements** | To leverage the range of roles as business opportunities, IUCN will focus on the following priorities –<br>• Develop and implement communication and marketing strategies to promote IUCN products on NbS – definition, standard, self-assessment tool. Public sector market is still expanding, in some instances, quite rapidly and IUCN's first objective must be to remain a central player in this field, including through the provision of relevant tools, knowledge, expertise and overall leadership to ensure investments are well informed and that NbS potential is fully leveraged;<br>• Develop tools, analysis and service agreements (e.g ongoing with Canada, France and the United Kingdom) to ensure public sector expenditure aligns with IUCN standards, thereby creating conditions and benchmark for private sector to follow. A clear pathway needs to be established for IUCN to support public and private sector markets for NbS, while maintaining and protecting its competitive advantage on NbS.<br>• Operationalise the certification scheme, which will further enforce IUCN's definition and standard.<br>• Expand IUCN's Professional trainings on NbS to cover different sectors and themes. There is a lack of knowledge management strategy to manage existing knowledge and identify existing gaps in expertise and staff knowledge.<br>• Internal alignment and adherence to the IUCN NbS value proposition across the organisation (consistent use of tools, standard, NbS platform, etc). A mapping of technical expertise, skills and knowledge within the Secretariat will be carried out to establish both, availability and gaps. Staff may need training and upskilling in some areas of NbS service provision. |
| **Costs of the improvements** | An investment allocation 2023 is planned for NbS, the funding priorities for the investment include: Business Developer, Marketing & Branding Officer, IUCN's landmark NbS event conceptualisation and execution, Pilot testing IUCN NbS Regional hubs, Finalised NbS prospectus, NbS series of dialogues and events, Legal expertise to finalise IUCN's IP ownership, with a total investment around CHF 600k.<br><br>IUCN NbS group has received an investment of 750K from the DGO to support the above improvements in 2023. Cost estimates are currently available for the various improvements needed across the Secretariat and the roles IUCN can potentially play within the NbS arena, which needs prioritisation within the available budget. A summary of these actions and roles are: |

| | |
|---|---|
| | • Knowledge provider: Providing technical assistance for the design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of NbS interventions<br>• Executor: Prioritizing, monitoring, and managing all of the applicable project constraints: schedule, cost, scope, quality, and resources<br>• Capacity builder: Developing and strengthening the skills, instincts, abilities, processes and resources that organizations and communities need to adapt, design and implement NbS.<br>• Prospector: Working with customers governmental agencies/NGOs/Private sector to identify potential market search<br>• Implementor: An intermediary between an investor and other market participants. This includes intermediating among investors, legal authorities, and implementors/contractors.<br>• Investor: Resource mobilization and committing capital with the expectation to eventually receive financial returns<br>• Public Affairs: Policy alignments and regulatory frameworks – Mobilising and providing access to scaled-up NbS finance<br>• Certification: Ascertains whether the intervention meets the criteria of IUCN Global Standard on NbS (In partnership with existing certifying schemes) |

# Annex 6: IBAT Strategy 2022-2027 Executive Summary

## Vision

Authoritative biodiversity data results in organisations taking positive action for nature

## Mission

IBAT provides data, tools and guidance that help organisations act on biodiversity related risks and opportunities, and generates sustainable funding to support biodiversity datasets

## Purpose

### What does IBAT do?

IBAT changes business' behaviour by:

- Shaping decisions about where businesses operate
- Shaping decisions about how businesses operate in sensitive locations
- Guiding businesses in identifying opportunities for positive action on biodiversity
- Providing a sector specific and actionable understanding of exposure to biodiversity related risk
- Increasing the efficiency of business processes (saving time and money)

IBAT generates revenue to invest in biodiversity data, contributing to the long-term sustainability and update of global public good biodiversity datasets.

### How does IBAT do it?

- Provides fast, easy and integrated access to globally authoritative, critical biodiversity information
- Provides actionable and operational insights that are relevant to a user's business case, transforming data into knowledge
- Delivers an intuitive and evolving tool that is equally useable by technical and non-technical users alike
- Delivers first class user support via a dedicated IBAT secretariat
- Powers other decision support tools, platforms and indices through robust and scalable APIs and data delivery services
- Leverages the knowledge and expertise of the IBAT Alliance partners
- Relies on the IBAT Alliance partners to leverage their networks, relationships and reputation to advocate for IBAT
- Helps alignment between business action and civil society and governments, by providing a common data foundation that is accessible to all

IBAT prioritises businesses that are having the largest negative impacts on biodiversity and are looking to take positive action to address those impacts. This includes businesses that could influence the actions of many actors.

IBAT focuses on the following sectors:

- Minerals and metals extraction, oil and gas, infrastructure, renewable energy (with large direct physical impacts on biodiversity)

- Finance (including ESG data providers and insurance)
- Food and soft commodity production (including supply chains)

### What problem are we solving?

Biodiversity continues to be lost through economic activity that is unable to appreciate or measure the impact businesses are having on biodiversity. IBAT provides businesses with actionable information that allows them to identify nature related risk and reduce that loss.

## Current state of IBAT

The IBAT platform currently has two main components; i). the delivery of raw biodiversity data provided through direct download or APIs, and ii). bespoke risk screening reports that provide aggregated biodiversity information.

IBAT provides access to spatial information in an accessible way and is useable by the full spectrum of technical and non-technical users. At the end of 2021, IBAT was used by 135 organisations and now has 10,000 registered users on the platform. The total revenue for 2021 was $1.83 million, an ~36% increase from 2020. However, IBAT could improve its value-added services and automation throughout the platform, while tracking its user-base for better insights and service.

IBAT in its current form is a good product fit for businesses with large direct physical impacts on biodiversity and has reasonable market penetration in this area. IBAT currently has users in some financial sectors (Development Finance institutions, Export Credit Agencies), and limited presence in food and soft commodity production. While there are several promising partnerships incorporating IBAT into third party tools targeting expanded reach in the finance sector, these are currently in the development stage. Further development will be needed to expand into the finance and food and soft commodity sectors.

*IBAT therefore needs to move beyond the provision of biodiversity data into providing actionable and valuable knowledge and insights to remain relevant in the current marketplace and expand its impact. This will require increased investment in IBAT.*

## Strategic Goals

### *5 Year Goals (2027)*

#### **1.** Impact

IBAT's knowledge products are being used by a minimum of 20 out of the top 100 companies in identified key focal sectors. IBAT is being used as a key platform to track commitments to disclosure, reporting and progress towards nature positive targets.

#### **2.** Investment

IBAT has a sustainable long-term investment model, weighted towards investment in data (~10% innovation, <30% operational, >50% investment in data). IBAT is investing a minimum of $1 million in each dataset in 2027. A core part of IBAT's revenue is generated through strategic partnerships (IBAT inside approach).

## 3. Growth

IBAT has a stable growth rate with the appropriate support mechanisms in place (30% growth rate in 2022-2024, 20% growth rate 2025-2027).

The first phase of the implementation of the IBAT strategy will invest to remove barriers to growth (such as security, lack of automation, etc.) and develop key knowledge products and insights. There are 5 milestones for this phase from 2022-2024, as explained below.

### *3 Year Milestones (for 2022-2024)*

#### 1. Increased investment in IBAT infrastructure, operations, and innovation (2022-2023)

Investment in the IBAT platform to create a robust, automated, scalable technical platform. Investment in sector specific knowledge products that provide actionable and operational insights.

KPIs:

- Increased technical support capacity (one additional IBAT technical officer, 2 additional contract developers) by mid-2022 that allows IBAT to develop new data insights and added value, while supporting existing users
- Creation of an innovation pipeline for new product development by mid-2022
- $2 million invested in IBAT Innovation by 2024 prioritising security, new knowledge products, automation and user tracking features. This might include additional investment in individual datasets to function optimally with new infrastructure and security features.

#### 2. Growth in revenue (2022-2024)

IBAT achieved exceptional growth in revenue of ~37% in 2021. This level of growth will be more difficult to sustain in future years and will require further investment in the capacity of the IBAT secretariat. IBAT will explore the use of commission-based salespeople to help fuel the growth of IBAT.

KPI:

- Annual growth in revenue to $2.2 million by the end of 2022, $2.7 million by the end of 2023 and to $3.5 million by the end of 2024

#### 3. Expanded reach and collaboration (2022-2024)

IBAT achieves impact by influencing business' behaviour. This is measurable both by the uptake of IBAT by an increasing number of subscribers and users, and by the adoption of sector specific knowledge products.

KPIs:

- 30% increase in number of subscribers by 2024 (175 subscribers)
- 30% increase in number of users by 2024 (1,300 users)
- 20% of revenue derived from collaboration with ESG data providers by 2024

### 4. Increased influence & impact (2023)

IBAT plays a key role in helping the private sector meet requirements of the Taskforce for Nature Related Financial Disclosures, Global Reporting Initiative, Science Based Targets Network and Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

KPIs:

- IBAT has developed 3-5 new knowledge products by 2024 that enable businesses to respond to the post-2020 GBF and other policy/regulatory requirements, SBTN guidance, as well as reporting and disclosure frameworks such as the TNFD, GRI, SFDR and EU Taxonomy
- IBAT expressly mentioned in guidance provided by TNFD, GRI and SBTN by 2024
- Sector specific knowledge products being used by 50% of subscribers in key focal sectors (direct physical impact, finance, food and soft commodity production)
- IBAT's knowledge products are being used by a minimum of 10 out of the top 100 businesses in identified key focal sectors by 2024.
- Collection of 10 case studies from IBAT subscribers, detailing how they use IBAT and how it has changed behaviour

### 5. Evaluate IBAT Inside (2023)

IBAT will continue to explore the incorporation of IBAT's datasets into third party tools and platforms as a mechanism to increase both IBAT's impact and revenue. While several promising agreements have been reached in 2021, it will be important to evaluate their ongoing performance.

KPIs:

- Streamline the data request process by establishing a pricing model for [onward] data distributors by 2023
- Undertake evaluation of revenue sharing agreements in 2023

### 6. Continued investment in IBAT's core datasets (2024)

Investment in datasets remain an essential purpose of IBAT. Investment will continue at 2021 levels to 2023 and will increase from 2024 onwards.

KPI:

- Investment in data to remain constant at $150,000 per dataset for 2022 and 2023
- Minimum investment of $250,000 per dataset in 2024

## IBAT Investment

Investment in IBAT will fall under two broad categories: infrastructure and operations, and innovation.

#### *Infrastructure and Operations*

Investment in infrastructure and operations is aimed at removing barriers to growth within the IBAT platform. To meet the ambitious goals of this strategy IBAT needs a robust, automated, and scalable

technical platform. These investments will help streamline IBAT's internal processes, making it easier to onboard new clients and support the increasing number of IBAT subscribers. Such investments may include:

- External review of IBAT's security posture and implementation of suggested findings
- Certification against commonly used security standards
- Review of IBAT's commercial license agreement, and general terms and conditions
- Review of IBAT's technological architecture, and investment in core technologies (e.g. databases, APIs, development tools)
- Investment in IBAT Alliance partner infrastructure to improve data update process
- Development and deployment of improved tooling within the IBAT platform to capture user insights
- Investment in marketing and sales capabilities (commission-based salespeople, marketing expertise)
- Investment in IBAT secretariat (capacity building or expansion) to support current and future subscribers

The IBAT manager will oversee investment in infrastructure and operations, supported as appropriate by the IBAT secretariat and sub-committees, and reported to the IBAT Governance Committee.

### *Innovation*

Investment in innovation is aimed at generating new knowledge products for the IBAT platform. These knowledge products could take several forms:

- Improvements in existing reports (e.g. incorporation of updated critical habitat layer into PS6 report, calibrated STAR report)
- Bespoke reports targeting new sectors, helping them measure and manage biodiversity related risks (e.g. renewables specific risk screening report, agricultural supply chain report)
- Bespoke reports aligned with the evolving nature related reporting and disclosure landscape (e.g. SBTN report, GRI 306 report)
- Guidance documents helping businesses understand how IBAT can help them on their biodiversity journey (e.g. guidance on how to use STAR to align with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, guidance on appropriate boundaries to select for an Area of Influence for different sectors)
- Incorporation of new or derived datasets

New product development will be tracked in IBAT's innovation pipeline. To populate this innovation pipeline, IBAT will draw on the expertise and ideas of the IBAT Alliance partners and potentially external organisations (e.g. existing IBAT clients, TBC).

IBAT will rely on Alliance partners to generate and develop ideas for incorporation into IBAT. IBAT will provide funds to partners to ideate and develop products – once sufficiently developed, the IBAT secretariat will implement the products within the IBAT platform, guiding products through the piloting, feedback and release process.

# Role of the IBAT Alliance

The roles of the IBAT Secretariat and Alliance in relation to the IBAT Strategy are outlined below:

## 1. IBAT Manager

The IBAT Manager is responsible for the implementation of the IBAT Strategy, and the management of the IBAT Secretariat. They will oversee the investment in innovation, consulting as appropriate with the IBAT sub-committees and referring significant investment decisions to the IBAT Governance Committee. They will be responsible for developing and overseeing the innovation pipeline. Progress against the IBAT Strategy will be regularly reported to the IBAT Governance Committee.

## 2. IBAT Secretariat

The IBAT Secretariat is responsible for the daily implementation of the IBAT Strategy. These responsibilities include maintaining and improving the IBAT product, supporting existing IBAT users, outreach to potential new users, invoicing of existing IBAT clients and reporting on investment expenditure. The IBAT team will implement new products within the IBAT platform once they have been sufficiently developed. The IBAT secretariat may expand in coming years to accommodate the anticipated growth of IBAT.

## 3. IBAT Governance Committee

The IBAT Governance Committee will oversee the IBAT Manager and help shape the direction of the IBAT Strategy. They will exercise decision making authority on large investment decisions in alignment with the strategy. They will act as the primary focal point for their respective IBAT Alliance organisation.

## 4. IBAT Technical Sub-Committee

ITeC will assess the technical feasibility of potential new products and provide guidance on implementation decisions. They will play a significant role in decisions regarding investment in infrastructure.

## 5. IBAT User Sub-Committee

UsCo will ensure that potential new products in IBAT will suit the needs of new/existing IBAT users. They will play a key role in helping IBAT achieve its growth targets (milestones 2 and 3), by identifying business development opportunities, introducing IBAT to contacts in key sectors, ensuring IBAT is well known throughout their respective partner organisation, and integrating IBAT into corporate partnerships where possible.

## 6. IBAT Scientific Advisory Committee

The IBAT Scientific Advisory Committee will ensure that potential new products in IBAT are scientifically robust before implementation into the IBAT platform.

# IBAT Alliance partners

IBAT is the product of the IBAT Alliance, a unique collaboration model between four global conservation organisations – BirdLife International, Conservation International, IUCN and UNEP-WCMC. The IBAT Alliance partners support IBAT by hosting the IBAT secretariat and providing a variety of supporting functions (legal, financial, administrative etc.) For the IBAT Alliance to achieve its shared

strategic goals, it will need the continued support of the IBAT Alliance partners. Under this new strategy, there are additional opportunities for further engagement with IBAT in two key areas:

## 7. Innovation

IBAT Alliance partners have a deep understanding of the core IBAT datasets, and expertise in how they should be used appropriately to support a nature positive agenda. IBAT Alliance partners, through funding provided by IBAT, will play a key role in brainstorming, prioritising and developing knowledge products that the IBAT secretariat can implement in the platform.

## 8. Influence

The IBAT Alliance partners have extensive name recognition and reach. IBAT Alliance members are involved in key discussions regarding policy and regulatory frameworks, including TNFD, GRI, SBTN and Post 2020 global biodiversity framework. IBAT Alliance partners, through their participation in such discussions, will leverage their networks, relationships, and reputation to advocate for IBAT, particularly in areas such as technical working groups. The IBAT secretariat and sub-committees will ensure there are robust feedback loops in place, to ensure consistent messaging between the IBAT Alliance partners and to help guide IBAT's ongoing product development.

# PSTF Oversight Mechanism for the IUCN Operational Framework for Engagement with the Oil and Gas Sector

- The Secretariat will provide information on collaboration engagement with such companies at 3 points of the project cycle:
  1. Concept Development & Contract negotiations:
     - *The PSTF will be informed of potential collaboration, at the earliest opportunity, with respect to the scope and nature of the proposed collaboration, and its alignment to framework.*
  2. Biannual report:
     - *The PSTF will be given biannual updates of progress of any relationship under implementation, presenting progress and any issues of adherence to the framework.*
  3. Stocktake:
     - *At the end of any relationship the Secretariat will under a stocktake of outcomes and impact of such partnerships.*

- Potential collaborations, the biannual report and stocktake will be framed around adherence to the conditions for engagement (particularly section 5 of the framework)

# IUCN Procedures for Engaging in International Policy Meetings

| | |
|---|---|
| Title | IUCN Procedures for Engaging in International Policy Meetings |
| Version | Replaces version released in 2004, 2010 and 2018 |
| Source language | English |
| Published in French under the title | n/a |
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| Responsible Unit | International Policy Centre |
| Developed by | International Policy Centre |
| Subject (Taxonomy) | Policy |
| Date approved | 23 September, 2022 |
| Approved by | Director General |
| Applicable to | All IUCN Staff Members world-wide |
| Purpose | The aim of these guidelines is to promote a relevant, consistent, effective, efficient and accountable approach to IUCN's policy work. |
| Is part of | IUCN Operational Policy Framework |
| Conforms to | IUCN Statutes and the "Revised Policy System for IUCN", approved by the IUCN Council in May 2002, the Policy Overseer Procedure, approved by Council in June 2010, and the IUCN Secretariat Policies, Procedures and Guidelines Framework, approved by ExBo in April 2022. |
| Related Documents | the "Revised Policy System for IUCN", approved by the IUCN Council in May 2002 and the Policy Overseer Procedure, approved by Council in June 2010. |
| Distribution | All staff members worldwide, on Union Portal and available on request to internationalpolicycentre@iucn.org. |

**Document History**

| | |
|---|---|
| Version 1.0 | Released 2004 |
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For further information contact:
International Policy Centre
Email: internationalpolicycentre@iucn.org

# IUCN Procedures for Engaging in International Policy Meetings

## IUCN POLICY 101: WHAT IS IT AND WHO DEFINES IT?

### 1. What is IUCN Policy?

IUCN policies are principles or courses of action, which guide its present and future decisions and actions, in order to achieve its mission[1].

IUCN general policy consists of:

1. The body of principles and frameworks on conservation-related issues embedded in Resolutions or Recommendations adopted by Members at the Congress.
2. Foundational texts such as the *World Conservation Strategy* (1980) and *Caring for the Earth: A Strategy for Sustainable Living* (1991).
3. Policy statements, Council rulings and guidelines

### 2. Who defines IUCN Policy[2]?

**MEMBERS** define IUCN's general policy by participating in the Members' Assembly at the Congress. Members do not make IUCN policy in their *individual* capacity, but do so *collectively* at the Congress, where **Resolutions and Recommendations** are adopted.

**COUNCIL** provides **rulings** and prepares **complementary policy guidelines**. This is about the *interpretation* of IUCN general policy rather than its *making*, with two exceptions:

1. Council may propose motions to be considered by Congress.
2. In extraordinary circumstances, the Council may, by a two-thirds majority, take measures that are normally Congress prerogatives (Art. 48).

**DIRECTOR GENERAL (AND SECRETARIAT)** implement the policy and Programme of IUCN as established by Congress and the Council. The Director General is authorised to issue statements in the name of IUCN.

Within the Secretariat, the International Policy Centre (IPC) is tasked with the maintenance of standards and coherence in IUCN policy delivery.

**COMMISSIONS** provide expert findings, technical and scientific inputs to contribute to IUCN's policy and positions. However, Commissions are *not* entitled to make IUCN policy.

**NATIONAL AND REGIONAL COMMITTEES** are *not* entitled to make IUCN policy. However, they may adopt and pursue their own policies consistent with the policies and objectives of IUCN.

They may also issue statements relevant to the objectives of IUCN, provided that this is done solely on behalf of the Committee and does *not* commit IUCN to any financial, legal or policy obligations.

[1] This definition while aligned with the definition of policy as set out in the IUCN Policies, Procedures and Guidelines Framework does not refer to internal secretariat policies.
[2] This section derives from the *Revised Policy System for IUCN* (2002), available at: https://portals.iucn.org/union/node/24740

# PROCEDURES FOR ENGAGING IN INTERNATIONAL POLICY MEETINGS

## 1. Develop an engagement strategy

Guided by IUCN programmatic priorities, at the beginning of each year, the International Policy Centre (IPC) identifies the priority global policy events and processes relevant to IUCN, and shares the policy calendar with the Executive Board, Centre and Regional Directors and the Council. Events of strategic importance are created in the Union Portal and are updated as more information becomes available.

An engagement strategy is prepared for all the meetings that IUCN participates in. The strategy is meant as a roadmap that articulates IUCN's expectations of its participation at the specific meeting or process and what is needed to achieve its objectives. The strategy should comprise at least the following key elements: expected policy outcomes, key policy deliverables (position paper, side-events, information papers), a delegation, as well as a timeline with milestones.

A Centre/ Regional Director or Head of Team shall be designated as focal point and be responsible for leading IUCN's engagement in any given policy process. The IPC provides guidance and overall steering and must be kept informed at all times.

## 2. IUCN Delegations

Delegations are constituted according to the abovementioned strategy and the agenda of the respective meeting, to ensure the necessary expertise and proper staffing and achieve the desired results. A set of Guidelines for delegations is available on the Union Portal.

These provide information on:
(1) the approval and accreditation of IUCN delegation members,
(2) the duties and responsibility of the Head of Delegation, and
(3) the duties and responsibilities of delegates.

Delegations can consist of both Secretariat staff as well as Commission members. Occasionally, representatives of National and Regional Committees can join the IUCN delegation. The Director General must approve the final delegation list.

Other resources are also available on the Union Portal. These include the Delegate Form and the Template for delegation list.

## 3. Position Papers

Position Papers are planned and foreseen in the relevant influencing/ engagement strategy. This document should:

- Be based on the relevant policy influencing strategy and the agenda of the meeting/event/process.
- Be coherent with IUCN's general policy on the topic and aligned with IUCN's previous positions.
- Be the result of a consultation with all relevant people across the Union (Staff/Commission/Council), as appropriate.

The final draft must be signed off by the Director of the International Policy Centre / Director General. To the extent possible, the **final draft should be ready at least 6 weeks before the meeting**, and translated into all IUCN languages. The final version is shared according to the dissemination check list (Annex 1).

TIP: Because the development of a position paper is a consultative process, consider sufficient time (2-4 weeks) to receive inputs, drafting, and gather feedback. A template for position paper is available in the Union Portal.

Also useful: *How to provide inputs to position papers*

*Co-signing third party position document (including joint letters):*

Usually IUCN does not sign position documents (including joint letters that contain policy recommendations) originating from third parties. In exceptional circumstances, the Director General may authorize co-signing third-party policy documents (including joint letters) provided that:

- The content of the third-party policy document is consistent with IUCN general policy
- IUCN has participated in the drafting process
- The Regional or Centre Director responsible for the issue in question clears the draft and ensures other Regional or Centre Directors are informed.

Once the authorisation to sign a third-party position document has been given, the approval procedure for the content of the position document is the same as that for IUCN position papers. Co-signed position documents should not commit IUCN financially, legally or politically.

## 4. Side events, communications, and delegation report

**SIDE EVENTS.** In most intergovernmental and international policy processes there is the opportunity to host side-events. These events must be aligned with the engagement strategy and need to be brought to the attention of the designated responsible/head of delegation, to avoid duplication and maximize impact. A template for side-events is available.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH** play a key part in policy influencing. Annex 1 contains a dissemination check list for both internal and external audiences. The Global Communications and Membership Units need to be informed with sufficient time in advance to assist in distributing all relevant information to IUCN Members and other audiences – including through creating a dedicated space in the IUCN website.

**A DELEGATION REPORT** must be prepared within the month following the end of the meeting. Ideally, it should reflect whether the stated policy objectives in the engagement strategy were met, what aspects could be improved and follow-up actions for IUCN.

## 5. Policy-related documents

IUCN does not only influence policy by participating in international meetings. The Union publishes a wide array of policy-related documents, including: policy briefs, issues briefs, information papers, among others. The table below provides a non-exhaustive overview of the typology for these documents. **Procedure-wise, if these documents include policy recommendations, the International Policy Centre should be consulted in order to ensure coherence with IUCN general policy.**

*Table 1: Typology of policy-related documents (non-exhaustive)*

| Type of policy document | Brief description | Purpose | Main audience |
|---|---|---|---|
| Resolutions and Recommendations | General policy of IUCN, adopted by the membership | Guide IUCN's work and positions | The Union and external actors |
| Council rulings and guidance | General policy of IUCN, complementary policy guidelines | Complement Resolutions and Recommendations | The Union |
| Oral interventions at policy fora / interventions from the floor | Orally present IUCN's position on a specific topic at a meeting | Policy influencing (advocacy) | Negotiators |
| Position Papers | Present IUCN's position for a specific meeting/event | Policy influencing (advocacy) | Negotiators |

| Type of policy document | Brief description | Purpose | Main audience |
|---|---|---|---|
| Policy Statements[3] | Long-term and strategic, reflect IUCN's general policy | Policy influencing (advocacy) | The Union, policy-makers, external actors including the media |
| Policy Briefs | Summarize a particular issue and the policy options to deal with it | Policy influencing (advocacy) | Policy-makers, negotiators |
| Issues Briefs[4] | Provide an overview of issues central to IUCN's work, and explain what can be done | Provide information (sometimes technical) and suggest what can be done | Policy-makers, media, general public |
| Information paper | Provide technical information about particular issues being discussed, but without conveying a position | Inform | Negotiators |

[3] Policy Statements are long term and strategic in nature. They are generally developed i) in response to a specific request contained within a resolution or council guidance, ii) to provide greater clarity to existing general policy or Council ruling or iii) to address a newly emerging issue of significant and immediate concern in the absence of clear general policy, Council ruling or complementary policy guidelines by Council. (2018)

[4] See https://www.iucn.org/resources?rstype=1109&thm=All&tpc=All&rgn=All&cntry=All

# ANNEX 1 –DISSEMINATION CHECK LIST FOR POSITION PAPERS

This section outlines the standard dissemination procedure for position papers. It may be used as a checklist to help track the communications that must be sent out.

## Internal dissemination

The approved and translated position paper is shared **4 weeks before the meeting** with the following people (in one joint email):

- ☐ The International Policy Centre (InternationalPolicyCentre@iucn.org)
- ☐ Membership Communications Manager
- ☐ Relevant Thematic Centres
- ☐ All Regional Directors
- ☐ All Regional Programme Coordinators
- ☐ The Strategic Partnership Unit
- ☐ The Global Communications Unit
- ☐ The Executive Board
- ☐ IUCN Council
- ☐ Post on the Union Portal (in specific section with an Hyperlink)
- ☐ Other relevant staff

## External Dissemination (non-exhaustive list)

Position papers are disseminated to a variety of external audiences as outlined below. The units identified are **the units responsible** to send out the position paper.

Unless stated otherwise, the position paper will be sent out with a standard cover message (e.g. "IUCN's position paper for *NAME OF POLICY EVENT* taking place *DATES AND LOCATION* is now available online").

**! In order to allow tracking the views of IUCN's position papers, these should always be sent out as a link to the position paper on IUCN's website. Do not attach the document itself.**

The position paper should be disseminated to external audiences at the most relevant time, when people start to prepare for the meeting. The right timing depends on the audience the position paper aims to influence, and can be somewhere between four weeks and one week before the event. In any case, all external audiences should have received the position paper at least one week before the start of the meeting.

- ☐ IUCN Website – Position Papers (**IPC**)
- ☐ Membership (States/NGOs/ IPOs) (**Membership Unit**)
- ☐ Policy makers
    - ☐ Permanent Missions in Geneva (always) (**IPC**)
    - ☐ Permanent Missions in New York (if appropriate) (**IPC**)
    - ☐ National Focal Points of the relevant policy processes (**author** of the position paper)
    - ☐ Personal professional networks (**author**, **Centre Director**, **other staff**)
- ☐ Donors (**SPU**)
- ☐ Press (**GCU**)
- ☐ Social media (if relevant) (**GCU**)
- ☐ Partners / key people in IOs (**IPC**/**DGO**)
- ☐ Mailing list / newsletters from relevant IUCN Programmes (**author** to suggest to relevant Centres)
- ☐ Mail list serves (**author**)

# *Terms of Reference of the Motions Working Group of the IUCN Council*

Building on the TOR approved by the IUCN Council, decision C/96/2 (March 2019)

In accordance with Article 46 (q) of the IUCN Statutes, Regulation 29, and Part VII of the Rules of Procedure ('Agenda and Motions'), the Council appoints a Motions Working Group with the mandate to:

a. Provide guidance to IUCN Members on the submission of motions;
b. Receive the motions and determine that they are consistent with the purpose of motions as defined in Rule 48*bis* and meet the requirements listed in RoP 54;
c. Prepare, including editing, the motions for the online discussion and, as appropriate, for submission to the Resolutions Committee of Congress and the World Congress;
d. Submit the motions to an online discussion to be held prior to Congress, specifying which motions that warrant debate at the global level during the Congress will continue to be discussed and voted upon during the Members' Assembly subject to RoP 45*bis*, and which motions will be put to an online vote prior to Congress subject to Rule 62*quinto*;
e. Facilitate and oversee the online discussion of motions between Members prior to the Congress, ensuring that it is transparent and will adhere to the greatest possible extent to the procedure for discussion and amendment of motions during the Congress;
f. Following the close of the online discussion, submit motions to an electronic vote prior to Congress and refer others to the Members' Assembly for continued debate and vote.

The Motions Working Group to be established by Council in accordance with Regulation 29 shall consist of

(i) five (5) to seven (7) members of the IUCN Council,
(ii) three (3) individuals who will be appointed by Council in their expert, personal capacity to represent the common interests and the diversity of the IUCN membership and Commissions, following Council's call for nominations to all IUCN Members and Commissions; and
(iii) the Director General ex officio.

The Motions Working Group shall present periodic reports on its work to the IUCN Council and shall keep the Congress Preparatory Committee (CPC) closely informed. The Motions Working Group shall receive adequate support from the IUCN Secretariat in order to deliver on its mandate.

The Motions Working Group shall, among others, perform the following tasks:

1. In collaboration with the GCC Task Force on motions process, establish specific procedures for the motions process in advance of the Congress to ensure its effective, efficient and transparent management. As part of this procedure, it shall guide the development of guidelines and templates for IUCN Members for the motions process which shall be sent to all IUCN Members before the opening of the submission of motions. The procedures will also specify the tasks which the Secretariat accepts to undertake in support of the work of the Motions Working Group and contain the criteria and transparent processes for making the

determinations which the Motions Working Group is required to make by the Rules of Procedure.

2. Work jointly with the GCC Task Force on Motions to propose amendments to the IUCN Statutes (if any are required), Regulations and Rules of Procedures of the World Conservation Congress to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of the motions process.

3. Work with the IUCN Secretariat to prepare a detailed work plan and budget for effectively managing the motion process, in time for consideration by Council when adopting the IUCN Budget for 2024 and 2025.

4. Be informed of and take into account to the extent possible the results of discussions of motions in National Committees, Regional Committees and Regional Fora, including those that warrant discussion at a local and/or national level;

5. Ensure that the statutory requirements are strictly applied to the submitted motions and that motions which meet the requirements, are treated fairly and equitably, with adequate communication with proponents and sponsors of motions related to rejecting, amending, combining or categorizing motions, explaining the rationale.

6. Make effective use of the information provided by proponents and co-sponsors about the actions and resources required to implement the motion and the contributions which they intend to make towards its implementation (RoP 54 (b) viii.), including publishing the information and/or the rating described in the template throughout the motions process, thereby encouraging IUCN Members to take responsibility for the implementation of the motions they submit, once they are adopted. Transmit a report to the Resolutions Committee of Congress regarding the status of the resources committed/pledged on all the motions adopted through the electronic vote prior to Congress.

7. Communicate clearly and comprehensively to the IUCN membership the rationale for referring certain motions to the electronic vote prior to Congress and others to the Members' Assembly, either at the time of publication of the motions prior to the online discussion (RoP 62*bis*) and/or after the online discussion, at the time the motions are submitted to the electronic vote (RoP 62*quinto*) e.g. by explaining what the issues are that could not be solved during the online discussion and that require continued debate during the Members' Assembly.

8. Monitor the quality of motions, alert Members and facilitators before/during the electronic discussion of quality issues, and provide guidance to facilitators empowering them to raise issues of poor quality of motions and actively work with Members to solve them before the end of the electronic discussion.

9. Oversee the online discussion on motions in advance of the Congress, providing guidance and direction, and assistance, to ensure that facilitators are designated and receive adequate training and guidance in the spirit of IUCN's 'One Programme approach' and fully understand the intent and requirements of the IUCN Statutes, Rules of Procedure and Regulations pertaining to motions.

10. Provide clear guidance to the facilitators of the online discussion with a view to alerting Members to issues of alignment with the IUCN Programme, or alert

Members directly to such issues during the online discussion, e.g. at the beginning of the 2nd reading.

11. Encourage broad participation of Cat. A Members (through reminders, incentives, etc.) and to keep a record that shows its adequate engagement with and invitation to State Members.

12. Monitor the electronic discussion and assist / guide the facilitators to proactively build a consensus during the online discussion, thereby reducing as much as possible the application of RoP 62*quinto* (b), i.e. the referral to the Members' Assembly of motions that led to such divergent proposed amendments that it was not possible to submit them to the electronic vote prior to Congress.

13. Prepare the motions, as amended during the online discussion or together with proposed amendments, for an electronic vote in accordance with Rule 62*quinto* explaining as clearly as possible in the Guidance for IUCN Members on electronic voting the way of voting on amendments.

14. Prepare the motions that require continued discussion during the Members' Assembly, for hand-over to the Resolutions Committee of the Congress with any advice and background, as appropriate, including motions which, in the view of the Motions Working Group, are controversial and consensus would be beneficial for conservation, and so may have to be referred to the next Congress (Regulation 62*quinto* as revised.

15. Formally transmit to the Congress 1) the motions approved during the electronic vote in order for the Congress to 'record *en bloc* the adoption' of these motions, and 2) the motions that require continued debate and vote during the Members' Assembly.

16. Prepare the urgent and new motions submitted from one week prior to the opening of the Congress for the consideration of the Congress Resolutions Committee as soon as it will have been established, with a view to enabling the Committee to timely distribute the motions that it will have admitted.

17. Make recommendations to the next Council for improving the Working Group's role and functioning based on its own evaluation to be made before the end of the 2025 Congress taking into account Council's guidance for self-evaluation.

**Process for the appointment of the members of the Motions Working Group**

(Building on Regulation 29, and based on the process adopted in 2019 (Decision C/96/2)

1. **Five (5) to seven (7) members of the MWG will be appointed from among the members of the IUCN Council**:

1.1 Members of the MWG must be aware of the importance of the motions process and make the commitment to reserve significant time between September 2023 and September 2025 to effectively discharge their duties through email exchange, remote meetings and at least one physical meeting of at least 5 working days (date to be determined).

In case the diversity of time zones of the members of the MWG is high, it may mean that telephone meetings are scheduled at inconvenient hours. As a result of Rule 20, the members of the Motions Working Group must also make the commitment to attend the 2025 Congress.

1.2 The process for the appointment of members of the Motions Working Group from among the Council members should be as follows:

a. The Bureau appoints the Council members to become members of the Motions Working Group on the recommendation of the Vice-Presidents acting as Nominating Committee, taking into account the expressions of interest and the following criteria:

- Expressed interest in serving on the Motions Working Group
- Good knowledge of IUCN and previous Congress(es)
- Good knowledge of IUCN's Programme and policies
- Representation of IUCN Commissions
- Not personally involved with the motions process as proponent or sponsor of motions
- Regional balance
- Gender balance
- Including first and second term Councillors.

b. Following the 109th meeting of Council, Council members send their expressions of interest indicating the role they can play within the Motions Working Group and their time availability, to *[name of a Vice-President]* **by 9 June 2023**. The Vice-Presidents will subsequently make a recommendation to the Bureau as expeditiously as possible. The Bureau will appoint the members of the Motions Working Group.

2. **Three (3) individuals who will be appointed by Council in their expert, personal capacity** to represent the common interests and the diversity of the IUCN membership and Commissions, following Council's call for nominations to all IUCN Members and Commissions:

a. The Director General will send a call for nominations/expressions of interest to all IUCN Members and the Steering Committees of the 7 IUCN Commissions by 7 June 2023, inviting nominations/expressions of interest by 30 June 2023 at

the latest.

b. The Bureau makes the appointment before 31 July 2023 taking into account the following criteria:
    i. Good knowledge of IUCN and previous Congress(es);
    ii. An understanding of and sensitivity to the diversity of interests of IUCN State/Government and I/NGO Members and/or Commissions;
    iii. One State/Government Member, one I/NGO Member, one Commission Member.

c. The Bureau shall consult the Councillors who are members of the Motions Working Group before taking a decision.